Genesis 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 1:1-5, it is revealed that in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, covered in darkness. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, so He separated the light from the darkness, calling the light "day" and the darkness "night." This marks the first day of creation.

Paragraph 2: On the second day of creation (Genesis 1:6-8), God creates an expanse called "sky" to separate water below from water above. He calls this expanse "heaven." On the third day (Genesis 1:9-13), God gathers water together to form seas and allows dry land to appear. He commands vegetation to sprout forth plants yielding seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit.

Paragraph 3: Continuing with creation, on the fourth day (Genesis 1:14-19), God sets lights in the expanse of heaven the sun for daytime and moon for nighttime as well as stars. These celestial bodies serve as signs for seasons, days, years, and to give light upon Earth. On the fifth day (Genesis 1:20-23), God fills waters with living creatures fishes and birds and blesses them to multiply abundantly. Finally, on the sixth day (Genesis 1:24-31), God creates land animals according to their kinds along with humankind male and female in His own image. He blesses them all saying they are good.

In summary of Genesis 1's account of creation:

Verse by verse reveals how God brings order out of chaos over a span of six days:

Day one introduces light;

Day two establishes an expanse separating waters;

Day three brings forth land and vegetation;

Day four sees the creation of celestial bodies;

Day five populates the waters and skies with living creatures;

Day six witnesses the creation of land animals and humankind.

Throughout this process, God declares His creations as good, culminating in the creation of humans, made in His image.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

God created the heavens and the earth in the beginning.

1. God's Creative Hand: The Power of the Almighty

2. The Origin of Life: A Divine Creator

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?

2. Psalm 33:6 - By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Genesis 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

1. "God's Restoring Spirit"

2. "The Power of Light Over Darkness"

1. Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2. Psalm 36:9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Genesis 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

God created light and declared it to be good.

1: We can find joy in the good things God has created and provided for us.

2: We can trust in the power of God's Word and the amazing things He can do.

1: Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

2: Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Genesis 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

God saw the light and declared it was good. He then separated the light from the darkness.

1. God's Light Brings Clarity and Hope

2. God is the Source of All Good

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. Isaiah 9:2 - The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Genesis 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

God's Creation of the World was marked by the distinction between day and night.

1. The beauty of God's creation and the importance of having a balance between light and dark.

2. The importance of finding rest and renewal in the cycles of day and night.

1. John 8:12 - "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2. Genesis 2:2-3 - "And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation."

Genesis 1:6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

God created a division between the waters above and the waters below.

1. God's power to divide and create order out of chaos.

2. Embracing the divisions God creates in our lives.

1. Isaiah 45:18 - For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!): I am the Lord, and there is no other.

2. Psalm 33:6-9 - By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Genesis 1:7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

God created the firmament and separated the waters above from the waters below.

1. The Power of God to Separate: How God's Creative Strength Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Partition of Heaven and Earth: How We Can Rely on God's Protection and Provision

1. Isaiah 40:22 - "He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in."

2. Psalm 104:2-3 - "He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants."

Genesis 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

On the second day of creation, God called the expanse of the sky "Heaven" and the evening and morning passed.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Even in the Creation Story

2. God is the Creator: Our Response of Gratitude and Awe

1. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

2. Proverbs 8:27-29 - When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth.

Genesis 1:9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

God commanded the waters to take their place and the land to appear, and it happened.

1. When God Speaks, It Happens

2. Faithful Obedience to the Word of God

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Mark 4:35-41 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Genesis 1:10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

God created the land and the seas and declared it to be good.

1. The Lord's Good Creation: Celebrating God's Work in Nature

2. Finding Joy in God's Perfect Creation

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Psalm 104:24 - "O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches."

Genesis 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

God commanded the earth to produce vegetation according to its kind.

1. God's Faithfulness in Providing for our Needs

2. The Miracle of Vegetation

1. Matthew 6:26 - "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

2. Psalm 104:14 - "He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate bringing forth food from the earth."

Genesis 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

God saw that the Earth was good and provided it with the necessary resources for growth.

1. God's faithfulness to provide for us

2. How we can take care of the Earth

1. John 10:10, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

2. Psalm 104:14, "He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth."

Genesis 1:13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

This passage states that the third day of the creation week was complete with an evening and a morning.

1. The faithfulness of God to complete His creative works.

2. The importance of taking time to pause and reflect.

1. Psalm 33:9 - "For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast."

2. Hebrews 11:3 - "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."

Genesis 1:14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

God commanded the creation of the heavenly lights to provide signs, seasons, days, and years.

1. The lights in the sky are reminders of God's providence and care for us.

2. God's timing is perfect, and He has a purpose for our days, seasons, and years.

1. Genesis 1:14

2. Isaiah 40:26-31 - "Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing."

Genesis 1:15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

God provided light for the earth in Genesis.

1. God is the source of light that shines in our darkness.

2. We can rely on God to provide us with guidance and hope.

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Isaiah 9:2 - "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."

Genesis 1:16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

God created two great lights - the sun and the moon - and also made the stars.

1. God is the Creator of All Things

2. The Beauty of the Night Sky

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Isaiah 40:26 - "Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth."

Genesis 1:17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

God placed the stars in the sky to bring light to the earth.

1: God created the stars to be a source of light and beauty in the world.

2: We should be grateful to God for the beauty of the stars in the night sky.

1: Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

2: Job 38:31-32 "Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades? Can you loosen Orion s belt? Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons or lead out the Bear with its cubs?"

Genesis 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

God saw that the separation of light from darkness was good.

1. God is the source of all goodness and light.

2. We can find peace and comfort in the Lord's provision of light and darkness.

1. John 8:12 - "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Genesis 1:19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

This passage reveals that the fourth day of creation was completed.

1: God created the world in a perfect and orderly manner, trusting that it will be sustained in the same way.

2: God's timing is perfect and He works in His own perfect way.

1: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 1:20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

God commanded the waters to bring forth living creatures.

1. The Power of God's Command

2. Finding Life in Unexpected Places

1. Psalm 148:7-10 - Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths; lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding; mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds;

2. Hebrews 11:3 - By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Genesis 1:21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

God created a great variety of creatures and saw that it was good.

1. God's Good Creativity - how God's creativity is expressed in the variety of creatures He has made

2. The Value of All Creation - how God values all of His creatures, great and small

1. Psalm 104:24-25 - How you have made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creatures.

26 There are the sea creatures, large and small, and all the living things that swim in the ocean.

2. Romans 8:19-22 - For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

Genesis 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

God blessed humanity and animals to be fruitful and multiply.

1. Learning to be fruitful and multiply in our daily lives.

2. God's promise of growth and abundance.

1. Psalm 104:24 - O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

2. Matthew 6:26 - Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Genesis 1:23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

On the fifth day of creation, God completed the day by creating evening and morning.

1: God is the ultimate creator of all things, and He is in control of all aspects of our lives.

2: All things are possible through God and He is ever-present in our lives.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2: Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Genesis 1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

God created the living creatures to inhabit the earth.

1: God s creative power is on display in Genesis 1:24. We can rely on God to provide for us and to make things come alive.

2: In Genesis 1:24, we see God s command and His power to bring forth life. We can trust in God to make something out of nothing.

1: Psalm 33:6-9 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

2: Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Genesis 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

God's creation of the Earth and its inhabitants was deemed good.

1: We serve a God who is creative and purposeful in His works.

2: We should reflect God's goodness by being creative and purposeful in our works.

1: Colossians 1:16-17 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

2: Psalm 33:6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

God commanded that mankind be created in His image and given dominion over the creatures of the earth.

1. Man's Dominion: The Responsibility to Steward God's Creation

2. The Image of God: Embracing the Dignity of Our Design

1. Psalm 8:6-8 - "You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas."

2. James 3:7-9 - "And no one can tame the tongue a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so."

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

God created man and woman in his own image.

1: We are all reflections of God's love, and should strive to embody His values in our actions.

2: We are all equal in the eyes of God, and should show respect and kindness to all regardless of gender.

1: Ephesians 4:1-2 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love.

2: Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

God blesses humanity and instructs them to be fruitful and multiply, to replenish the earth, and to have dominion over the creatures of the sea, air, and land.

1. The Blessings of God and the Responsibilities of Stewardship

2. The Gift of Dominion and the Power of Responsibility

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2. Romans 8:18-25 - Creation Groaning in Labor Pains

Genesis 1:29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

God provided every herb and tree providing fruit and seed as food for people.

1. The Lord's Provisions: Expressing Gratitude for His Abundance

2. God's Abundant Supply: Relying on His Generosity

1. Psalm 104:14-15 - He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Genesis 1:30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

God provided sustenance for all of His creatures.

1. God's Generosity in Providing for All of His Creatures

2. God's Faithfulness in Caring for His Creation

1. Matthew 6:26 - Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

2. Psalm 104:14 - He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that he may bring forth food from the earth.

Genesis 1:31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

God saw all of his creation and it was very good.

1. God's Creation is Good - how can we reflect this goodness in our lives?

2. Appreciating Creation - taking time to enjoy the world around us.

1. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

2. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."

Genesis 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 2:1-3, the account of creation continues. God completes His work on the seventh day and rests, blessing and sanctifying it as a day of rest. Then, in Genesis 2:4-7, a more detailed description of the creation of humankind is provided. It reveals that there were no plants or crops on the earth because God had not yet sent rain or caused them to grow. Instead, a mist watered the ground. God forms man from dust and breathes life into him, making him a living being.

Paragraph 2: In Genesis 2:8-17, God plants a garden called Eden in the east and places Adam there. The garden is filled with every kind of tree that is pleasing to look at and good for food particularly highlighting two significant trees the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. God instructs Adam that he may eat freely from any tree except for the Tree of Knowledge; if he eats from it, he will surely die.

Paragraph 3: Continuing in Genesis 2:18-25, God sees that it is not good for Adam to be alone and decides to create a suitable partner for him. He brings all animals before Adam so he can name them but finds no suitable companion among them. So God causes Adam to fall into a deep sleep, takes one of his ribs, and forms it into a woman Eve who becomes his wife. They are both naked but feel no shame.

In summary:

Genesis 2 expands on specific aspects of creation:

God's rest on the seventh day;

The detailed creation account of humanity man formed from dust;

The establishment of Eden a lush garden filled with trees;

God's commandment regarding eating from specific trees;

The recognition that Adam needs companionship;

The creation of Eve from Adam's rib, becoming his wife.

This chapter sets the stage for the subsequent events in the Garden of Eden and lays the foundation for understanding human relationships and God's intentions for humanity.

Genesis 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

God completed the creation of the heavens and earth, and everything in them.

1. God's Power: How the Lord's Strength Created the Universe

2. Finding Beauty in Creation: Appreciating the Wonders of the Lord's Handiwork

1. Colossians 1:16-17 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

2. Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Genesis 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

God's work of creation is complete and He rested on the seventh day.

1. How to find rest in our lives by emulating God's example of rest.

2. The importance of honoring the Sabbath day as a day of rest.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 - So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

Genesis 2:3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it as a day of rest from all his work.

1: God's gift of rest.

2: The importance of Sabbath.

1: Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2: Hebrews 4:9-11 - There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.

Genesis 2:4 These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

This passage describes the creation of the heavens and the earth which took place on the same day.

1. God is the Creator of Heaven and Earth - Genesis 2:4

2. The Majesty of Creation - Genesis 2:4

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?

2. Revelation 10:6 - And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein.

Genesis 2:5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

God was the source of life before man.

1. God is the source of life and sustenance

2. The importance of recognizing God as the source of all life

1. Psalm 104:14-15 He causes the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread that sustains his heart.

2. John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Genesis 2:6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

God caused a mist to rise from the earth and water the land.

1. The Lord's Provision - How God cares for creation and sustains us through His abundant grace.

2. Expect Miracles - God can use the unexpected to do amazing things.

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

2. Psalm 104:13-14 - He waters the mountains from his upper chambers; the earth is satisfied by the fruit of his work. He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate bringing forth food from the earth.

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

God created man from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him, making him a living soul.

1. God breathed life into us, allowing us to have a soul.

2. The importance of recognizing the life God has given us.

1. Ezekiel 37:1-10 - The vision of the valley of dry bones.

2. John 20:22 - Jesus breathing on the disciples and saying, Receive the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 2:8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden and placed the first man He had formed there.

1. God's Provision: From Creation to the Garden of Eden

2. Nurturing and Caring for God's Garden

1. Psalm 65:9-13 - You make grass grow for the livestock and plants for people to use, so they can bring forth food from the earth.

2. Isaiah 51:3 - The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

Genesis 2:9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

God created trees to provide food and beauty for the world.

1: The Trees of Life: Finding Nourishment and Joy in God's Creation

2: The Symbolic Power of the Tree of Knowledge: Understanding Good and Evil in the World

1: Psalm 104:14-15 - He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

2: John 15:5 - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Genesis 2:10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

God ordained the rivers to water the Garden of Eden.

1: God's provision for our needs is sure and complete.

2: God's plans are perfect and bring life and abundance.

1: Psalm 36:9 - For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

2: John 4:14 - But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never thirst. But the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.

Genesis 2:11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;

This passage describes the location of Havilah, which is surrounded by the river Pison and is known for its gold.

1. The Value of True Riches: Focusing on spiritual riches rather than material wealth.

2. Living in God's Provision: Understanding that God will provide for us in unexpected ways.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Job 22:24-25 - If you lay gold in the dust, and gold of Ophir among the stones of the torrent-bed, then the Almighty will be your gold and your precious silver.

Genesis 2:12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

Genesis 2:12 describes the land of Havilah as having gold and two precious stones: bdellium and onyx.

1. The Promises of God: How God's Blessing of Wealth and Riches are Found in the Bible

2. The Beauty of the Earth: Finding Value in the Gifts God Has Given

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-9 - For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; 8 a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; 9 a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord s, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

Genesis 2:13 And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

The second river mentioned in Genesis is Gihon, which encircles the land of Ethiopia.

1. God's Outstretched Hand: A Study on Gihon and the Land of Ethiopia

2. The Covenant Keeping God: A Study of God's Faithfulness in the Land of Ethiopia

1. Genesis 21:22-23 - And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phichol the chief captain of his host spake unto Abraham, saying, God is with thee in all that thou doest: Now therefore swear unto me here by God that thou wilt not deal falsely with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son.

2. Isaiah 11:11 - And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

Genesis 2:14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

The passage describes the four rivers that come from the Garden of Eden, with the third river being called the Hiddekel and the fourth river being the Euphrates.

1. The Rivers of Life: Exploring the Significance of the Rivers in the Garden of Eden

2. God's Provision in the Garden of Eden: Examining the Blessings of the Four Rivers

1. Revelation 22:1-2 - And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

2. John 7:38-39 - He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Genesis 2:15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

God gave Adam the responsibility of taking care of the Garden of Eden.

1: God entrusts us with important responsibilities and expects us to be diligent in fulfilling them.

2: We need to be aware of the responsibility that comes with every blessing God gives us.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2: Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

Genesis 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

God gave man freedom to choose which trees to eat from in the Garden of Eden.

1: God desires for us to have freedom to make decisions and trust Him with the outcome.

2: We can trust God to provide for us, even in times of uncertainty.

1: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2: Psalm 16:11 - Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Genesis 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

God's command was clear, but Adam and Eve chose to ignore it and suffered serious consequences.

God's clear commands must be followed to protect us from harm.

1: The consequences of disobedience to God's commands.

2: The importance of following God's commands to ensure our safety.

1: Deuteronomy 6:16-17, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you.

2: Hebrews 13:17, Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

God created companionship for man because it was not good for him to be alone.

1. The importance of community in our lives

2. The value of companionship

1. 1 John 4:7-12

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Genesis 2:19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

God created all the animals and brought them to Adam to see what he would name them.

1. The Power of Naming: God entrusts Adam with the responsibility of naming all the animals.

2. The Responsibility of Stewardship: God entrusts Adam with the responsibility of taking care of all his creation.

1. Genesis 1:26-28: God created man in His image and gave him dominion over the earth and all its creatures.

2. Psalm 148:5-6: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

Genesis 2:20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

Adam named all the animals, but none was suitable to be his helper.

1. God's Perfect Plan: The Search for a Help Meet

2. The Wonder of Creation: Naming the Animals

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2. Genesis 1:26-28 - And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 2:21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

God put Adam into a deep sleep and removed one of his ribs to create Eve.

Two

1. God's incredible creative power: how God used Adam's rib to create Eve

2. The importance of rest and sleep: the example of Adam

Two

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Genesis 2:22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

The Lord God made a woman from the rib of man and presented her to him.

1. The Creation of Eve - God's Plan for Perfect Companionship

2. The Significance of the Rib - Understanding the Origin of Womanhood

1. Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. Ephesians 5:31-32 - "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church."

Genesis 2:23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Adam and Eve's relationship as husband and wife is a beautiful picture of unity and companionship.

1. Love and Unity: Making Marriage Beautiful

2. Companionship: The Blessing of Marriage

1. Ephesians 5:21-33

2. Genesis 1:27-28

Genesis 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

A man is instructed to leave his father and mother and form a union with his wife.

1: The importance of honoring and respecting the institution of marriage.

2: The power of a unified relationship.

1: Ephesians 5:22-33 - Husbands and wives should love and respect each other.

2: Matthew 19:4-6 - God's plan for marriage is for a man and woman to become one flesh.

Genesis 2:25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Adam and Eve were both naked and unashamed.

1. The Power of Unashamed Love: Examining Genesis 2:25

2. Unashamed: How We Can Have Confidence in Ourselves and God

1. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Ephesians 3:12 - In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Genesis 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 3:1-7, the account of humanity's fall from grace unfolds. The serpent, a cunning creature, approaches Eve and questions God's command not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. The serpent deceives Eve into believing that eating the fruit will make her like God, knowing good and evil. Eve succumbs to temptation, eats the fruit, and shares it with Adam. As a result, their eyes are opened to their nakedness and they feel shame.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 3:8-13, Adam and Eve hide from God in the garden when they hear Him walking. God calls out to them, questioning their actions. Adam admits that he ate the forbidden fruit but shifts blame onto Eve for giving it to him. Likewise, Eve acknowledges her transgression but blames the serpent for deceiving her.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 3:14-24, God pronounces consequences for each party involved in this disobedience. He curses the serpent above all livestock and declares enmity between its offspring and humanity's offspring the promise of eventual victory by an offspring who will crush its head. To Eve, God intensifies pain during childbirth and subjugation to her husband's authority. To Adam, He proclaims hardship in laboring for sustenance from a cursed ground until death returns him to dust.

In summary:

Genesis 3 narrates:

The serpent's deception leading to Adam and Eve eating from the forbidden tree;

Their realization of nakedness and shame;

God calling out to them;

Adam blaming both Eve and God;

Eve blaming the serpent.

Consequences are then pronounced:

The curse upon the serpent with a promise of eventual defeat;

Increased pain during childbirth for women;

Subjugation under men for women;

Hardship in laboring for sustenance for men;

The expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, barring access to the Tree of Life.

This chapter highlights the introduction of sin into humanity's existence and sets the stage for the ongoing struggle between good and evil throughout human history.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

The serpent tempted Eve to disobey God's command by questioning God's authority.

1. Obeying God's Command: Learning from Eve's Mistake

2. The Subtlety of Temptation: Standing Against the Enemy

1. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Genesis 3:2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

The woman allowed herself to be deceived by the serpent and ate the forbidden fruit.

1: We must be on guard against temptation and not allow ourselves to be deceived.

2: We must always put our trust in God and His word, not in the lies of the enemy.

1: James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own desires. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

2: 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Genesis 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

God warned Adam and Eve that if they ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, they would die.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God

2. Trusting in God's Promises

1. Romans 5:12, "Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned."

2. Deuteronomy 30:19, "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live."

Genesis 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

The serpent deceived the woman by telling her that she would not die.

1. The Danger of Falling Prey to Deception

2. The Power of Lies

1. John 8: 44-45: "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

2. Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

Genesis 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

The serpent in the Garden of Eden tempts Adam and Eve to eat from the Tree of Knowledge, promising them that if they do, they will gain the wisdom of knowing good and evil.

1. The Subtle Lure of Sin: Learning from the Temptation of Adam and Eve

2. The Dangers of Desire: Recognizing Temptation and Avoiding Its Traps

1. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Proverbs 1:10-11 - My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them. If they say, Come along with us; let s lie in wait for innocent blood, let s ambush some harmless soul;

Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

The woman saw that the tree was desirable for food, beauty, and knowledge, so she took some of the fruit and gave it to her husband, who also ate it.

1. The Perils of Desiring the Wrong Things

2. How We Should Respond to Temptation

1. Luke 4:13 - "And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season."

2. James 1:14-15 - "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

Genesis 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and as a result, their eyes were opened to the realization that they were naked. They then sewed fig leaves together to make aprons for themselves.

1. God's Perfect Plan - How His Plan for Us Succeeded Despite Our Actions

2. The Blessing and Curse of Knowledge - How We Can Harness Our Knowledge for Good

1. Romans 5:12 - Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

2. James 1:14-15 - But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Genesis 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

Adam and Eve heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the Garden of Eden in the cool of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God.

1. The importance of being in the presence of God and allowing Him to guide our lives.

2. The consequences of disobedience and how it can lead to hiding from God.

1. Psalm 139:7-12 - Where shall I go from Your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from Your presence?

2. Romans 5:12-14 - Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Genesis 3:9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

The Lord God asked Adam where he was.

1: Don't Hide from God - Isaiah 45:15

2: Seek God's Presence - Jeremiah 29:13

1: Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2: Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Genesis 3:10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

Adam and Eve have sinned and are now ashamed of their nakedness. They hide from God.

1. The Power of Sin: How Shame Can Impact Our Relationship with God

2. Grasping God's Grace: How God's Love Overcomes Our Shame

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Psalm 103:10-12 - He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Genesis 3:11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

Adam and Eve had disobeyed God and had eaten from the forbidden tree. God confronted them and asked them about their disobedience.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God

2. The Power of Choice and Accountability

1. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Genesis 3:12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

Adam attempts to shift blame away from himself and onto God and Eve.

1: We must accept responsibility for our own actions and not try to shift blame.

2: God is a loving God who gives us free will and desires us to make the right choices.

1: James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2: Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

Genesis 3:13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

God asked the woman why she had eaten the fruit, and she replied that the serpent had deceived her.

1. The Danger of Deception: Learning to Discern Truth from Lies.

2. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding the Impact of Our Actions.

1. James 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Proverbs 1:10-19 - My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent. If they say, Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood; let us ambush the innocent without reason; let us swallow them alive, like Sheol, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; we shall find all precious goods, we shall fill our houses with plunder; throw in your lot among us; we will all have one purse my son, do not walk in the way with them; restrain your foot from their path, for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.

Genesis 3:14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

God punishes the serpent for deceiving Adam and Eve.

1. God's justice is perfect, and His punishments are fair.

2. Even when we make mistakes, God is still merciful and loving.

1. Matthew 5:45 - That you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2. Psalm 103:8-10 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

God promises to put enmity between Satan and Eve, and a future descendant of Eve will crush Satan's head.

1. The Power of God's Promises

2. The Hope of Redemption

1. Romans 16:20 - And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.

2. Revelation 12:7-9 - And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Genesis 3:16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

The woman will experience great sorrow and difficulty during childbirth, and her desire will be for her husband, who will have authority over her.

1. The Importance of Submission in Marriage

2. The Difficulty of Childbirth and the Blessing of Children

1. Ephesians 5:22-24 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Genesis 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

God cursed the ground for Adam's sake due to Adam listening to his wife and eating the forbidden fruit.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. The consequences of our actions

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

Genesis 3:18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

The curse of Adam and Eve, which includes labor and toil, is reinforced with thorns and thistles as part of the earth s produce.

1: The Curse of Adam and Eve - We must understand that although we have been cursed, God still provides sustenance for us through the herbs of the field.

2: The Labor of Life - We must accept our labors and toils, but be grateful for the sustenance God has provided in the herbs of the field.

1: Romans 8:20-22 - "For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God."

2: James 5:7-8 - "Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord s coming is near."

Genesis 3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

This verse shows the consequences of sin, that humans must work hard to sustain themselves and, eventually, will return to the dust from which they were taken.

1. The Price of Sin: An Examination of Genesis 3:19

2. Working Hard and Trusting in the Lord: A Reflection on Genesis 3:19

1. Ecclesiastes 3:20 - All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

2. Romans 8:20-21 - For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

Genesis 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

Adam named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living things.

1. "The Importance of Naming in the Bible"

2. "Eve, the Mother of All Living Things"

1. Genesis 2:18-24

2. Proverbs 31:10-31

Genesis 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

God provided Adam and Eve with coats of skins to cover their bodies after they had sinned.

1. God's Love and Forgiveness: Exploring the depths of God's mercy in Genesis 3:21.

2. The Theology of Clothing: How God's provision of clothing in Genesis 3:21 speaks to our identity and purpose.

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Colossians 3:12 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Genesis 3:22 And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

The Lord God discovers that man has knowledge of good and evil, and fears that he will live forever if he eats from the Tree of Life.

1. Knowing Good and Evil: How to Navigate a World of Ethical Complexity.

2. The Human Condition: How to Understand Our Limitations and Find Meaning.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:15-17 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit. That which is crooked cannot be made straight: and that which is wanting cannot be numbered. I communed with mine own heart, saying, Lo, I am come to great estate, and have gotten more wisdom than all they that have been before me in Jerusalem: yea, my heart had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.

2. Romans 8:18-25 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Genesis 3:23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

Man was expelled from the Garden of Eden as punishment for disobeying God.

1: We can learn from the consequences of Adam and Eve's disobedience that God is just and will not tolerate sin.

2: We can take comfort in God's mercy in that He provided a way for us to be restored to Him.

1: Romans 5:12-21 - The consequence of sin and how God provided a way for us to be saved and reconciled to Him.

2: Ephesians 2:1-10 - The grace of God in providing a way for us to be saved and restored to Him.

Genesis 3:24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

The Lord drove out man from the Garden of Eden and placed Cherubim and a flaming sword to guard the way to the tree of life.

1. The Lord's Protection: Cherubim and the Flaming Sword

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Banished from the Garden of Eden

1. Genesis 3:23-24

2. Psalm 91:11-12 - For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.

Genesis 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 4:1-7, the chapter begins with the birth of Adam and Eve's first two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain becomes a farmer while Abel becomes a shepherd. Both brothers bring offerings to God Cain offers fruits from his land, and Abel offers the best of his flock. However, God accepts Abel's offering but rejects Cain's. This rejection leads to Cain's anger and jealousy towards his brother. God warns Cain about sin crouching at his door and urges him to do what is right.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 4:8-16, the narrative unfolds as Cain invites Abel to the field where he attacks and kills him out of jealousy. God confronts Cain about his actions, asking him where Abel is. In response, Cain denies knowledge of his brother's whereabouts by saying, "Am I my brother's keeper?" As a consequence for murdering his brother, God curses Cain to be a wanderer on the earth and places a mark on him for protection from anyone seeking revenge.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 4:17-26, the chapter concludes by tracing the lineage of Adam through several generations. It mentions that after killing Abel, Cain settles in the land of Nod where he builds a city named after his son Enoch. The descendants of Adam include various individuals who engage in different professions such as shepherding livestock or playing musical instruments like Jubal who played harp and flute. Additionally, another son is born to Adam and Eve named Seth who replaces Abel as their righteous offspring.

In summary:

Genesis 4 depicts:

Cain and Abel bringing offerings to God;

God accepting Abel's offering but rejecting Cain's;

Cain becoming jealous and angry leading to him killing Abel;

God confronting Cain about his actions;

Cain being cursed to wander the earth and marked for protection;

The lineage of Adam through several generations, including the birth of Seth.

This chapter highlights the consequences of jealousy, disobedience, and violence while also introducing the righteous line of Seth as a contrast to Cain's actions. It further emphasizes the ongoing struggle between good and evil within humanity.

Genesis 4:1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, whom she believed was a gift from God.

1. God's Gracious Gift: Exploring the Blessing of Cain in Genesis 4:1

2. Celebrating Divine Providence: An Exploration of the Divine Hand in the Birth of Cain

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

Genesis 4:2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

Eve bore two sons, Abel and Cain. Abel was a shepherd and Cain was a farmer.

1. God's Plan for Provision: Learning to Rely on God's Provision

2. Serving God with Your Talents: Using Your Talents to Serve God

1. Psalm 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

2. Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Genesis 4:3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.

Cain gave an offering to the Lord from the fruit of the ground.

1. The Importance of Giving: Why Do We Show Gratitude to God?

2. The Significance of Obedience: Following God's Will Is Vital

1. Leviticus 7:12 - If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mixed with oil, unleavened wafers spread with oil, and cakes of fine flour well mixed with oil.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Genesis 4:4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

Abel brought the best of his flock to the Lord as an offering, and the Lord was pleased with his offering.

1. The Power of Faithful Offerings - Showing God our faithfulness through our offerings.

2. The Blessings of Obedience - Demonstrating obedience as a way to receive the Lord's blessings.

1. Hebrews 11:4 - By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.

2. Philippians 4:18 - I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

Genesis 4:5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

Cain was angered when God did not show respect to his offering.

1. The importance of humility when approaching God.

2. God's sovereignty in judgement.

1. James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 4:6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

God confronts Cain about his anger and why his countenance has fallen.

1. "Confronting Sin: Learning to Confess and Repent"

2. "The Power of God s Words: How to Respond to the Lord"

1. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Genesis 4:7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

Sin is a choice that can be avoided and God's blessing will be given if one does well.

1. The Choice to Do Good or Evil - Genesis 4:7

2. Overcoming Sin Through Righteous Action - Genesis 4:7

1. Romans 6:12-14 - Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Genesis 4:8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

Cain killed Abel while they were in the field.

1: We must choose to love, even when things are difficult.

2: The consequences of our actions can be drastic and painful.

1: Matthew 5:21-22 - "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment.

2: Romans 12:17-21 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Genesis 4:9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

God asks Cain where his brother Abel is, and Cain replies that he does not know, asking if he is responsible for his brother.

1. "God's Question: Are We Our Brother's Keeper?"

2. "Responsibility and Accountability: A Study of Cain and Abel"

1. 1 John 3:11-12 - "For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous."

2. Luke 10:29-37 - "But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him."

Genesis 4:10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

Cain kills his brother Abel and God questions him about the murder.

1. The consequences of sin and the importance of repentance.

2. The power of guilt and the importance of confessing our wrongdoings.

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Genesis 4:11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;

The passage speaks of the curse of Cain which resulted from his killing of his brother Abel.

1. Learning to Forgive: Finding God's Grace in the Wake of Sibling Rivalry

2. Understanding the Consequences of Sin: The Curse of Cain

1. Luke 6:37 - "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Genesis 4:12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

God cursed Cain for his sin of murder, telling him that he shall no longer be able to successfully till the ground and that he will be a fugitive and a vagabond in the land.

1. Our Sinful Nature: How Our Actions Have Consequences

2. The Nature of God s Justice and Mercy

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Proverbs 11:31 - Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

Genesis 4:13 And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

Cain expresses his distress in light of his punishment.

1. Learning to Accept God's Discipline - Romans 5:3-5

2. The Blessing of Repentance - Proverbs 28:13

1. Job 7:11 - "Therefore I will not restrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul."

2. Psalm 38:4 - "For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me."

Genesis 4:14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

Cain is afraid that everyone that finds him will kill him because God has cast him out of his presence.

1. The Consequences of Sin: The Story of Cain and Abel

2. The Fear of Rejection: The Consequences of Being Caste Out

1. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

2. Isaiah 45:3 - And I will give you the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the LORD, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel.

Genesis 4:15 And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

Cain was protected from harm by God's mark of protection.

1. God's Protection and Provision in Our Lives

2. The Significance of God's Mark of Protection

1. Psalm 91:1-4 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust. For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Genesis 4:16 And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

Cain left the presence of the Lord and moved to the land of Nod.

1: Where has God placed us? Genesis 4:16 encourages us to think about how God has placed each of us in the world and how we can use our place to honor Him.

2: God's presence is always with us. Even when Cain left the presence of the Lord, God's presence was still with him.

1: Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

2: Proverbs 15:3 - The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

Genesis 4:17 And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.

Cain married and had a son, whom he named Enoch and built a city for him.

1. The importance of building a legacy for future generations

2. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises of descendants

1. Deuteronomy 4:9-10; Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.

2. Psalm 145:4; One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

Genesis 4:18 And unto Enoch was born Irad: and Irad begat Mehujael: and Mehujael begat Methusael: and Methusael begat Lamech.

This passage describes the genealogy of Lamech, the father of Noah.

1: The importance of family and lineage in the Bible.

2: God's faithfulness in bringing about his plan of salvation through Noah.

1: Romans 5:12-14, "Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone s account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come."

2: Hebrews 11:7, "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith."

Genesis 4:19 And Lamech took unto him two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

Lamech married two wives, named Adah and Zillah.

1. The Blessing of Marriage: A Study of Lamech in Genesis

2. The Importance of Commitment: A Look at Lamech and His Wives

1. Genesis 2:18-25 - God's Design for Marriage

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Husbands and Wives in Christ

Genesis 4:20 And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle.

Adah bore Jabal, who became the ancestor of nomadic herdsmen and those who own cattle.

1. The Blessing of Provision: How God Provides for His People

2. The Meaning of Legacy: How Our Ancestors Shape Who We Are

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Genesis 4:21 And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.

Jubal was the father of those who play stringed instruments.

1: God has given us the gift of music. Let us use it to glorify Him.

2: Music can be used to give praise and honor to God.

1: Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

2: Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Genesis 4:22 And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an instructer of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.

Zillah bore Tubalcain, who was an instructor in metalworking. His sister was Naamah.

1. The Value of Education: Learning from Tubalcain

2. The Power of Partnership: The Relationship of Tubalcain and Naamah

1. Proverbs 13:20, "He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm."

2. Colossians 3:23-24, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Genesis 4:23 And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech: for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt.

Lamech bragged of his violent acts against a man and a young man.

1. "The Danger of Boastful Pride"

2. "The Need for Compassion and Restraint"

1. Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Matthew 5:38-42 "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also."

Genesis 4:24 If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

Lamech, a descendant of Cain, brags that he will be avenged seventy-sevenfold.

1. Vengeance belongs to God - Romans 12:19

2. The danger of pride - Proverbs 16:18

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Genesis 4:25 And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

Adam and Eve have another son, Seth, as a replacement for Abel who was killed by Cain.

1: God is always with us, even in times of tragedy and loss.

2: The power of faith and hope are strong enough to help us through even the most difficult times.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Genesis 4:26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.

Seth had a son named Enos, and it was at this time that people began to call upon the name of the Lord.

1. The Power of a Name: Learning from Enos

2. Calling on the Name of the Lord: What it Means to be a Follower of God

1. Romans 10:13 - For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

2. Acts 2:21 - And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Genesis 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 5:1-20, the chapter begins with a genealogical record of Adam's descendants. It traces the lineage from Adam to Noah, listing the names of each generation and their respective ages. The chapter emphasizes the passing of generations and highlights that each person mentioned lived for several hundred years. Notable individuals included in this genealogy are Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch (who walked with God and was taken by Him), Methuselah (the longest-lived person recorded in the Bible), and Lamech.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 5:21-24, attention is given to Enoch the seventh generation from Adam who walked faithfully with God. Unlike others who lived long lives before dying, Enoch experienced a unique fate. It is stated that he did not die but was taken by God because of his righteousness. This departure sets him apart as an example of faithfulness and serves as a contrast to the general pattern of human mortality.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 5:25-32, the genealogical account concludes by focusing on Noah the tenth generation from Adam who becomes a significant figure in later chapters. Noah's father Lamech names him so because he believes Noah will bring comfort or relief from their toil on the cursed ground. It is noted that Noah had three sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth and they were born after he reached the age of five hundred years old. This final portion establishes a connection between this genealogy and subsequent events involving Noah's role in preserving humanity through the great flood.

In summary:

Genesis 5 presents:

A detailed genealogical record tracing generations from Adam to Noah;

The longevity of individuals mentioned;

Enoch's exceptional fate being taken by God due to his righteousness;

The introduction of Noah and his significance as the son of Lamech;

Noah's three sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth who play important roles in later chapters.

This chapter emphasizes the passing of time, the faithfulness of Enoch, and sets the stage for the forthcoming account of Noah and the great flood. It highlights both continuity through generations and notable exceptions within human history.

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Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

The passage is about the creation of man in the likeness of God.

1. God Created Man in His Own Image: A Reflection on Genesis 5:1

2. The Likeness of God: What it Means for Us as Human Beings

1. "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (Genesis 1:26 ESV)

2. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27 ESV)

Genesis 5:2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

God created humans in His own image and blessed them.

1: We are all created in God's image and should strive to live in His love and grace.

2: God has blessed us with life and we should use it to glorify His name.

1: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2: Psalm 139:13-14 - For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

Genesis 5:3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

Adam lived to be 130 years old and had a son named Seth, who was in his likeness and image.

1. The Beauty of God's Image in Man - Genesis 5:3

2. The Power of Life and Legacy - Genesis 5:3

1. Psalm 139:13-14 - For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:45 - And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

Genesis 5:4 And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters:

Adam had a long life and had many children, including Seth.

1. The Legacy of Adam: Living a Life of Meaning and Fulfillment

2. The Blessing of Procreation: Raising a New Generation

1. Genesis 5:1-5

2. Psalm 127:3-5

Genesis 5:5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.

Adam lived a long life of 930 years before he died.

1: Learning to Live With a Long Life - Making the Most of Our Time on Earth

2: Eternal Life Through Jesus Christ - Living Eternally in Heaven

1: Ecclesiastes 7:17 - Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?

2: John 11:25-26 - Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

Genesis 5:6 And Seth lived an hundred and five years, and begat Enos:

Seth lived to be 105 years old and fathered Enos.

1: We can learn from Seth's example of living a long and full life.

2: We should use our time wisely, just as Seth did.

1: Psalm 90:12 "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

2: Ecclesiastes 7:17 "Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?"

Genesis 5:7 And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters:

Seth lived for 807 years and had many children.

1. The Legacy of Seth: How Can We Emulate His Long and Productive Life?

2. Walking with God: What Can We Learn from Seth's Grand Example?

1. 1 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Genesis 5:8 And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died.

Seth was a son of Adam and Eve, and he lived for 912 years before he passed away.

1. The Blessing of a Long Life: Lessons from the Life of Seth.

2. The Importance of Family: Adam, Eve and Seth.

1. Psalm 90:10 - "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away."

2. Ecclesiastes 12:1-7 - "Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, I have no pleasure in them ; before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain, in the day when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those who look through the windows are dimmed, and the doors on the street are shut when the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along, and desire fails, because man is going to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets before the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is shattered at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Genesis 5:9 And Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan:

Enos lived a long and fruitful life, fathering Cainan at 90 years old.

1. The Joys of a Long and Fruitful Life

2. The Blessing of Fatherhood

1. Psalm 90:10 - The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

2. Proverbs 17:6 - Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Genesis 5:10 And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begat sons and daughters:

Enos lived for 815 years and had children.

1. The Value of Time: Learning to Make the Most of Our Lives

2. The Power of God's Blessing: Inheriting a Legacy of Faith

1. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Genesis 5:11 And all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he died.

Enos was the first of the generations of Seth to live a long life and die.

1. The importance of living a long and meaningful life.

2. Understanding our mortality and making the most of our time here on earth.

1. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

2. James 4:14 - "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

Genesis 5:12 And Cainan lived seventy years, and begat Mahalaleel:

Cainan lived seventy years and fathered Mahalaleel.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Prolonging Life

2. The Legacy of Faith Passed Down from Generation to Generation

1. Psalm 90:10 - The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

2. Proverbs 17:6 - Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.

Genesis 5:13 And Cainan lived after he begat Mahalaleel eight hundred and forty years, and begat sons and daughters:

Cainan lived for 840 years and had children.

1. The importance of having a long life and making the most of it.

2. The blessing of having children and raising them in the Lord.

1. Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. Proverbs 17:6 Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Genesis 5:14 And all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years: and he died.

Cainan lived to be 910 years old and passed away.

1. The brevity of life and the importance of making the most of it.

2. God is the ultimate authority, and He decides when our lives on earth should end.

1. James 4:14 - Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

2. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Genesis 5:15 And Mahalaleel lived sixty and five years, and begat Jared:

Mahalaleel's faith in God led to a long and prosperous life.

1: God rewards faithfulness with a long and blessed life.

2: Put your trust in the Lord and He will provide.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: Psalm 91:14-15 - Because he loves me, says the Lord, I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.

Genesis 5:16 And Mahalaleel lived after he begat Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters:

Mahalaleel lived a long, full life with his family.

1: God blesses us with long, loving lives when we trust in Him.

2: God's faithfulness endures forever, and He desires that we live full lives in Him.

1: Psalm 119:90 - "Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast."

2: Deuteronomy 7:9 - "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

Genesis 5:17 And all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety and five years: and he died.

Mahalaleel lived a long life of 895 years and eventually died.

1. God is our provider and sustainer in life, and we should seek to live as long as he allows us to.

2. The Bible gives us examples of faithful and obedient people such as Mahalaleel, and we should strive to imitate their example.

1. Psalm 90:10 - The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

Genesis 5:18 And Jared lived an hundred sixty and two years, and he begat Enoch:

Jared's life was a testimony of faith and commitment to God.

1: Let us trust God's plan for our lives, no matter how long or short it is.

2: We can be an example to others as we live out our lives according to God's will.

1: James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit' - yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'"

2: Hebrews 11:5-6 - "By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Genesis 5:19 And Jared lived after he begat Enoch eight hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

Jared lived a long life and had many descendants.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for generations.

2. The importance of heritage and family.

1. Psalm 100:5 - "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

2. Psalm 78:4-7 - "We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done. He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands."

Genesis 5:20 And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died.

Jared lived to be 962 years old and then he died.

1. The brevity of life and the importance of making the most of what we have been given.

2. The power and faithfulness of God to sustain His people even through their passing.

1. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:55-57 - O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Genesis 5:21 And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah:

Enoch's life was a model of faith and obedience to God.

1. Walking with God: A Study on the Life of Enoch

2. Growing in Faith: Lessons from Enoch

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

2. Colossians 3:1-2 - "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."

Genesis 5:22 And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

After Enoch had his son Methuselah, he walked with God for 300 years and had other children.

1. The Power of Faithful Companionship: Walking with God as Enoch Did

2. The Impact of Our Choices: Enoch's Examples of Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:5-6 - By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.

2. 1 John 1:7 - But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Genesis 5:23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years:

Enoch's life was a life of faith and obedience to God.

1: We can learn from Enoch's life of faith and obedience to God and strive to live a life of holiness and righteousness.

2: Our lives should be devoted to serving and glorifying God, just as Enoch did.

1: Hebrews 11:5-6 - By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

2: 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

Enoch was a righteous man who dedicated his life to God and was taken up to heaven without facing death.

1. Walk with God and He will bless you with eternity.

2. Seek God's will and He will fulfill it in unexpected ways.

1. Hebrews 11:5-6 - By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 - But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Genesis 5:25 And Methuselah lived an hundred eighty and seven years, and begat Lamech:

Methuselah lived to be 969 years old and he fathered Lamech.

1. The Legacy of Faith: Lessons from Methuselah's Long Life

2. Making the Most of our Lives: Wisdom from Methuselah

1. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:17 - Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?

Genesis 5:26 And Methuselah lived after he begat Lamech seven hundred eighty and two years, and begat sons and daughters:

Methuselah had a long life, living 782 years after he had a son and daughter.

1. "The Long Life of Methuselah: An Example of How to Live Righteously"

2. "Lessons From the Life of Methuselah: What We Can Learn From His Long Life"

1. Ecclesiastes 7:17 - "Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?"

2. Psalm 90:10 - "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

Genesis 5:27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.

Methuselah lived a long life and died at 969 years old.

1: God has given us all different lifespans, and we should remember to make the most of the time we are given.

2: Methuselah's long and full life can serve as an example of trusting in God's will and planning for the future.

1: Psalm 39:4 - "Show me, O Lord, my life s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is."

2: Ecclesiastes 7:17 - "Do not be overwhlemed by the evil days that come, for the joy of the Lord will be your strength."

Genesis 5:28 And Lamech lived an hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son:

Lamech was the father of a son at the age of 182.

1: God's faithfulness in fulfilling his promises is seen in the life of Lamech, who was blessed with a son in his old age.

2: Despite life's disappointments, God's love for us remains unchanged and we can trust in his promises.

1: 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Genesis 5:29 And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.

Noah's name symbolizes hope and comfort despite the toil of life due to the curse of the land.

1: We can find hope and comfort in the midst of life's toil through the name of Noah.

2: Even when life is hard and cursed, we can find hope and comfort in the name of Noah.

1: Isaiah 40:30-31 - Even youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2: Romans 15:13 - Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 5:30 And Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years, and begat sons and daughters:

Lamech was the father of Noah and lived for 595 years, having many sons and daughters.

1. The Value of a Life: How Every Moment Matters

2. The Legacy of Lamech: Faithfulness Through Generations

1. Psalm 90:12: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

2. Proverbs 13:22: "A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just."

Genesis 5:31 And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy and seven years: and he died.

Lamech lived for 777 years, then died.

1. Jesus offers us eternal life - John 3:16

2. Take time to appreciate the time we have - James 4:14

1. Ecclesiastes 7:2 - "It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart."

2. Psalm 90:12 - "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Genesis 5:32 And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Noah was 500 years old when he had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

1: Make the most of your life, for you don't know when it will end.

2: God's grace is fulfilling His promises, even in our old age.

1: Psalm 90:12 - Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

2: Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Genesis 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 6:1-4, the chapter begins by describing a significant event in human history. It is mentioned that the population of humanity had increased, and "the sons of God" (interpreted as divine beings or fallen angels) noticed the beauty of human women and took them as wives. This union between divine beings and humans resulted in the birth of mighty men who became renowned figures in ancient times. However, this intermingling between heavenly and earthly realms is seen as a corruption that contributes to the wickedness on earth.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 6:5-7, God observes the wickedness prevalent among humanity and becomes deeply grieved. He determines to bring judgment upon them by sending a great flood to destroy all living creatures on earth. The text emphasizes that even though humanity's thoughts and actions were continually evil, Noah found favor with God. Noah is described as a righteous man who walked faithfully with God amidst a corrupt generation.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 6:8-22, God reveals His plan to Noah and instructs him to build an ark a massive vessel to save himself, his family, and representatives of every kind of animal from the coming flood. Detailed instructions are given regarding its construction its dimensions, compartments for animals, and provisions for food. Noah obeys God's commandments precisely without questioning or doubting Him. The passage concludes by emphasizing that Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

In summary:

Genesis 6 presents:

The intermingling between divine beings (sons of God) and human women resulting in renowned offspring;

The corruption and wickedness prevalent among humanity leading to God's grief;

God's decision to bring judgment through a great flood;

Noah finding favor with God due to his righteousness;

God's instruction for Noah to build an ark to save himself, his family, and animals;

Noah's faithful obedience in carrying out God's commands.

This chapter sets the stage for the account of the great flood and highlights Noah as a righteous figure chosen by God to preserve life amidst widespread corruption. It emphasizes the consequences of human wickedness and the importance of obedience to God's instructions.

Genesis 6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

As the population of the earth began to grow, daughters were born to them.

1. Life Beyond Numbers: Finding God s Purpose in Our Lives

2. The Blessing of Daughters: Celebrating God s Gift

1. Matthew 6:26-27: Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

2. Psalm 127:3: Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him.

Genesis 6:2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

The sons of God took wives of all they chose from the daughters of men because they were fair.

1. God calls us to honor our commitments in marriage and seek to reflect His holiness.

2. We should strive to be discerning in the people we choose to commit to and remember that we are called to love as God loves us.

1. 1 Corinthians 7:2-3 - "But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband."

2. Ephesians 5:25-27 - "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless."

Genesis 6:3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

The Lord declared that His spirit would not always strive with man, and man's life expectancy would be limited to 120 years.

1: Our Time on Earth is Limited and Precious: Treasure Every Moment

2: God's Spirit is With Us, but Not Forever: Make the Most of It

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die.

2: Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Genesis 6:4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

The Bible tells of giants existing among the people of the earth in ancient times.

1. We can learn from the giants of old and how their influence is still remembered today.

2. God's power is evident in the lives of those who are mighty and renowned.

1. Psalm 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

2. Matthew 5:16 - Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Genesis 6:5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

The wickedness of man in the earth was great and their thoughts were evil continually.

1. How to Pursue Righteousness in a Sinful World

2. The Consequences of a Wicked Heart

1. Romans 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Genesis 6:6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

The Lord was sorry for creating man and it grieved him deeply.

1. God's Love for Mankind Despite His Disappointment

2. When God's Plans Don't Seem to Work Out

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 6:7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

God reveals His plan to destroy mankind due to their wickedness.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. God's Mercy: Understanding the Opportunity for Redemption

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Jonah 3:10 - When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Genesis 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Noah found God's favor despite the wickedness of his time.

1: God is always willing to show mercy and grace to those who seek Him, even in the most difficult of times.

2: Our faith in God is never in vain, and He will always give us the strength to overcome whatever challenges we may face.

1: Romans 5:8- But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Psalm 18:25- With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless.

Genesis 6:9 These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

Noah was a righteous and God-fearing man.

1: We should strive to be more like Noah and live a life that pleases God.

2: We should strive to be holy, as Noah was, and live a life that glorifies God.

1: Ephesians 5:1-2 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

2: 1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Genesis 6:10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of a Godly Legacy

1. Genesis 6:10

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 6:11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

The earth had become corrupt and filled with violence before God.

1. The Need for God in Times of Trouble

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Genesis 6:12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

The earth was corrupted because all mankind had sinned.

1: We must repent and turn from our wicked ways, for the Lord knows our hearts and we will be judged for our actions.

2: We must be mindful of our actions and strive for righteousness, for God is watching and will not turn a blind eye to our wickedness.

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

2: James 4:17 "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Genesis 6:13 And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

The earth is filled with violence and God will destroy it.

1. God's Judgment: A Call to Repentance

2. Embracing God's Mercy Despite Human Sin

1. Isaiah 24:5-6 - "The earth is also defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

2. Romans 2:4-5 - "Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?"

Genesis 6:14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

The Lord instructed Noah to construct an ark of gopher wood and cover it with pitch both inside and out.

1. Noah's obedience to the Lord and how it is an example of faith.

2. The importance of being prepared for the future and lessons to be learned from Noah's example.

1. Hebrews 11:7 - "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

2. James 2:17-18 - "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works."

Genesis 6:15 And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

God commanded Noah to build an ark with the dimensions of 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high.

1. The Ark of Noah: A Lesson in Obedience

2. A Reminder of God's Care and Provision

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders

2. Hebrews 11:7 - Noah's obedience by faith in the midst of the flood

Genesis 6:16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

God instructs Noah to build an ark with a window, door, and three stories.

1. God's Plan for Building: A Lesson from Noah's Ark

2. Preparing for the Storm: Building an Ark of Safety

1. Proverbs 22:3 - "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished."

2. Hebrews 11:7 - "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

Genesis 6:17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

God warned Noah of the impending flood as a punishment for humanity's wickedness.

1. The Power of God's Judgment: Learning from the Story of Noah and the Flood

2. God's Mercy and Patience: The Warning of the Flood and its Significance for Us Today

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

2. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Genesis 6:18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

God promised Noah and his family that He would establish a covenant with them and save them from the flood by allowing them to enter the ark.

1. God's faithfulness and His promises never fail.

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord even when the odds seem impossible.

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 6:19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

God instructs Noah to bring two of every living creature into the ark to be saved from the flood.

1. The importance of obedience to God and the consequences of disobedience.

2. The power of God's grace and mercy in preserving life.

1. Romans 5:20 - Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Genesis 6:20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

God instructed Noah to take two of every kind of animal to save them from the flood.

1. God is always in Control: Looking at Noah and the Flood

2. God's Mercy and Provision: The Animals Saved from the Flood

1. Matthew 24:37-39 - As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man.

2. 1 Peter 3:20 - God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being prepared.

Genesis 6:21 And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

God instructs Noah to take all the food he needs for himself and his family in order to survive the flood.

1: God provides for us, even in the midst of great trouble.

2: Trust in the Lord, for He will provide for us in times of need.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 6:22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

Noah followed God's instructions and obeyed all that He commanded.

1. Obeying God is Essential to a Godly Life

2. Faithfulness to God leads to His Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 - See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Genesis 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 7:1-10, God instructs Noah to enter the ark along with his family because He has seen Noah as righteous among his generation. God specifies the number and types of animals that should also enter the ark seven pairs of clean animals and birds, and one pair of unclean animals. Noah follows these instructions diligently, gathering all the creatures as commanded. After seven days, the floodwaters begin to cover the earth.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 7:11-16, it is stated that when Noah was six hundred years old, on the seventeenth day of the second month, all the springs of water burst forth from beneath the earth while rain poured down from above. The floodwaters engulfed everything on earth for forty days and forty nights. Inside the ark, Noah and his family were safe along with all the living creatures that had entered with them. The text emphasizes that God closed them into the ark Himself.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 7:17-24, it is described how "the waters prevailed on the earth" for a hundred and fifty days. The flood covered even mountains until every living thing outside of the ark perished humans, land animals, birds, and creeping things everything was wiped out from existence except for those inside the safety of Noah's vessel. The floodwaters remained upon earth for a total of one year before receding.

In summary:

Genesis 7 presents:

God's command to Noah to enter into an ark along with his family;

The gathering of various animal species into pairs according to God's instructions;

The commencement of rainfall and bursting forth of water sources leading to a global flood;

Noah's obedience in entering into and securing himself within the ark;

The complete destruction by water of every living thing outside of it;

The duration of the flood lasting for a hundred and fifty days and the total time spent in the ark for one year.

This chapter marks the fulfillment of God's judgment upon a corrupt world through the flood, while highlighting Noah's faithfulness in following God's commands. It emphasizes both the severity of divine judgment and the provision of salvation through obedience.

Genesis 7:1 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

God commanded Noah to bring his family into the ark for he was seen as righteous before God.

1. God looks upon those who are righteous and rewards them with blessings.

2. Being righteous and living a life of faithfulness towards God will bring about God's favor.

1. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

2. Hebrews 11:7 - "By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith."

Genesis 7:2 Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female.

God instructed Noah to take two of every unclean animal and seven of every clean animal on the ark.

1: God's Instructions are Good and Righteous

2: We Should Follow God's Commands

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2: Psalm 119:172 - My tongue will sing of your word, for all your commandments are right.

Genesis 7:3 Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

God instructed Noah to take seven pairs of each kind of bird into the ark to keep the species alive on the earth.

1: God's provision for the preservation of life.

2: The role of faith in times of difficulty.

1: Matthew 6:26, "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

2: Matthew 24:36-44, "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."

Genesis 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

God tells Noah that he will cause it to rain for forty days and nights and destroy every living thing on the earth.

1. The Flood: God's Judgment and Mercy

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

1. 1 Peter 3:20-21 - which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Genesis 7:5 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.

Noah obeyed all the commands of the Lord.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Example of Noah

2. Keeping Faith in Difficult Times: Noah's Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house;

2. James 2:23 - And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

Genesis 7:6 And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

Noah was six hundred years old when the great flood devastated the earth.

1. God's faithfulness can be seen in the life of Noah and the great flood.

2. Even in the midst of trial and tribulation, God is still in control.

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

2. Matthew 24:37-39 - As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away.

Genesis 7:7 And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

Noah and his family entered the ark in order to survive the flood.

1. The importance of preparing for the unexpected.

2. Seeking refuge in God during times of distress.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to not worry and to trust in God's provision for our needs.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - Noah showed faith in God by building the ark and being obedient to the Lord's commands.

Genesis 7:8 Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth,

God commanded Noah to bring two of every kind of clean and unclean animal onto the ark.

1. God's plan of salvation is revealed in the story of Noah and the Ark.

2. God's power and sovereignty is demonstrated in the provision of the Ark.

1. Romans 5:12-21 - God's love and mercy shown through Christ's death on the cross.

2. 2 Peter 3:3-7 - God's patience in waiting for all to repent.

Genesis 7:9 There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

Noah and his family obeyed God's command to enter the ark two by two.

1. Obedience is better than sacrifice.

2. God's commands are for our safety and protection.

1. Psalm 119:66 - Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.

2. Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

Genesis 7:10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

After seven days, a flood covered the earth.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the fact that He kept His promise to bring a flood.

2: God's wrath is demonstrated when He sends a flood to judge the people on earth.

1: 2 Peter 3:6-7 - By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly."

2: Isaiah 54:9 - For this is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you.

Genesis 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, the fountains of the great deep were broken up and the windows of heaven were opened on the seventeenth day of the second month.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: Trusting the Lord in our Journey

2. The Power of the Lord: Understanding God's Sovereignty

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Genesis 7:12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights.

1. Abiding in Faith: How to Remain Steadfast During Difficult Times

2. The Power of God's Promises: Experiencing His Unfailing Love and Protection

1. Isaiah 54:10, Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2. Psalm 62:5-8, Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

Genesis 7:13 In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

Noah and his family entered the ark on the same day.

1. God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises

2. The importance of trusting and obeying God

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house;

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Genesis 7:14 They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

God's care for all living creatures is demonstrated in His command to Noah to save two of each kind.

1. God s love for His creation is demonstrated through His care for all living creatures.

2. The importance of obeying God s commands is exemplified by Noah s obedience.

1. Psalm 136:25- Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

2. Matthew 6:26- Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Genesis 7:15 And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.

All the animals went into the ark, two by two, to be saved from the flood.

1. "The Power of Two: Why Two by Two Matters"

2. "Finding Strength in Partnerships: Working Together to Survive"

1. Matthew 19:5-6 - "And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

Genesis 7:16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

God commanded Noah to bring two of each kind of animal into the ark and shut the door behind him.

1. God's faithfulness in providing protection and guidance to His people.

2. God's perfect plan of salvation.

1. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.

Genesis 7:17 And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

The flood was forty days upon the earth and the waters increased, lifting the ark up above the earth.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trouble - how God provided a way of salvation through the ark during the flood.

2. The Power of Prayer - the ark was lifted up above the earth through the power of prayer.

1. Genesis 6:13-22 - God's command to Noah to build the ark.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is a refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Genesis 7:18 And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

The waters rose greatly and the ark floated on top of them.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity

2. Trusting in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.

2. Psalm 46:1 3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Genesis 7:19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

The waters rose to a great height and covered all the land.

1: God's power is unmatched and He has the ability to move mountains.

2: We must trust in God and not fear the unknown.

1: Psalm 46:2-3 "Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2: Matthew 17:20 "He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

Genesis 7:20 Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

The waters of the Great Flood rose above the highest mountains.

1: No matter how great, no mountain is too high for God's power.

2: The power of God is greater than any obstacle we may face.

1: Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2: Exodus 15:4-7 "Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea. The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea. The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like a stone."

Genesis 7:21 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

The Flood in Genesis 7 caused every living creature to die.

1. The Lord's Mercy: How God Demonstrates His Love Even in the Face of Destruction

2. The Power of Faith: How We Can Persevere Even in the Wake of Disaster

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Genesis 7:22 All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

A destructive flood destroyed all living creatures on dry land.

1. The Power of God: How God Uses Nature to Accomplish His Will

2. The Flood: A Tale of Hope and Restoration

1. Matthew 18:15 17 - Jesus instructs on how to deal with sin in the Church

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Genesis 7:23 And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

The flood in Genesis 7 caused destruction of all living things on the earth, except Noah and those with him in the ark.

1. We can trust God's Promises.

2. God is in control even during times of destruction.

1. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 7:24 And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.

The waters prevailed on the earth for 150 days.

1: Drowning in Sin - Sin can overwhelm us, just like the waters overwhelmed the earth. We can find deliverance in God's grace and mercy, just like the deliverance from the flood.

2: God's Protection - Despite the flood, God's people were protected and delivered. We can trust in God's protection even when we feel overwhelmed by our circumstances.

1: Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

2: Psalm 40:2 - He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

Genesis 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 8:1-5, after the floodwaters had covered the earth for a hundred and fifty days, God remembered Noah and caused a wind to pass over the earth. The rain ceased, and the waters began to recede. The fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were closed. On the seventeenth day of the seventh month, the ark came to rest on Mount Ararat. The waters continued to decrease until, by the tenth month, mountain tops became visible.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 8:6-14, Noah waited for another forty days before sending out a raven from the ark to see if there was dry land. However, it kept flying back and forth until it found no place to rest. Then Noah sent out a dove which returned with an olive leaf in its beak an indication that vegetation was growing again on land. After waiting seven more days, Noah released the dove once more; this time it did not return. By this sign from God, Noah knew that it was safe to leave the ark.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 8:15-22, God instructed Noah and his family to come out of the ark along with all living creatures that were with them birds, livestock, and every creeping thing. They emerged onto dry ground on God's command on the twenty-seventh day of the second month of Noah's six hundred and first year. In response to their deliverance from destruction by water, Noah built an altar and offered burnt offerings as an act of worship to God who smelled their pleasing aroma.

In summary:

Genesis 8 presents:

The receding of floodwaters after one hundred fifty days;

The resting of Noah's ark on Mount Ararat;

The subsequent decrease in water levels until mountaintops became visible;

Noah's sending out of a raven and dove to find dry land;

The dove's return with an olive leaf, indicating the growth of vegetation;

The final release of the dove and its non-return, signifying safe conditions outside the ark;

Noah's exit from the ark along with his family and all living creatures;

Noah's act of worship through offering burnt offerings to God.

This chapter highlights God's remembrance of Noah and His provision for their deliverance from the flood. It emphasizes the process of waiting, seeking signs, and finally receiving confirmation that it was safe to leave the ark. Noah's act of worship signifies gratitude for God's faithfulness.

Genesis 8:1 And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged;

God showed mercy to Noah and all living creatures by calming the waters.

1: God's mercy endures forever.

2: God is the provider of comfort and peace.

1: Psalm 136:1-3 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever."

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Because of the Lord s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Genesis 8:2 The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;

The floodwaters receded due to the stopping of the fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven, and the rain was restrained.

1. God's Power to Stop Adversity: Lessons from the Flood in Genesis 8

2. Finding Hope in Challenging Times: A Study of Genesis 8

1. Matthew 8:23-26 - Jesus stills the storm at sea

2. Job 38:8-11 - God's power to control the waters of the deep

Genesis 8:3 And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.

The waters receded from the land after 150 days.

1: The Lord will keep His promises; He will deliver us in due time.

2: God's timing is perfect; trust in Him and wait patiently.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Lamentations 3:25 - "The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him."

Genesis 8:4 And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

The ark of Noah came to rest on the mountains of Ararat in the seventh month on the seventeenth day.

1. The Power of Faith - A lesson from Noah's journey in the ark

2. The Blessings of Obedience - How obedience brought Noah and his family to safety

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

2. Genesis 6:22 - Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.

Genesis 8:5 And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

The waters from the great flood receded until the tenth month, when the tops of mountains were seen.

1: No matter how deep our troubles may seem, God will always provide a way for us.

2: We can always look to God for hope in times of despair.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

2: Psalm 18:16 He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.

Genesis 8:6 And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made:

After forty days, Noah opened the window of the ark he had built.

1. The Faithfulness of Noah: A Study of Obedience

2. A Look at the Power of Patience

1. Hebrews 11:7 - "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

2. 1 Peter 3:20 - "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water."

Genesis 8:7 And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.

God sent out a raven to see when the waters had receded from the earth after the Great Flood.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Used a Raven to Restore the Earth After the Great Flood

2. God's Mercy and Provision: How He Provided for His People During the Great Flood

1. Psalm 147:3 - "He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds."

2. Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Genesis 8:8 Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground;

God sent a dove to see if the waters had gone down so the earth could be inhabited again.

1. God shows His faithfulness to us in His provision and protection.

2. God's love is seen in His merciful acts of restoration.

1. Genesis 8:8

2. Psalm 36:7 - How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

Genesis 8:9 But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark.

The dove, sent out by Noah, could not find a place to rest due to the floodwaters covering the entire earth. Noah then reached out and pulled the dove back into the ark.

1. God will always provide a way of escape in times of distress.

2. Have faith that God will take care of you, even when the situation appears hopeless.

1. Isaiah 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Genesis 8:10 And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark;

Noah waited seven more days before sending the dove out of the ark for a second time.

1. Patience in Waiting: God's Plan Will Come to Fruition

2. The Importance of Faithful Obedience

1. James 5:7-8 - Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:6 - For there is a proper time and procedure for every matter, though a person may be weighed down by misery.

Genesis 8:11 And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.

The dove came to Noah in the evening with an olive leaf, showing that the flood waters had receded.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promise of deliverance

2. The importance of trusting in God's timing

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 107:28-29 - Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed.

Genesis 8:12 And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him any more.

God demonstrated his faithfulness to Noah, even after the great flood, by sending out a dove to show that the waters had receded.

1. God's Faithfulness - How We Can Rely On God In Times Of Difficulty

2. The Power Of Purity - The Significance Of The Dove's Return

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.

Genesis 8:13 And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.

After the flood waters had receded, Noah opened the ark and saw that the ground was dry.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises.

2. The importance of trusting God despite the circumstances.

1. Romans 4:19-21 - And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about a hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

2. Matthew 17:20 - And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

Genesis 8:14 And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried.

In the second month, on the 27th day, the earth was dried from the flood waters.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises - Romans 4:21

2. The Beauty of Patience - Psalm 27:14

1. Genesis 9:13-15 - God's covenant to never again destroy the earth by water

2. Hebrews 11:7 - Noah's faith in God's promise that he and his family would be saved from the flood

Genesis 8:15 And God spake unto Noah, saying,

God spoke to Noah and gave him instructions.

1. Following God's Instructions: The Story of Noah

2. Hearing and Obeying God's Voice

1. Isaiah 1:19 - "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Genesis 8:16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee.

God instructed Noah and his family to leave the ark and start anew.

1. God's grace and mercy allows us to start anew, even after great struggles.

2. We must always rely on God to guide us and help us through difficult times.

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Genesis 8:17 Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

God's command to Noah to bring forth all the creatures to repopulate the earth.

1: God's faithfulness in restoring the earth after the flood and His command to Noah to populate it.

2: The importance of obedience to God's commands and the blessings of fulfilling them.

1: Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2: Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Genesis 8:18 And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him:

Noah and his family left the ark to re-populate the world.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving Noah and his family from destruction.

2. The importance of obedience and trusting in God.

1. Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Hebrews 11:7, "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith."

Genesis 8:19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

The animals left the ark and spread across the earth according to their kinds.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His creatures

2. The importance of filling the earth with creatures that glorify Him

1. Psalm 104:24-25 - "O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts."

2. Job 12:7-10 - "But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee: Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee. Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the Lord hath wrought this? In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind."

Genesis 8:20 And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Noah offered burnt offerings to the Lord in thanksgiving.

1. Showing Gratitude to the Lord for His Blessings

2. Expressing Appreciation to God Through Worship

1. Ephesians 5:20 - Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Genesis 8:21 And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

The Lord smelled a sweet savour and he determined to not curse the ground again or smite living things for man's sake, as the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth.

1. The Lord's Mercy and Compassion in Spite of Man's Sin

2. God's Forgiveness and His Unconditional Love

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His loving kindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

2. Romans 5:8-10 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Genesis 8:22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

The earth will remain and its seasons will not cease.

1. The Unyielding Nature of God's Creation

2. Reaping What We Have Sown

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. James 5:7-8

Genesis 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 9:1-7, God blesses Noah and his sons, commanding them to be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth. He establishes a covenant with them and grants them dominion over all living creatures. God permits the consumption of meat but prohibits the consumption of blood since it represents life. Furthermore, He declares that anyone who sheds human blood will have their own life demanded by Him because humans are made in God's image.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 9:8-17, God establishes His covenant with Noah and every living creature on earth. He promises never to destroy all flesh through a flood again. As a sign of this everlasting covenant between Him and the earth, God sets a rainbow in the clouds whenever rain falls upon the land. The rainbow serves as a reminder of His promise to preserve life on earth.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 9:18-29, Noah's descendants are mentioned. Noah becomes a husbandman and plants a vineyard after the flood. However, he drinks wine from his vineyard excessively and becomes drunk within his tent. Ham, one of Noah's sons, sees his father's nakedness and tells his brothers about it instead of covering him respectfully. Shem and Japheth take a garment to cover their father without looking at him directly out of respect for him when they enter the tent backwards.

In summary:

Genesis 9 presents:

God blessing Noah and his sons with fertility and dominion over all creatures;

Permission for humans to consume meat but prohibition against consuming blood;

The establishment of an everlasting covenant between God, humanity, and every living creature;

The sign of this covenant being the appearance of a rainbow after rainfall;

Noah's post-flood activities including planting a vineyard;

Noah becoming drunk from wine; Ham disrespecting his father, and Shem and Japheth respectfully covering Noah's nakedness.

This chapter emphasizes the covenant between God and humanity after the flood, highlighting the sanctity of human life as being made in God's image. The rainbow serves as a visible reminder of God's promise to preserve life. Additionally, it showcases both Noah's fallibility and the contrasting responses of his sons in their actions towards him.

Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

God blessed Noah and his sons and instructed them to be fruitful and multiply.

1. The Blessing of God's Abundance

2. The Responsibility of Stewardship

1. Psalm 104:24-30 - How the Lord provides for all life on earth

2. Genesis 1:26-28 - The charge to humanity to fill and subdue the earth

Genesis 9:2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

God gave humanity dominion over all living creatures on the earth.

1. The Power of Dominion: What It Means to be Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

2. Reclaiming Our Dominion: Understanding Our Role as Caretakers of Creation

1. Psalm 8:4-9 - What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

2. Romans 8:18-25 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Genesis 9:3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

God has provided all living creatures as food for humans.

1. God's Provision: A Blessing for All

2. Appreciating God's Abundance

1. Psalm 104:24-26 - O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

Genesis 9:4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

God commands the people of the earth not to eat any flesh with the lifeblood still in it.

1. God's Plan for Us: Understanding the Rules of Life

2. The Power of Blood: Recognizing God's Laws

1. Leviticus 17:11-14 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

2. Deuteronomy 12:23-25 - Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood is the life; and thou mayest not eat the life with the flesh.

Genesis 9:5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

God requires the life of every man, even at the hand of a beast, for the blood of their lives.

1. "The Sanctity of Human Life: A Call to Stewardship"

2. "The Sovereignty of God: Our Lives Are in His Hands"

1. Romans 13:8-10

2. Ezekiel 18:4, 20

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

Man is responsible for punishing those who take innocent life, as all humans are created in the image of God.

1. God has instilled in us a responsibility to protect life, as it is created in His image.

2. Our righteousness is measured by how we respond to those who take innocent life.

1. Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. Romans 13:1-4 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

Genesis 9:7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

God commands humans to be fruitful and multiply in the earth.

1: God's Blessing of Fertility and Abundance

2: The Responsibility of Multiplication

1: Psalm 115:14-16 - "The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children. Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth. The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord s: but the earth hath he given to the children of men."

2: Genesis 1:28 - "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."

Genesis 9:8 And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,

God speaks to Noah and his sons after the flood, instructing them to fill the earth and to never again destroy it with a flood.

1: God's Promise of Protection

2: Living in Obedience to God

1: Isaiah 54:9-10 - This is like the waters of Noah to me: as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.

2: 1 Peter 3:20-21 - Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 9:9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;

God established a covenant with Noah and his descendants.

1: God's covenant of faithfulness and mercy

2: The power of God's covenant with Noah

1: 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him.

2: Hebrews 8:6 - But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.

Genesis 9:10 And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.

God's covenant of salvation to the world after the great flood.

1. God's Covenant of Hope: Trusting God's Promise of Redemption

2. God's Covenant of Mercy: How God's Love Transcends All Circumstances

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Ezekiel 16:60 - Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant.

Genesis 9:11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

The Lord promised to never again destroy the earth with a flood.

1: We can trust the Lord to keep His promises, even when times are hard.

2: We should look to the Lord for hope, even when things seem impossible.

1: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.

2: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Genesis 9:12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

God's covenant with Noah and all creatures is a sign of his faithfulness and grace.

1: We can trust in God's faithfulness as demonstrated in his covenant with Noah and all creatures.

2: We can experience God's grace in his covenant with Noah and all creatures.

1: Jeremiah 31:3-4 The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

2: Hebrews 13:20-21 Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Genesis 9:13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

God's promise to never again bring a flood to destroy all life on earth is symbolized by a rainbow.

1: God's Promise of Protection

2: The Rainbow as a Sign of Hope

1: Hebrews 6:13-20 - The Unchanging Nature of God's Promise

2: Isaiah 54:9-10 - God's Everlasting Covenant of Peace

Genesis 9:14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

The rainbow is a reminder of God's covenant with mankind.

1: God's covenant with us is a promise of hope and assurance.

2: The rainbow is a symbol of God's love and faithfulness.

1: Isaiah 54:10 - Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2: Hebrews 6:13-15 - When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, I will surely bless you and give you many descendants. And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised.

Genesis 9:15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God's promise to never again destroy the world by flood.

1. The Unfailing Promise of God

2. The Power of Covenant

1. Isaiah 54:9-10 - For this is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you. For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2. 2 Peter 3:5-7 - For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

Genesis 9:16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

God's covenant of everlasting love with all creatures on Earth is symbolized by the rainbow.

Sermn 1: God's Love Endures Forever

2: The Promise of a Rainbow

1: Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

2: Isaiah 54:10 - Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Genesis 9:17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

God established a covenant with Noah and all mankind.

1: God's Covenant of Love - how God's covenant with Noah shows us His unconditional love for all mankind.

2: Being a Sign of the Covenant - how we can live our lives as a sign of God's covenant with us.

1: Romans 5:6-8 - For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Jeremiah 31:31-34 - Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Genesis 9:18 And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham is the father of Canaan.

Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, emerged from the Ark, with Ham being the father of Canaan.

1. The Significance of Noah's Sons and Their Role in History

2. The Faithfulness of God and How He Fulfilled His Promises

1. Genesis 6:8-9 - But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

2. Genesis 5:29 - And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.

Genesis 9:19 These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread.

Noah had three sons and through them the whole earth was populated.

1. God's Plan: How Noah's Three Sons Spread His Word Across the Earth

2. The Promise of a New Beginning: Noah's Children and the Future of Mankind

1. Acts 17:26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.

2. Genesis 11:6 And the Lord said, Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.

Genesis 9:20 And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:

Noah began a new life as a farmer, planting a vineyard.

1. The Promise of a New Life: Lessons from Noah

2. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times: The Story of Noah

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

Genesis 9:21 And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

Noah became drunk from drinking wine and revealed himself in his tent.

1. The Danger of Overindulgence

2. The Impact of Drunkenness

1. Proverbs 23:31 "Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly."

2. Galatians 5:19-21 "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these."

Genesis 9:22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

Ham saw his father's nakedness and told his two brothers about it.

1. God's Holiness: What Happens When We Fail to Respect It.

2. The Power of a Good Example: Honoring Our Parents.

1. Leviticus 20:11 - If a man lies with his father s wife, he has uncovered his father s nakedness. Both the man and the woman must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Genesis 9:23 And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.

Shem and Japheth showed respect for their father by covering his nakedness without looking upon it.

1. The importance of showing respect and reverence for our parents.

2. Demonstrating humility and reverence in our actions.

1. Matthew 15:4 - For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.

2. Ephesians 6:2 - Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise.

Genesis 9:24 And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

Noah awoke from his drunkenness and found out what his younger son had done to him.

1. The Dangers of Drunkenness: A Lesson from Noah

2. The Sins of the Father: What Happened to Noah?

1. Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Genesis 9:25 And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

In Genesis 9:25, God curses Canaan, declaring that he will be a servant of servants to his brothers.

1. The importance of humility and service to our fellow man.

2. The consequences of disobedience to God's will.

1. Matthew 25:40, And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

2. Galatians 3:28, There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 9:26 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

God blessed Shem, and promised that Canaan would serve him.

1. God's Blessing and the Fulfillment of His Promises

2. The Significance of Shem's Blessing

1. Romans 4:17-24 - Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.

2. Matthew 5:3-10 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Genesis 9:27 God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

Japheth will be blessed and will live in the tents of Shem, with Canaan as his servant.

1. God rewards those who trust Him with peace and prosperity.

2. A heart of humility and service brings blessings from God.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Genesis 9:28 And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.

Noah lived for 350 years after the great flood.

1. The Long Life of Noah: Endurance and Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Noah's Blessing: A Model of Faith and Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

2. Isaiah 54:9 - This is like the days of Noah to me: Just as I swore that the waters of Noah would never again cover the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you and will not rebuke you.

Genesis 9:29 And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.

Noah's life was long and full of wisdom, dying at the age of 950 years.

1: Our lives are short and unpredictable, so it's important that we use our time wisely and make the most of the life that we have been given.

2: Living a long life can be a blessing and a test, as Noah's life of 950 years shows us. We must use our time and wisdom to the best of our ability.

1: Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2: Ecclesiastes 7:16-17 - Do not be overrighteous, neither be overwise why destroy yourself? Do not be overwicked, and do not be a fool why die before your time?

Genesis 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 10:1-5, the chapter begins by providing a genealogical account of Noah's sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth and their descendants. It lists the nations that emerged from them after the flood. Japheth's descendants are mentioned first, including Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and others. Ham's descendants are then listed next with names such as Cush (the father of Nimrod), Mizraim (Egypt), Put (Libya), and Canaan. Shem's lineage is also recorded with his descendants including Elam, Asshur (Assyria), Arphaxad (ancestor of Abraham), Lud (Lydia), and others.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 10:6-20, the focus shifts to specific regions and peoples associated with Ham's descendants. The land of Cush is described as encompassing areas such as Ethiopia and Sudan. Nimrod is highlighted as a mighty hunter who established several cities in Assyria including Nineveh and built the infamous city of Babylon along with other locations in Mesopotamia. Mizraim represents Egypt while Canaan becomes associated with various tribes inhabiting what would later become known as Canaanite territory.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 10:21-32, attention returns to Shem's lineage and his offspring through Eber particularly Peleg whose name means "division." The chapter concludes by listing various tribes descended from Shem who settled across different regions from Mesha (associated with modern-day Saudi Arabia) to Sephar (possibly related to Sardinia). These tribal divisions mark the dispersion of humanity after the Tower of Babel incident described later in Genesis.

In summary:

Genesis 10 presents:

A genealogical account of Noah's sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth and their descendants;

The nations and regions that emerged from them after the flood;

Japheth's descendants including Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech;

Ham's descendants including Cush (Ethiopia), Mizraim (Egypt), Put (Libya), Canaan;

Specific regions associated with Ham's lineage such as Cush (Ethiopia and Sudan) and Nimrod's cities in Assyria and Babylon;

Shem's lineage through Eber with various tribes settling across different regions.

This chapter highlights the diversity of nations and peoples that emerged from Noah's sons after the flood. It sets the stage for future narratives involving these different lineages and provides a historical context for understanding the origins of various ancient civilizations.

Genesis 10:1 Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.

The sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, were the generations after the flood.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the generations of Noah's sons after the flood.

2. The generations of Shem, Ham, and Japheth remind us of God's covenant promises.

1. Genesis 9:9 - And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you.

2. Genesis 9:17 - And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

Genesis 10:2 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

This passage lists the seven sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises to His people, evidenced in the genealogies of the Bible.

2. The importance of remaining faithful to God, even when facing trials and adversity.

1. Genesis 22:17 - "that in blessing I will bless you and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Genesis 10:3 And the sons of Gomer; Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

Genesis 10:3 lists the three sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah.

1. "The Faithfulness of God: The Unending Legacy of Gomer's Three Sons"

2. "The Fulfillment of God's Plan: Uniting Through Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah"

1. Isaiah 66:19 - And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those who escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

2. Romans 9:24 - Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

Genesis 10:4 And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

The sons of Javan are Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

1. The Blessing of Diversity: Exploring the Richness of the Human Family

2. God's Faithfulness in the Fulfillment of His Promises

1. Acts 17:26-27 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him.

2. Psalm 33:6 - By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

Genesis 10:5 By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.

The isles of the Gentiles were divided according to their language, families, and nations.

1. The Power of Language: How God Used Language to Divide Nations

2. Unity in Diversity: Appreciating the Blessings of Variety

1. Acts 2:5-11; The Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

2. Galatians 3:26-29; Believers in Christ are One in the Spirit

Genesis 10:6 And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan.

This verse mentions the four sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim, Phut, and Canaan.

1. The Diversity of God's Creation: Celebrating the Unique Qualities of Each of Ham's Sons

2. Pride in Heritage: Learning from the Legacy of Ham's Sons

1. Acts 17:26 - "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings."

2. Colossians 3:11 - "Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and in all."

Genesis 10:7 And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtechah: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

The sons of Cush are listed as Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, Sabtechah, Sheba, and Dedan.

1. God's Faithful Provision of Sons

2. The Blessings of Family

1. Ephesians 3:14-15 - For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

2. Acts 17:26-27 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him.

Genesis 10:8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

Cush, the son of Ham, was the father of Nimrod, who became a powerful leader on the earth.

1. The Power of Influence: Using the Example of Nimrod

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: The Legacy of Cush

1. Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. 1 Peter 1:17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile.

Genesis 10:9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

Nimrod was a mighty hunter before the Lord, and it is said of him.

1. The Power of a Godly Character: Lessons From Nimrod

2. Embracing God's Power and Strength in Our Lives

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith, Moses chose to suffer affliction with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

Genesis 10:10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

The beginning of Nimrod's kingdom was in the land of Shinar, and included Babel, Erech, Accad and Calneh.

1. The Power of a King's Legacy

2. The Blessing of Obedience to God

1. Proverbs 16:18 (Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall)

2. Romans 1:21-32 (The Wrath of God against unrighteousness)

Genesis 10:11 Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah,

This passage from Genesis 10:11 describes the cities built by Asshur after he left the land.

1. The Power of God's Blessing: How Asshur's Faithful Stewardship Resulted in Prosperity

2. The Need for Perseverance: How Asshur's Courage Led to the Building of Great Cities

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Genesis 10:12 And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same is a great city.

Genesis 10:12 mentions Resen, a great city located between Nineveh and Calah.

1. The City of Resen: A Model of Resilience and Strength

2. The Importance of Resen in Biblical History

1. Jonah 4:11 - "And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?"

2. Isaiah 37:12 - "Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Thelasar?"

Genesis 10:13 And Mizraim begat Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim,

The descendants of Mizraim include Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, and Naphtuhim.

1. The Power of Legacy: How We Can Learn from Our Ancestors

2. Appreciating the Diversity of Our World

1. Acts 17:26-27 - "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place"

2. Psalm 139:13-16 - "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them."

Genesis 10:14 And Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (out of whom came Philistim,) and Caphtorim.

The passage talks about four nations descended from Noah's son, Ham: Pathrusim, Casluhim, Philistim and Caphtorim.

1. God's Provision Through Generations: How He Guides Us Through All Things

2. The Need For Unity: Overcoming Division Through Faith

1. Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2. Romans 5:5 God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Genesis 10:15 And Canaan begat Sidon his first born, and Heth,

The passage tells of Canaan's sons Sidon and Heth.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and their legacy.

2. The power of God's will in bringing forth generations.

1. Matthew 1:2-3, Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren.

2. Psalm 78:5-6, For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children.

Genesis 10:16 And the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Girgasite,

The passage mentions three ancient peoples: the Jebusite, Amorite, and Girgasite.

1. We can learn important lessons from the ancient peoples of the Bible, and apply them to our lives today.

2. God's plan for humanity is evidenced in the diversity of cultures throughout history.

1. Acts 17:26-27 - "And [God] hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us."

2. Romans 10:12-13 - "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Genesis 10:17 And the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite,

The passage mentions three ethnic groups: Hivite, Arkite, and Sinite.

1. Uniting as One: How the Different Ethnic Groups of the Bible are Still Relevant Today

2. How to Celebrate Diversity in Our Own Lives and Communities

1. Acts 10:34-35 - "Then Peter began to speak: I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Genesis 10:18 And the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite: and afterward were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad.

The Arvadite, Zemarite, and Hamathite families were descendants of Canaan, and eventually spread out across the region.

1. God's Plan of Redemption: How the Spread of the Canaanite Families Fulfills a Greater Purpose

2. The Promise of a Blessed Land: How the Spread of the Canaanite Families is a Fulfillment of God's Covenant

1. Romans 8:28: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Deuteronomy 28:11: The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you.

Genesis 10:19 And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as thou comest to Gerar, unto Gaza; as thou goest, unto Sodom, and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboim, even unto Lasha.

This passage describes the limits of the Canaanites, from Sidon to Gerar, Gaza, Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboim, and Lasha.

1: God's faithfulness is demonstrated in His covenant with Abraham and the boundaries of the Canaanites.

2: We need to have faith that God will fulfill His promises to us, the same as He fulfilled His promises to Abraham.

1: Genesis 15:18-21 - On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates

2: Joshua 1:2-5 - Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.

Genesis 10:20 These are the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their countries, and in their nations.

Ham's descendants are listed according to their families, languages, countries and nations.

1. Understanding the Descendants of Ham: God's Sovereignty in Dividing Nations

2. Celebrating the Diverse Descendants of Ham: Unity Through God's Love

1. Acts 17:26 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place

2. Genesis 11:1-9 - Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

Genesis 10:21 Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born.

Shem was the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving His chosen people through the generations

2. The importance of honoring our family heritage

1. Romans 9:7 - Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

2. Proverbs 17:6 - Children s children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Genesis 10:22 The children of Shem; Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram.

Shem's descendants are listed as Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises through the generations.

2. The importance of family and honoring the legacy of our ancestors.

1. Romans 4:13-17 - The promise of God being fulfilled through faith.

2. Colossians 3:12-15 - Love and honor towards our family and ancestors.

Genesis 10:23 And the children of Aram; Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash.

This passage mentions four generations of the sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash.

1. The Power of Generations: The importance of passing down our faith to our descendants.

2. The Blessings of Unity: Celebrating the diversity and strength of different cultures.

1. Psalm 78:1-7; Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

2. Ephesians 6:1-4; Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise).

Genesis 10:24 And Arphaxad begat Salah; and Salah begat Eber.

Arphaxad was the father of Salah, who was in turn the father of Eber.

1. God's Providence in the Lineage of Mankind

2. The Continuity of Generations

1. Luke 3:34-35 - And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli,

2. Matthew 1:1-6 - The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;

Genesis 10:25 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.

Eber had two sons, Peleg and Joktan. Peleg was born during a time when the earth was being divided.

1: We can trust God's plan for division, even when it may seem strange or difficult.

2: Despite differences, God unites us with a common purpose.

1: Psalm 46:9 - He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.

2: Acts 17:26 - And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings.

Genesis 10:26 And Joktan begat Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah,

Joktan's descendants were spread throughout the Middle East.

1: God's plan for His people was to be spread throughout the world.

2: We must remember and honor the generations of faithful followers before us.

1: Psalm 105:8-11 He remembers His covenant forever, the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.

2: Psalm 78:5-7 He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.

Genesis 10:27 And Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah,

The sons of Joktan are listed as Hadoram, Uzal, and Diklah.

1. The importance of family and the role it plays in our lives.

2. How God rewards those who are faithful to Him.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him.

Genesis 10:28 And Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba,

The passage describes the names of Noah's great-grandsons.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Covenant with Noah

2. God's Generosity in Blessing His People

1. He remembered his holy covenant, the oath he swore to Abraham his servant (Psalm 105:42).

2. For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant (Luke 1:72-73).

Genesis 10:29 And Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab: all these were the sons of Joktan.

Joktan had twelve sons, named Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab, among others.

1. The Power of Generational Legacy

2. The Blessing of Taking Up Your Cross

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

2. Acts 13:22 - After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.

Genesis 10:30 And their dwelling was from Mesha, as thou goest unto Sephar a mount of the east.

This passage from Genesis 10:30 states that the dwelling of certain people was from Mesha to Sephar, which is a mountain in the east.

1. The Mountain of the East: Finding Strength in God s Promises

2. From Mesha to Sephar: Following God s Path

1. Isaiah 2:1-5 - The mountain of the Lord s house shall be established on the top of the mountains.

2. Joshua 1:6-9 - Be strong and courageous, for the Lord is with you wherever you go.

Genesis 10:31 These are the sons of Shem, after their families, after their tongues, in their lands, after their nations.

This verse from Genesis 10:31 describes the sons of Shem and their respective nations, languages, and lands.

1. "The Many Nations of Shem: The Legacy of a Father"

2. "The Importance of Language: A Reflection on the Sons of Shem"

1. Acts 17:26-27 - "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him."

2. Romans 10:12-13 - "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. "

Genesis 10:32 These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.

The descendants of Noah's three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and their families were responsible for populating the nations of the earth after the great flood.

1. "God's Mercy in the Flood and How it Divided the Nations"

2. "The Descendants of Noah and the Nations of the Earth"

1. Genesis 9:18-19 - "And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham is the father of Canaan. These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread."

2. Genesis 11:1-9 - "And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly...Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."

Genesis 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 11:1-4, the chapter begins by describing a time when all people on earth spoke the same language and lived in one place. As they migrated eastward, they settled in the land of Shinar (Babylonia). The people decided to build a city with a tower that would reach the heavens a symbol of their unity and desire for fame. They used bricks and tar as building materials. However, God observed their intentions and actions, recognizing that their unity could lead to further wickedness.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 11:5-9, God decides to intervene by confusing their language so that they cannot understand one another's speech. This linguistic confusion disrupts their construction project and scatters them across the face of the earth. Consequently, the city is called Babel because it is where God confused the language of all people. The chapter emphasizes that from there, God dispersed humanity into different nations according to their languages.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 11:10-32, a genealogical account follows tracing the lineage from Shem to Abram (later known as Abraham). It highlights various generations within this line including Arpachshad, Shelah, Eber (from whom "Hebrew" may have derived), Peleg (whose name means "division"), Reu, Serug, Nahor until reaching Terah who became father to Abram (Abraham), Nahor, and Haran the latter being Lot's father who died before Terah moved his family from Ur of Chaldeans towards Canaan but settled in Haran instead.

In summary:

Genesis 11 presents:

The unified language and settlement of people in Shinar;

The construction of a tower reaching heaven as an expression of human ambition;

God's intervention through confusing their language and scattering them across the earth;

The city being called Babel due to the confusion of languages;

The genealogical lineage from Shem to Abram (Abraham) with key figures mentioned along the way.

This chapter highlights the consequences of human pride and ambition, leading to God's intervention through linguistic confusion. It explains the origins of diverse languages and nations, emphasizing God's sovereignty over human endeavors. The genealogical account establishes a connection between Shem's lineage and Abraham, setting the stage for future narratives involving Abraham and his descendants as central figures in God's redemptive plan.

Genesis 11:1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

All people spoke the same language and used it to communicate with one another.

1. Unity in Diversity: Learning to Respect Other Cultures

2. The Power of Communication: How Language Bridges Gaps

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Philippians 2:2 - "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

Genesis 11:2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.

The people of the east journeyed and found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

1. God's provision for His people - Genesis 11:2

2. Following God's leading - Genesis 11:2

1. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.

2. Isaiah 58:11 - The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame.

Genesis 11:3 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for morter.

The people of Babel made bricks for their own purposes.

1: We all have a plan for our lives, but God's plan is greater than our own.

2: We can take comfort in knowing that God's plan ultimately prevails.

1: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2: Philippians 4:13- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Genesis 11:4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

People wanted to build a tower that could reach to the heavens in order to make a name for themselves and prevent scattering.

1. The Dangers of Pride: What we can learn from the Tower of Babel.

2. Our Responsibility to God: Don't forget whose world this is.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Genesis 11:5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.

The LORD descended to view the city and the tower built by humanity.

1. The LORD is committed to His people and will always be with them.

2. The pride of man and his accomplishments are nothing in comparison to the might of God.

1. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

2. Isaiah 40:12-14 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? Who can fathom the Spirit of the LORD, or instruct the LORD as his counselor? Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge, or showed him the path of understanding?

Genesis 11:6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

The people have one language and share the same ideas, and nothing can stop them from achieving their goals.

1. God s Power and Our Imagination

2. Unity of Purpose and Action

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Ephesians 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

Genesis 11:7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

God's judgment on the people's pride: God judged the people by confusing their language and scattering them over the face of the earth.

1: Pride goeth before a fall.

2: God's judgment can come in unexpected ways.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2: Daniel 4:37 - Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

Genesis 11:8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

The LORD scattered the people from the tower of Babel across the world.

1: God is faithful and will always provide for us, even when we are scattered.

2: The power of obedience to God's will is greater than our own plans.

1: James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Genesis 11:9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

God confused the language of the people of Babel, so that they could not understand each other, and scattered them across the face of the earth.

1. God's Justice and Mercy in the Confusion of Babel

2. Uniting in the Face of Diversity

1. Acts 2:1-4 - The Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.

Genesis 11:10 These are the generations of Shem: Shem was an hundred years old, and begat Arphaxad two years after the flood:

Shem was the father of Arphaxad two years after the Great Flood.

1. The Faithfulness of God's Promises: Examining the Generations of Shem

2. Shem: An Example of Faithful Obedience

1. Genesis 6:9-22 - God's promise to Noah and his family before the Flood.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

Genesis 11:11 And Shem lived after he begat Arphaxad five hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.

Shem lived five hundred years and had sons and daughters.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Our Lives Live On After Us

2. The Blessing of Prolonged Life: Reaping the Benefits of Longevity

1. Hebrews 11:7-8 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

2. Psalm 90:10 - The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Genesis 11:12 And Arphaxad lived five and thirty years, and begat Salah:

The bible passage in Genesis 11:12 reports that Arphaxad lived for 35 years and fathered Salah.

1. God's plan for us is greater than the plans we have for ourselves.

2. The life of Arphaxad teaches us about the importance of faithfulness and diligence.

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Genesis 11:13 And Arphaxad lived after he begat Salah four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters.

Arphaxad lived a long, fulfilling life and had many children.

1: Live life to the fullest and make the most of every day.

2: Cherish the gift of family and the joy of having children.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die .

2: Psalm 127:3-4 - Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth.

Genesis 11:14 And Salah lived thirty years, and begat Eber:

Salah was blessed with a son, Eber, after thirty years of living.

1. Patience Rewarded - God rewards those who wait patiently for his plan to unfold.

2. Trusting in God's Timing - God's timing is perfect and always brings about the best outcome.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 5:7-8 - Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord s coming is near.

Genesis 11:15 And Salah lived after he begat Eber four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters.

Salah lived for 403 years after he had a son named Eber and had many other children.

1. The Importance of Living a Long and Fulfilling Life

2. The Blessing of Having Children and Grandchildren

1. Psalms 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. Psalms 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Genesis 11:16 And Eber lived four and thirty years, and begat Peleg:

Eber had a son named Peleg.

1. The beauty of God's faithfulness in the life of Eber.

2. The importance of family in God's plan.

1. Psalm 105:8-11 - He remembers His covenant forever, the word He commanded, for a thousand generations.

2. Genesis 17:7-8 - And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you.

Genesis 11:17 And Eber lived after he begat Peleg four hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters.

Eber lived for 430 years and had many sons and daughters.

1. The importance of family and the blessing of godly offspring.

2. The long-term significance of faithfulness and obedience.

1. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Genesis 11:18 And Peleg lived thirty years, and begat Reu:

Peleg's life and lineage is recorded in Genesis 11:18.

1. The Legacy of Peleg - How our relationships and faithfulness to God can be carried on through generations.

2. Reu - A Life of Faithfulness - Learning to live faithfully in the shadow of a great ancestor.

1. Ephesians 3:14-21 - Paul's prayer for strength to comprehend the love of Christ.

2. Romans 8:16-17 - The assurance of God's spirit within us as adopted children of God.

Genesis 11:19 And Peleg lived after he begat Reu two hundred and nine years, and begat sons and daughters.

Peleg was the father of Reu and lived 209 years after Reu's birth, during which he had other children.

1. A life well lived: The example of Peleg.

2. The value of family: Peleg and his descendants.

1. Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Psalm 128:3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

Genesis 11:20 And Reu lived two and thirty years, and begat Serug:

Reu was a father who lived to a ripe old age and had a son named Serug.

1: No matter how old we are, it is never too late to do something great.

2: God never stops working in our lives, no matter how old we are.

1: Isaiah 46:4 - Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

2: Psalm 92:14 - They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green.

Genesis 11:21 And Reu lived after he begat Serug two hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters.

Reu lived for 207 years and had children.

1. The importance of family and legacy.

2. The value of living a long life.

1. Psalm 90:10, "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

2. Proverbs 16:31, "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness."

Genesis 11:22 And Serug lived thirty years, and begat Nahor:

The passage states that Serug lived for thirty years and begat Nahor.

1: The importance of making the most of our time on Earth.

2: The blessing of fatherhood.

1: Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Genesis 11:23 And Serug lived after he begat Nahor two hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.

Serug lived for 200 years and had many sons and daughters.

1. God is the ultimate source of life and blessing.

2. God blesses us with many gifts, even in our old age.

1. Psalm 90:10 - The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

2. Ecclesiastes 11:8 - Therefore rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

Genesis 11:24 And Nahor lived nine and twenty years, and begat Terah:

Nahor had a son named Terah.

1. The importance of family and legacy

2. The power of generations

1. Luke 16:10 - "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

2. Psalm 71:17-18 - "Since my youth, O God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come."

Genesis 11:25 And Nahor lived after he begat Terah an hundred and nineteen years, and begat sons and daughters.

Nahor lived to be 119 years old and had many children.

1. God's faithfulness is evident in the life of Nahor.

2. The importance of family in God's plan of redemption.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 90:10 - The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Genesis 11:26 And Terah lived seventy years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

Terah lived seventy years and had three sons, Abram, Nahor and Haran.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promises - Genesis 11:26

2. The Importance of Generations - Genesis 11:26

1. Luke 1:73-75 - The oath which He swore to our father Abraham:

2. Malachi 4:4-6 - Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and judgments which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel.

Genesis 11:27 Now these are the generations of Terah: Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran begat Lot.

Terah's family is recorded in Genesis 11:27.

1. The importance of family and the legacy that it leaves behind.

2. God's promise fulfilled in Abraham's descendants.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Genesis 11:28 And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees.

Haran died in his birthplace of Ur of the Chaldees, before his father Terah.

1. The Value of a Father's Blessing - Genesis 27:1-4

2. God's Timing is Perfect - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Genesis 48:15-16 - He blessed Joseph and said, The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked faithfully, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, the Angel who has delivered me from all harm may he bless these boys. May they be called by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, and may they increase greatly on the earth.

Genesis 11:29 And Abram and Nahor took them wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah.

Abram and Nahor took wives; Abram's was Sarai and Nahor's was Milcah, daughter of Haran.

1. The Power of Commitment and Faithfulness in Marriage

2. The Blessing of Family Ties in Marriage

1. Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.

Genesis 11:30 But Sarai was barren; she had no child.

Sarai was barren and had no children.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Barrenness

2. God's Plans: Hope in the Midst of Struggles

1. Romans 4:17-21

2. Hebrews 11:11-12

Genesis 11:31 And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.

Terah, together with his son Abram, his grandson Lot, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, left Ur of the Chaldees to go to the land of Canaan.

1. Moving On: Lessons from Terah's journey of faith

2. Overcoming Fear: Taking Steps of Faith Despite Uncertainty

1. Hebrews 11:8 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Genesis 11:32 And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.

Terah lived to be 205 years old and passed away in Haran.

1. Reflect on your own life and how it will be remembered when you are gone.

2. The importance of cherishing relationships and making the most of your time here on earth.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:1-4

2. Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

Genesis 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 12:1-3, God calls Abram (later known as Abraham) and instructs him to leave his country, his relatives, and his father's house. God promises to make Abram into a great nation, bless him, make his name great, and bless all the families of the earth through him. Abram obeys God's command and departs from Haran along with his wife Sarai (later known as Sarah) and his nephew Lot.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 12:4-9, Abram travels to the land of Canaan as directed by God. When he arrives there, God appears to him again and promises that He will give this land to Abram's descendants. Abram builds an altar at Shechem as an act of worship to the Lord who appeared to him. He then moves towards Bethel where he builds another altar and calls upon the name of the Lord.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 12:10-20, a famine occurs in Canaan causing Abram to go down to Egypt for temporary refuge. As they approach Egypt, Abram becomes concerned that because Sarai is beautiful, the Egyptians might kill him in order to take her for themselves. Therefore, he asks Sarai to say that she is his sister instead of revealing their marital relationship. As anticipated by Abram's fears, Pharaoh takes Sarai into his household due to her beauty. However, God afflicts Pharaoh and his household with plagues because of this act against Sarai who is actually married to Abram.

In summary:

Genesis 12 presents:

God calling Abram out of his homeland with promises of making him into a great nation;

Abram's obedience in leaving Haran along with Sarai and Lot;

Abram's journey through Canaan where God appears multiple times;

God promising the land of Canaan to Abram's descendants;

Abram building altars and worshiping God at Shechem and Bethel;

Abram's temporary stay in Egypt, his fear for Sarai's safety, and the consequences that follow.

This chapter marks a significant turning point in the biblical narrative as God initiates His covenant with Abram. It highlights Abram's faith and obedience in responding to God's call. The promises made to Abram foreshadow the future establishment of Israel as a nation and ultimately point towards the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan for all families on earth through Jesus Christ, who would descend from Abraham's lineage.

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

God tells Abram to leave his homeland and go to a new land which God will show him.

1. "Go Where God Leads You"

2. "Obey God's Call"

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Genesis 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

God promised Abraham greatness and blessing.

1. God's Promises and Blessings to Abraham

2. The Power of Faith in God's Promises

1. Galatians 3:8-9 - "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, In you shall all the nations be blessed. So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

2. Romans 4:13-16 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all

Genesis 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

God will bless those who bless Abram and curse those who curse him; all families of the earth will be blessed through Abram.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: Learning to be Blessed by God

2. The Blessing of Faith: Seeing the Blessing of God in Your Life

1. James 1:25 - But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

2. Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Genesis 12:4 So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

Abram obeyed the Lord and departed from Haran with his nephew Lot at the age of seventy-five.

1. Obeying the Lord in all things brings rewards.

2. Living with faith and trust in God can lead us to unexpected places.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

2. Isaiah 1:19 - "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land."

Genesis 12:5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

Abram and Sarai, along with Lot and their possessions, left Haran to enter the land of Canaan.

1: God calls us to trust Him enough to leave our comfort zone and follow Him into the unknown.

2: The power of leaving a legacy starts with leaving your comfort zone and trusting God to lead the way.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Genesis 12:6 And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.

Abram travels to the land of Canaan and encounters the Canaanite people.

1. The Call of Abram: Obeying God's Commands Despite Difficulties

2. The Faith of Abram: Trusting in God's Promises Despite Uncertainty

1. Hebrew 11:8-12 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.

2. Romans 4:18-21 - "Who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, So shall your descendants be. And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah s womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

Genesis 12:7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

Abram was promised the land of Canaan by the LORD and built an altar to Him in return.

1. God's Promises - How to Receive and Respond

2. The Power of a Dedicated Life

1. John 14:23 If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

2. Romans 4:20-21 No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

Genesis 12:8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.

Abram traveled from Haran to Bethel, located on the east side of the mountain. He pitched his tent there, facing Bethel on the west side and Hai on the east side. He then built an altar and called upon the name of the Lord.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: Abram s Journey of Faith.

2. God's Faithfulness in Times of Struggles: Abram's Journey of Hope.

1. Romans 4:3-4 For what does the Scripture say? Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness. 4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Genesis 12:9 And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

Abram left his home and journeyed south.

1. The Call to Obedience: Abram's Response to God's Commands.

2. The Call to Faith: Going Where God Leads.

1. Joshua 24:15, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. Hebrews 11:8, "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going."

Genesis 12:10 And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land.

Abram moved to Egypt due to a severe famine in the land.

1. The Strength of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. The Provision of God in Times of Need

1. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. James 2:23 - And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

Genesis 12:11 And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon:

Abraham and Sarai were entering Egypt, and Abraham noticed that Sarai was a beautiful woman.

1. God's Faithfulness Through Times of Temptation

2. The Beauty of Obedience to God's Will

1. Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus temptation in the wilderness

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 God provides a way to escape temptation.

Genesis 12:12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.

Abram faced a great danger in Egypt due to his relationship with Sarai.

1: God will protect us from danger even when we make mistakes.

2: Trust in God even when the outcome is uncertain.

1: Psalm 91:1-2 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

2: Daniel 3:16-18 "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.

Genesis 12:13 Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee.

Abram demonstrated his faith and obedience to God by trusting Him and relying on His promises, even when it was difficult.

1. A Life of Faith: Trusting God's Promises Despite the Circumstances

2. Obedience to God: Taking Action Despite the Difficulty

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

2. Hebrews 11:1-2 - "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for."

Genesis 12:14 And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair.

Abram and his wife Sarai traveled to Egypt and the Egyptians were taken by her beauty.

1. Recognizing God's blessings in our lives and how to properly use it.

2. Understanding the importance of guarding our hearts from temptation.

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Genesis 12:15 The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.

Abraham's faithfulness was rewarded when he and his wife were welcomed into the home of Pharaoh.

1. God rewards those who remain faithful to Him.

2. Faithfulness is a priceless virtue that will reap great rewards.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:23-24 - And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Genesis 12:16 And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.

Abram was blessed by God and treated well in return.

1: We are blessed by God when we show kindness to others.

2: God rewards those who are generous to others.

1: Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2: Matthew 7:12 - "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Genesis 12:17 And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.

God punished Pharaoh and his house because of Sarai.

1: We must be mindful of our actions and how they can affect others, even if we don't understand the consequences.

2: God is always faithful and just, and He will always protect those who are faithful to Him.

1: Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2: Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Genesis 12:18 And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, What is this that thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife?

Pharaoh questioned Abram about why he didn't tell him that Sarai was his wife.

1. God's faithfulness in times of trial and temptation

2. The importance of honesty and transparency in relationships

1. Romans 8:28, And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 4:25, Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Genesis 12:19 Why saidst thou, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go thy way.

Abram lied and claimed that Sarai was his sister in order to protect himself, but God intervened and protected her.

1: God is our protector, and we can trust Him to keep us safe.

2: We should always be honest and never lie, for it can lead to dangerous consequences.

1: Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2: Ephesians 4:15 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

Genesis 12:20 And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

Abraham's faithfulness and obedience to God was rewarded when Pharaoh sent him away with his wife and belongings.

1. God's faithfulness is always greater than our own.

2. Abraham's obedience to God was rewarded with blessings.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

2. James 2:14-26 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

Genesis 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 13:1-7, Abram and Lot, his nephew, return from Egypt to the land of Canaan. Both Abram and Lot have acquired significant wealth in terms of livestock and possessions. Due to their increasing size and the limited resources available for grazing, conflicts arise between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot. Recognizing the need to resolve this issue peacefully, Abram suggests that they separate. He generously gives Lot the choice of any direction he wishes to go.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 13:8-13, Lot looks towards the well-watered Jordan Valley and chooses it as his portion. He separates from Abram and settles in the cities of Sodom among its wicked inhabitants. On the other hand, Abram remains in Canaan dwelling near Mamre's oaks at Hebron.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 13:14-18, after Lot's departure, God speaks to Abram again reaffirming His promise to give him all the land he sees to him and his descendants forever. God encourages Abram to explore the length and breadth of this promised land because it will be given as an inheritance. Moved by God's promise, Abram moves his tent further south near Bethel where he builds an altar dedicated to worshiping God.

In summary:

Genesis 13 presents:

Abram's return from Egypt with Lot;

Conflict arising between their herdsmen due to their increasing wealth;

Abram suggesting a peaceful separation for them;

Lot choosing the well-watered Jordan Valley while settling among wicked people in Sodom;

Abram remaining in Canaan near Mamre's oaks at Hebron;

God reaffirming His promise of giving all the land seen by Abram as an inheritance for him and his descendants forever;

Abram responding by moving closer to Bethel where he builds an altar for worship.

This chapter highlights Abram's wisdom in resolving conflicts and his generosity towards Lot. It also reveals the consequences of Lot's choice to settle in Sodom, a city known for its wickedness. God reaffirms His promise to Abram and expands on the details of the land He will give to him and his descendants. Abram's response is marked by faith as he continues to trust in God's covenant promises and demonstrates his devotion through acts of worship.

Genesis 13:1 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

Abram and Lot leave Egypt with their families and possessions.

1. The Power of Obedience - Abram obeys God's command to leave Egypt and to follow Him, despite the risk of leaving behind all that he had.

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness - God blesses Abram for his faithfulness and obedience, providing a better future for him and his family.

1. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Genesis 13:2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

Abram was extremely wealthy in cattle, silver, and gold.

1. Abundance in God's Providence - How God provides for his children.

2. Wealth in God's Blessing - The power of trusting in God's plan.

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

2. Psalm 112:3 - Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

Genesis 13:3 And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai;

Abraham journeyed from the south to Bethel, where his tent had been originally between Bethel and Hai.

1. How to Persevere Through Difficult Journeys

2. The Importance of Remembering Where We Started

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Genesis 13:4 Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

Abram builds an altar to God and calls on the Lord.

1: God is always the priority in our lives.

2: Obedience to God brings rewards.

1: 1 Chronicles 16:29 - Give to the Lord the glory due to his name; bring an offering and come before him.

2: Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Genesis 13:5 And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

Lot accompanied Abram and had his own flocks, herds, and tents.

1. Abundance in Unexpected Places

2. Encouraging a Life of Generosity

1. Luke 12:15 - "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Genesis 13:6 And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

The land was not able to contain Abraham and Lot's abundance of possessions.

1: The Lord will provide for us in abundance, but it is important to recognize the balance of our blessings and how it can affect our relationships with others.

2: God's blessings can be a double-edged sword, giving us abundance but also the potential to cause harm to our relationships.

1: Ephesians 4:2-3 With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Genesis 13:7 And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

Strife between Abram's and Lot's cattle herders arose, and the Canaanite and Perizzite people were living in the land at the time.

1. Learning to resolve conflicts peacefully - Genesis 13:7

2. We are all equal in God's eyes - Genesis 13:7

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Genesis 13:8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

Abram encourages Lot to avoid strife and to remember that they are brethren.

1. Living in Peace with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ

2. The Importance of Unity in the Church

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

2. Philippians 2:2 - Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Genesis 13:9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

Abram and Lot were having difficulty living together, so Abram offered Lot the chance to pick which side of the land he wanted for his family.

1. "The Power of Compromise"

2. "The Benefits of Generosity"

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

2. Luke 6:31 - "Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Genesis 13:10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

Lot looked out over the Jordan Valley and saw how lush and green it was, similar to the garden of the Lord and like Egypt, before God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.

1. God's Faithfulness in Judgement: Examining the Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

2. How to Discern God's Will: Understanding Lot's Choice in the Jordan Valley

1. Psalm 145:17 - The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Genesis 13:11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

Lot chose the plain of Jordan and traveled east, separating himself from his uncle Abraham.

1. The Power of Choice: Learning to Make Wise Decisions from Lot's Example.

2. The Journey to Discover Your Purpose: Taking Steps of Faith Like Lot.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Deuteronomy 30:19 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,"

Genesis 13:12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

Abram and Lot dwelled in the land of Canaan, with Lot living in the cities of the plain and pitching his tent towards Sodom.

1. God's direction for us can lead us to places of danger and temptation.

2. We must remain obedient to God while living in the world.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

2. Ephesians 6:11-13 - "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."

Genesis 13:13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

The men of Sodom were very wicked and sinful in the eyes of the Lord.

1. God's Judgement of Sin: A Study of the Men of Sodom

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: Lessons from Sodom

1. Ezekiel 16:49-50; Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

2. Romans 6:23; For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Genesis 13:14 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

God told Abram to look north, south, east, and west after Lot had separated from him.

1. Trusting God and the Direction He Provides

2. Following God's Call for a New Journey

1. Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Jeremiah 29:11: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Genesis 13:15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

God promised Abraham the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession.

1: God's promises are everlasting and reliable.

2: We can trust in God's gifts and blessings.

1: Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2: Hebrews 6:13-20 - For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, Surely I will bless you and multiply you.

Genesis 13:16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

God promised Abram that his descendants would be as numerous as the grains of sand on the seashore.

1. God's Promises are Unfailing - Genesis 13:16

2. God's Promise of Abundance - Genesis 13:16

1. Romans 4:18-21 - Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.

2. Hebrews 11:11-12 - By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Genesis 13:17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

God promises Abraham that he will receive the land of Canaan.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in his promise to Abraham to give him the land of Canaan.

2: God's promises are sure and will be fulfilled in his time.

1: Romans 4:20-21 "No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised."

2: Hebrews 11:11-12 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going."

Genesis 13:18 Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the LORD.

Abram removed his tent from the plains of Canaan and built an altar to the Lord in Hebron.

1. Faithful Obedience: The Example of Abram

2. The Blessing of Altar-Building

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

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Genesis 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 14:1-12, a war breaks out among several kings in the region. Four kings led by Chedorlaomer of Elam conquer various territories, including Sodom and Gomorrah. As a result, they seize goods and take captive Lot, Abram's nephew. When Abram learns about Lot's capture, he gathers his trained servants 318 men and pursues the enemy kings as far as Dan. With a surprise attack at night, Abram rescues Lot and all the captured possessions.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 14:13-16, after Abram's successful rescue mission, he is met by Melchizedek the king of Salem (later identified as Jerusalem) and also a priest of God Most High. Melchizedek blesses Abram and offers him bread and wine. In return, Abram gives Melchizedek a tithe a tenth of all the spoils he recovered from defeating the enemy kings.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 14:17-24, another king named Bera the king of Sodom approaches Abram to thank him for rescuing his people but requests that Abram only returns the people while keeping the possessions for himself. However, Abram refuses to accept anything from Bera so that it cannot be said that Bera made him rich. Instead, he insists on returning everything to their rightful owners but allows his allies who accompanied him in battle to take their share.

In summary:

Genesis 14 presents:

A war among regional kings resulting in the capture of Lot;

Abram gathering an army and successfully rescuing Lot;

Abram encountering Melchizedek who blesses him and receives a tithe from him;

The encounter with King Bera who offers rewards but is refused by Abram;

Abram's insistence on returning all possessions to their rightful owners.

This chapter showcases Abram's courage and military prowess as he rescues Lot from captivity. It introduces the enigmatic figure of Melchizedek, who blesses Abram and receives a tithe from him, foreshadowing the later concept of priesthood in Israel. Abram's refusal to accept rewards from King Bera demonstrates his integrity and unwillingness to compromise his principles. Overall, Genesis 14 highlights Abram's faithfulness to God and his commitment to justice and righteousness.

Genesis 14:1 And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations;

The four kings of Shinar, Ellasar, Elam, and nations went to war.

1. God's sovereignty is seen in the four kings of ancient nations going to war.

2. We must trust God in all circumstances and the outcome of our battles.

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Genesis 14:2 That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

The kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Bela went to war.

1: In times of war, we must remember to keep our faith in God.

2: We can learn from the kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Bela to put our trust in the Lord.

1: Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Genesis 14:3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.

The kings of four cities joined forces in the valley of Siddim, located near the Salt Sea.

1. The Power of Unity: How the Strength of Community Can Accomplish Great Things

2. Treasuring Our Differences: How Diversity Enriches Our Lives

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

2. Philippians 2:2-3 - Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Genesis 14:4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

In Genesis 14:4, it is mentioned that the people of the land of Canaan served Chedorlaomer for twelve years before rebelling in the thirteenth year.

1. God's will is not always immediate: We are reminded that we may have to wait for God's will to be fulfilled, just as the people of Canaan had to wait twelve years before they could rebel against Chedorlaomer.

2. The importance of perseverance: We are reminded of the importance of perseverance and faith even when the path ahead may seem difficult, as the people of Canaan were able to rebel against Chedorlaomer after twelve years of servitude.

1. Psalm 37:7 "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!"

2. Romans 8:28-29 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."

Genesis 14:5 And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that were with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,

In the fourteenth year, Chedorlaomer and the other kings with him attacked and defeated the Rephaims, Zuzims, and the Emims.

1. The Sovereignty of God - How God uses all of history for His purposes

2. The Power of Faith - How God blesses those who put their trust in Him

1. Joshua 23:14 - Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.

2. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does.

Genesis 14:6 And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which is by the wilderness.

In Genesis 14:6, the Horites are mentioned as living in Mount Seir near Elparan, which is located in the wilderness.

1. The Importance of Knowing Where You Come From

2. How to Find Direction and Purpose in the Wilderness

1. Psalm 139:7-10 "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 "And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Genesis 14:7 And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which is Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazezontamar.

The Amalekites and Amorites were defeated by the returning army at Enmishpat, which is Kadesh.

1. The Power of God and His People United

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Faith

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Genesis 14:8 And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same is Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;

Five kings went to battle in the Vale of Siddim against an unknown enemy.

1. God's protection can be found in the most unlikely of places.

2. We must be willing to fight for what is just and right.

1. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15b ...for the battle is not yours but God's.

Genesis 14:9 With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.

This passage describes the four kings Chedorlaomer, Tidal, Amraphel and Arioch who allied together to fight against five other kings.

1. God's power is shown through unity.

2. The importance of standing together in times of conflict.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.

2. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Genesis 14:10 And the vale of Siddim was full of slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

The kings of Sodom and Gomorrah were defeated in battle and fled to the vale of Siddim, which was full of slimepits. Those who were left fled to the mountain.

1. God's Judgement: The Story of Sodom and Gomorrah

2. The Power of Perseverance Despite Adversity

1. Luke 17:28-30 - Jesus' parable of the coming of the Son of Man.

2. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Genesis 14:11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

Lot and his family were rescued by Abraham's men from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and all the goods of the two cities were taken.

1. The power of prayer: how God answered Abraham's prayer to save Lot and his family.

2. The danger of sin: the consequences of Sodom and Gomorrah's depravity.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Psalm 91:14-16 - Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Genesis 14:12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

Lot, Abram's nephew, was taken captive from Sodom along with his possessions.

1. The Captivity of Lot: The Power of God's Protection

2. Knowing God's Plan: Abram and Lot s Journey

1. Psalm 91:4, "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge."

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

Genesis 14:13 And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these were confederate with Abram.

A man who had escaped reported to Abram about a battle that had taken place. He also informed Abram that three of his allies, Mamre the Amorite, Eshcol, and Aner, were part of the battle.

1. The importance of loyalty and friendship in times of crisis.

2. The power of God in the face of adversity.

1. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Genesis 14:14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

Abram armed his servants to rescue his brother from captivity.

1: God's faithfulness in protecting and providing for us.

2: The importance of standing up for your family and friends.

1: Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armour of God.

2: Proverbs 18:24 - A man who has friends must himself be friendly.

Genesis 14:15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus.

Abram and his servants divided themselves and attacked his enemies by night, pursuing them to Hobah near Damascus.

1. The Power of Faith: How Abram's Victory Over His Enemies Was a Testimony to His Faith in God

2. The Strength of Unity: How Abram's Servants Unite to Fight for Their Common Cause

1. Psalm 18:29 - For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

Genesis 14:16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

The Lord rescued Lot and his belongings and the women who were with him.

1. God's protection extends to all who are His, no matter their circumstances.

2. Through faith, God can deliver us from any situation.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.

Genesis 14:17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale.

The King of Sodom went out to meet Abram after he had defeated Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him in the valley of Shaveh.

1. The Power of God in Victory - How God gives us the power to defeat our enemies.

2. God's Mercy - How God showed mercy to the King of Sodom in defeat.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

2. Romans 8:37 - "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

Genesis 14:18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

Melchizedek, King of Salem, served as a priest of the Most High God and brought forth bread and wine.

1. The Priestly Ministry of Melchizedek: An Example of Faithful Service to God

2. The Significance of Bread and Wine in the Life of a Believer

1. Hebrews 5:6: As he says also in another place, You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.

2. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26: For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord s death until he comes.

Genesis 14:19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

God blessed Abram and declared him the possessor of heaven and earth.

1. God's blessing can be found in unexpected places.

2. Possessing the world is a tremendous responsibility.

1. Psalm 24:1-2 - "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the waters."

2. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Genesis 14:20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Abram acknowledges God s power and gives Him the credit for his success and gives Him a tenth of everything he has.

1. God's power can give us success in all things.

2. Acknowledge God's power by giving Him the credit and offering Him tithes.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Deuteronomy 14:22 - Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

Genesis 14:21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

The King of Sodom asked Abram to give him back the people he had rescued and take the goods for himself.

1. Abram's Generosity: A Model for Generosity in Our Lives

2. The Power of Selflessness: What We Can Learn from Abram

1. Matthew 10:8 - Freely you have received, freely give.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.

Genesis 14:22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

Abram declares his allegiance to the Lord, the highest and most powerful God.

1. Our Loyalty to the Lord is Paramount

2. God is the Possessor of Heaven and Earth

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Genesis 14:23 That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

Abram refused to accept any of the spoils of war, lest he be accused of making himself rich.

1: Abram's humility in refusing to accept any spoils of war

2: Abram's example of selflessness and integrity

1: Luke 14:11 "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

2: Proverbs 22:1 "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold."

Genesis 14:24 Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

Abraham tells his servants to save what the young men have eaten and to give a portion to his allies, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre.

1. The Power of Friendship: Learning from Abraham's example.

2. The Blessing of Generosity: Giving to those in need.

1. Proverbs 18:24 - "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2. Psalm 112:5 - "It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice."

Genesis 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 15:1-6, after Abram's victorious return from battle, the word of the Lord comes to him in a vision. God reassures Abram not to fear and promises him a great reward. However, Abram expresses his concern about not having an heir since he is childless. God responds by assuring Abram that he will have a son who will be his own flesh and blood and that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky. Abram believes God's promise, and it is credited to him as righteousness.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 15:7-16, God further assures Abram of His covenant with him and his descendants. He instructs Abram to bring specific animals for a sacrificial offering. As Abram prepares the offering, birds of prey descend upon the carcasses, but he drives them away. Later, when the sun sets, a deep sleep falls upon Abram while a terrifying darkness envelops him. Then God reveals to Abram that his descendants will be strangers in a foreign land for four hundred years but assures him that they will come out with great possessions.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 15:17-21, God establishes His covenant with Abram through a symbolic ritual involving animal sacrifices. He passes between the divided pieces of animals alone a customary practice signifying an oath or agreement indicating His commitment to fulfill His promises to Abram's descendants regarding land inheritance. The specific boundaries of this promised land are described from the river of Egypt (the Nile) to the Euphrates River encompassing various nations including those inhabiting Canaan.

In summary:

Genesis 15 presents:

God assuring and promising rewards to Abram;

Abram expressing concern about not having an heir;

God reaffirming His promise of numerous descendants;

Abram's belief credited to him as righteousness.

God assuring Abram of His covenant and instructing him to prepare a sacrificial offering;

The birds of prey descending upon the carcasses;

God revealing that Abram's descendants will be strangers in a foreign land for four hundred years but will come out with great possessions.

God establishing His covenant with Abram through a symbolic ritual involving animal sacrifices;

The specific boundaries of the promised land described from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates River encompassing various nations.

This chapter emphasizes Abram's faith and trust in God's promises despite his current circumstances. It highlights God's commitment to fulfilling His covenant with Abram and his descendants. The symbolic ritual underscores the seriousness and permanence of this covenant, setting the stage for future events in which God fulfills His promises through Abraham's lineage.

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

God is a shield and reward to those who obey Him.

1: Obeying God brings great rewards.

2: God is our protector and provider.

1: Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Genesis 15:2 And Abram said, LORD God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?

Abram questions God on why He has not given him children despite all of his efforts.

1: We can trust in God s timing, even when it is difficult to understand.

2: God has a plan for each of us, even when it may not be immediately apparent.

1: Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2: Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 15:3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.

Abram's faith in God's promise of a son was reaffirmed by God, who promised him the son would be his own heir.

1. God never forsakes His promises, and His faithfulness is evident in the life of Abram.

2. Trusting in God's promises, even when it seems impossible, will bring us joy and victory.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Genesis 15:4 And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.

The Lord spoke to Abram, telling him that his heir would not be his servant Eliezer, but rather someone from his own family.

1. Trusting God's Plan: Learning to rely on God's promise of a future heir

2. Faithful Obedience: Abram's commitment to the Lord despite uncertainty

1. Romans 4:13-17: Abram's faith in God's promise

2. Hebrews 11:8-10: Abram's obedience to God's calling

Genesis 15:5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

God's promise to Abram to have many descendants.

1: God has promised that if we trust in Him, He will bless us with abundance.

2: God is the source of our hope and strength, no matter the odds.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Genesis 15:6 And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Abraham believed in the Lord and was credited as righteous because of his faith.

1. The Power of Faith - How Abraham's trust in the Lord gave him right standing in God's eyes.

2. Righteousness Through Faith - The Lord rewards those who put their trust in Him.

1. Romans 4:3-5 - For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

2. Galatians 3:6 - Just as Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," so understand that those who believe are the children of Abraham.

Genesis 15:7 And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

God made a covenant to give Abraham the land of Israel.

1: God's Promises Never Fail - Looking at the faithfulness of God in fulfilling his promises to Abraham.

2: From Ur to Israel - Examining the journey of Abraham from Ur to the promised land of Israel.

1: Romans 4:13-17 - The faith of Abraham in God's promises.

2: Hebrews 11:8-10 - Abraham's journey of faith.

Genesis 15:8 And he said, LORD God, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

God's promise of land to Abraham is confirmed.

1: We can trust in God's promises, for He is faithful and will never forsake us.

2: God gives us a vision of hope which we can trust and rely on.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2: Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Genesis 15:9 And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.

God commands Abram to bring a sacrifice: a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.

1. The importance of sacrificial offerings as a way to demonstrate faith and obedience to God.

2. God's willingness to accept a humble offering of faith over grand displays of wealth.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son.

2. Proverbs 21:3 - To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Genesis 15:10 And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.

Abram offered sacrifices to God, dividing them in the midst but not dividing the birds.

1. The power of faith - trusting God even when it doesn't make sense

2. The importance of obedience - following God's commands even if they are unclear

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. 1 John 2:3-4 - And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says I know him but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Genesis 15:11 And when the fowls came down upon the carcases, Abram drove them away.

Abram drove away the birds that came to eat the dead carcasses.

1. God will protect us from harm as He did with Abram.

2. We can trust in the Lord to provide for us.

1. Psalm 91:3-4 - "Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Genesis 15:12 And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

Abram experienced a deep sleep and horror of great darkness.

1: Our faith in God can carry us through even the darkest times.

2: We can trust God in our times of great distress and fear.

1: 1 John 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear..."

2: Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Genesis 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

God informs Abram that his descendants will be oppressed by foreign nations for 400 years.

1. The Power of Faith: How God's Word Can Help Us Overcome Challenges

2. Enduring Trials and Tribulations: The Strength of Perseverance

1. Psalm 34:19 - "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Genesis 15:14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

God will judge the nation that the Israelites serve and will reward them with great wealth when they leave.

1: God's promise of great wealth to those who serve Him faithfully.

2: God's justice and rewards for those who obey Him.

1: Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you.

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings promised to those who keep God's commandments.

Genesis 15:15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

God promises Abraham that he will die peacefully in old age and be buried.

1. "The Peaceful Death of Abraham: God's Covenant of Comfort".

2. "The Blessings of Longevity: Living a Life of Faithfulness".

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Hebrews 11:13-16 - These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

Genesis 15:16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

God warns Abram that the Amorites' iniquity has not yet reached its full measure and that it will be four generations until Abram's descendants will reclaim the promised land.

1. "God's Patience and Forgiveness: A Lesson from Genesis 15:16"

2. "The Consequences of Sin: A Study of the Amorites in Genesis 15:16"

1. Jeremiah 5:25 - "Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you."

2. Proverbs 11:21 - "Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered."

Genesis 15:17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.

God's covenant with Abram was sealed with a smoking furnace and a burning lamp.

1: God's covenant with us is sealed with His love and faithfulness.

2: God's promises are fulfilled through His steadfast commitment.

1: Jeremiah 31:33-34 "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

2: Hebrews 6:17-18 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

Genesis 15:18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

God made a covenant with Abram giving the land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates river to his descendants.

1. God's Promises are Unconditional and Unfailing

2. A Covenant of Blessing and Legacy

1. Romans 4:13-16 - For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Ephesians 2:11-13 - Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

Genesis 15:19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,

God's promise to Abram that He would give the land of Canaan to his descendants was reaffirmed in Genesis 15:19.

1. God is Faithful We can rely on Him to fulfill His Promises

2. God is Generous He blesses us with more than we deserve

1. Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

2. Romans 8:32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Genesis 15:20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,

God's chosen people were promised the land of Canaan, a land inhabited by many different people groups including the Hittites, Perizzites, and Rephaims.

1: We must remember that the land we are promised is not a land free of people, but one where people are to be welcomed and respected.

2: We must learn to share the land with those who are different from us, for God has promised it to all of us.

1: Leviticus 19:33-34 And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him. But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

2: Deuteronomy 10:19 Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Genesis 15:21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

The Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites are mentioned in Genesis 15:21.

1. God's Divine Plan: A Study of the Nations in Genesis 15:21

2. Our Responsibility to Love Our Enemies in Light of Genesis 15:21

1. Leviticus 19:18 - "You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord."

2. Matthew 5:43-45 - You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Genesis 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 16:1-3, Sarai, Abram's wife, is unable to conceive a child. Feeling desperate and impatient, she suggests that Abram have a child with her Egyptian maidservant named Hagar. Abram agrees to Sarai's proposal, and he takes Hagar as his wife. Hagar conceives a child and begins to look down on Sarai due to her newfound status as the mother of Abram's offspring.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 16:4-8, tensions arise between Sarai and Hagar due to the latter's disrespectful behavior. Sarai complains to Abram about the mistreatment she receives from Hagar. In response, Abram gives Sarai permission to deal with Hagar as she sees fit. As a result, Sarai mistreats Hagar harshly, causing her to flee into the wilderness.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 16:9-16, an angel of the Lord finds Hagar by a spring in the wilderness and speaks with her. The angel instructs her to return to Sarai and submit herself under her authority while also promising that her descendants will be numerous beyond counting. The angel also reveals that she is pregnant with a son whom she should name Ishmael because God has heard her affliction. Hagar acknowledges God's presence and returns obediently.

In summary:

Genesis 16 presents:

Sarai's inability to conceive leading her to suggest that Abram have a child with their maidservant;

Abram agreeing and taking Hagar as his wife;

Hagar conceiving a child and looking down on Sarai.

Tensions arising between Sarai and Hagar due to disrespectful behavior;

Sarai complaining about mistreatment from Hagar;

Abram giving permission for Sarai to deal with the situation;

Sarai mistreating Hagar, leading her to flee.

An angel of the Lord finding Hagar in the wilderness;

The angel instructing Hagar to return and submit to Sarai;

The promise of numerous descendants for Hagar's son, Ishmael;

Hagar acknowledging God's presence and obediently returning.

This chapter highlights the consequences of Abram and Sarai's impatience in seeking to fulfill God's promise through their own means. It reveals the strained relationship between Sarai and Hagar as a result of their actions. Despite this, God shows His care for Hagar by sending an angel who reassures her and provides guidance. The birth of Ishmael marks a significant development in the biblical narrative as he becomes the father of many nations, fulfilling part of God's plan while also foreshadowing future conflicts between his descendants and those from Isaac, Abram's promised son through Sarai.

Genesis 16:1 Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

Sarai, Abram's wife, was unable to bear children, so she gave her Egyptian handmaid, Hagar, to Abram.

1. The faithfulness of God: How God fulfills His promises despite our inability

2. God's sovereignty: His divine will is revealed through human action

1. Romans 4:19-21 - And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

2. Galatians 4:22-28 - For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

Genesis 16:2 And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.

Sarai tells Abram to have a child with their maidservant so they can have children. Abram agrees to Sarai's request.

1. "The Faithfulness of Abram: An Example for Us"

2. "Fulfilling God's Plan: Obedience in Difficult Times"

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

2. Proverbs 19:21 - "There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand."

Genesis 16:3 And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.

Sarai, Abram's wife, gave her maid Hagar to him as a wife after they had lived in Canaan for ten years.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Gen. 16:3

2. Faithfulness in Marriage - Gen. 16:3

1. Malachi 2:14-16 - Obey the Lord and be faithful to one another in marriage.

2. Proverbs 18:22 - He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.

Genesis 16:4 And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.

Hagar was mistreated by her mistress, Sarai, yet despite this, she still showed strength and courage.

1. "Strength in the Face of Adversity"

2. "God's Provision in Difficult Situations"

1. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:31, "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Genesis 16:5 And Sarai said unto Abram, My wrong be upon thee: I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the LORD judge between me and thee.

Sarai blames Abram after she gave her maid to him and the maid became pregnant, asking that the Lord judge between them.

1. "The Lord is Our Judge: Sarai's Story in Genesis 16:5"

2. "The Hope of Justice: Lessons from Sarai in Genesis 16:5"

1. Psalm 9:8 - He shall judge the world in righteousness, and he shall administer judgment for the people in uprightness.

2. Isaiah 33:22 - For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

Genesis 16:6 But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid is in thy hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face.

Abram allowed Sarai to treat her servant however she wanted, which resulted in the servant fleeing from Sarai.

1. We should be careful in how we treat others, as our actions can have consequences.

2. We should show compassion and mercy even to those who are different from us.

1. Matthew 7:12 So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

2. James 2:13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Genesis 16:7 And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

The angel of the Lord found Hagar by a fountain of water in the wilderness.

1. God is always with us, even in the wilderness.

2. God will provide for those who are lost and searching.

1. Isaiah 41:17-18 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2. Psalm 23:2 - He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Genesis 16:8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.

Hagar was asked by God where she was going after she fled from her mistress Sarai.

1: We must always be prepared to answer God's questions.

2: When God calls us, we must respond with faith and courage.

1: Acts 5:29 - We must obey God rather than human authority.

2: Hebrews 11:8 - Abraham obeyed God when he was called to go to a place he had never been before.

Genesis 16:9 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

The Angel of the Lord told Hagar to return to her mistress and submit to her.

1. The Power of Submission: Learning How to Follow Instructions

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Following Directions Reaps Rewards

1. Colossians 3:18-20 - "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king."

Genesis 16:10 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.

God's promise to multiply Abraham's descendants beyond measure.

1. God's promises are always fulfilled.

2. God is able to provide abundantly.

1. Romans 4:17-21 - Abraham believed that God would fulfill His promise.

2. Matthew 19:26 - With God all things are possible.

Genesis 16:11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction.

The angel of the LORD told Hagar that she would bear a son and name him Ishmael, because the Lord had heard her affliction.

1. The Lord Hears Our Cries

2. The Promise of Ishmael

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Lamentations 3:55-56 - I called on your name, O Lord, from the depths of the pit; you heard my plea, Do not close your ear to my cry for help! You came near when I called on you; you said, Do not fear!

Genesis 16:12 And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.

This passage speaks of Ishmael, the son of Abraham, who was given a prophetic destiny that he would lead a life of conflict and difficulty.

1. Learning to Embrace Our Difficulties: Drawing Strength from Ishmael's Story

2. The Power of God's Promises: How Ishmael's Legacy Lives On

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

Genesis 16:13 And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?

Hagar, the servant of Sarah, gave birth to Ishmael and named the Lord who spoke to her "Thou God seest me," expressing her belief that God saw her.

1: We all experience times when we feel unseen and forgotten, but we must remember that God is always with us and sees us in our darkest moments.

2: We are all seen and known by God, even in our most vulnerable moments. We can trust that He will never forsake us and is always present.

1: Isaiah 43:1-3 "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour."

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Genesis 16:14 Wherefore the well was called Beerlahairoi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.

This passage tells the story of how God provided a well for Hagar in the desert between two places, Kadesh and Bered, and it was called Beerlahairoi.

1: God will provide for us in our darkest moments.

2: We can trust God to meet our needs, even when things seem bleak.

1: Isaiah 41:17-20 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2: Psalm 23:1-3 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Genesis 16:15 And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael.

God's unconditional love is exemplified in the story of Abram and Hagar, where Abram shows compassion for Hagar and her son Ishmael.

1. The Power of Unconditional Love: Exploring the Story of Abram and Hagar

2. Compassion in the Bible: Examining Abram's Relationship with Hagar

1. Genesis 16:15 - And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael.

2. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

Genesis 16:16 And Abram was fourscore and six years old, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.

Hagar gave birth to Ishmael when Abram was 86 years old.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Nature of God's Covenant with Abraham

1. Galatians 4:22-31 - The Allegory of Hagar and Sarah

2. Romans 9:6-13 - God's Sovereign Choice in Election of Isaac

Genesis 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 17:1-8, when Abram is ninety-nine years old, God appears to him and reaffirms His covenant. God introduces Himself as the Almighty God and commands Abram to walk before Him and be blameless. He promises to make a covenant with Abram, multiply him exceedingly, and change his name from Abram (exalted father) to Abraham (father of a multitude). God declares that He will establish His covenant not only with Abraham but also with his descendants after him as an everlasting covenant. The promised land of Canaan is also reaffirmed as their inheritance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 17:9-14, God establishes the sign of the covenant circumcision. Every male child among Abraham's descendants must be circumcised on the eighth day after birth. This act serves as a physical sign of their participation in the covenant relationship with God. Any uncircumcised male shall be cut off from his people because he has broken the covenant.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 17:15-27, God further promises Sarah (formerly Sarai), Abraham's wife, that she will bear a son despite her old age and that she shall be called Sarah (princess). Abraham falls on his face and laughs at this news but expresses his desire for Ishmael to live under God's blessing. However, God confirms that Sarah herself will bear a son named Isaac through whom His covenant will be established. As instructed by God, Abraham circumcises himself along with all males in his household including Ishmael.

In summary:

Genesis 17 presents:

God appearing to Abram at ninety-nine years old;

God reaffirming His covenant and changing Abram's name to Abraham;

The promise of numerous descendants and Canaan as their inheritance.

The establishment of circumcision as the sign of the covenant;

The command for every male child to be circumcised on the eighth day;

The consequences of breaking the covenant by remaining uncircumcised.

God promising Sarah a son despite her old age and changing her name to Sarah;

Abraham's laughter and desire for Ishmael to live under God's blessing;

God confirming that Sarah herself will bear a son named Isaac through whom His covenant will be established;

Abraham's obedience in circumcising himself and all males in his household.

This chapter emphasizes God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. It highlights Abraham's deep trust in God, even though some aspects of His promises seemed impossible. The introduction of circumcision as the sign of the covenant signifies the physical representation of belonging to God's chosen people. The renaming of Abraham and Sarah signifies their new identities as bearers of God's promise. Genesis 17 marks a significant milestone in the establishment and development of God's covenant with Abraham and sets the stage for future events involving Isaac, his miraculous birth, and his role within this divine plan.

Genesis 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

God appeared to Abram and commanded him to walk before Him and be perfect.

1: Obey God's Command and Walk in Perfection

2: Live a Life of Holiness and Obedience to God

1: 1 John 1:5-7 - This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all[a] sin.

2: Colossians 3:1-4 - Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Genesis 17:2 And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

God makes a covenant with Abraham and promises to multiply him exceedingly.

1. Trust in the Lord's Promises - Romans 4:20-21

2. God's Generous Covenant - Genesis 15:18-21

1. Hebrews 6:13-15 God's Promise of Hope

2. Galatians 3:6-9 Abraham's Faith in the Covenant

Genesis 17:3 And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

God promises to make Abram a great nation and gives him the covenant of circumcision.

1: God's Covenant with Abram is an example of His faithfulness and trustworthiness.

2: The importance of understanding and honoring the Covenant of Circumcision in our lives.

1: Jeremiah 33:20-21 Therefore thus saith the Lord; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;

2: Hebrews 11:8-10 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Genesis 17:4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

God makes a covenant with Abraham, promising to make him the father of many nations.

1. The Covenant of Abraham--God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. Choosing Faith Over Fear--The Legacy of Abraham

1. Romans 4:17-21--Abraham's faith in God and the fulfillment of His promises

2. Hebrews 11:8-12--Abraham's trust in God and the promise of descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Genesis 17:5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

God changed Abram's name to Abraham to signify the many nations that he would father.

1: God gives us new names to signify our new identity in Him.

2: Abraham was given a new name to signify his new inheritance in God's promises.

1: Romans 8:17 - And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

2: Galatians 3:29 - And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Genesis 17:6 And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

God promises Abraham that he will be made exceedingly fruitful and that his descendants will become many nations and kings.

1: God's promises are sure and true, and He will always make a way for us to be fruitful and successful.

2: God is faithful to His children and will bring about His promises, even when the outcome seems impossible.

1: Romans 4:18-22 - Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.

2: Hebrews 11:8-10 - Abraham obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Genesis 17:7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and his descendants to be their God.

1. The Everlasting Covenant of God - How God's Promises Endure

2. A People of Faith - God's Covenant with Abraham and His Descendants

1. Romans 4:13-16 - Abraham was promised that he would be the father of many nations, and this promise was made even before he was circumcised.

2. Galatians 3:26-29 - All believers, regardless of their ethnic or national backgrounds, are part of the same family and are heirs to the same promises through faith in Jesus Christ.

Genesis 17:8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

God's promise to Abraham to give him and his descendants the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession.

1. The Unfailing Promises of God - Genesis 17:8

2. The Everlasting Love of God - Genesis 17:8

1. Psalm 105:8-11 - He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations.

2. Isaiah 54:10 - Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed.

Genesis 17:9 And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

God reminded Abraham to keep His covenant in order to pass it onto his descendants.

1: We must keep God's covenant in order to ensure the next generation knows and follows Him.

2: God's covenant was given to Abraham, and now we have the responsibility to pass it onto future generations.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-7 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2: Psalm 78:1-7 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Genesis 17:10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.

God instructed Abraham and his descendants to circumcise every male child.

1. The Significance of Circumcision: Exploring the Covenantal Significance of the Ancient Rite

2. The Call to Obedience: Understanding the Covenant God Made with Abraham and His Descendents

1. Genesis 17:10 - "This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised."

2. Romans 4:11 - "And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised."

Genesis 17:11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

The passage is about God's commandment to Abraham to circumcise himself and his sons as a sign of the covenant between them.

1: We must keep God's commandments as a sign of our covenant with Him.

2: Circumcision as a sign of the covenant between God and men.

1: Deuteronomy 10:16 - Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

2: Joshua 5:2-7 - At that time the Lord said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time.

Genesis 17:12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to circumcise any male child within eight days of his birth.

1: God's Covenant of Circumcision- Our Obligation to Follow His Commands

2: The Significance of Obedience in Living a Godly Life

1: James 1:22-25- "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2: Deuteronomy 6:4-9- Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Genesis 17:13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

God commanded that all the males in Abraham s household must be circumcised as a sign of the covenant between God and Abraham.

1: God's covenant with Abraham is everlasting and is a sign of His faithfulness.

2: The covenant between God and Abraham is sealed through the sign of circumcision, a sign of loyalty and commitment.

1: Romans 4:11-12 - And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.

2: Colossians 2:11-12 - In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Genesis 17:14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

God commanded that all male children must be circumcised as a sign of the covenant between Him and His people. Those who are not circumcised will be cut off from the people of God.

1. God's Covenant and the Sign of Circumcision

2. Keeping the Covenant of God Through Faithfulness

1. Galatians 3:26-29 - For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ s, then you are Abraham s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

2. Exodus 12:48 - And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

Genesis 17:15 And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.

God changed Sarah's name as a sign of the covenant He was making with Abraham.

1. The Power of a Name: God's Renewal of His Covenant with Abraham

2. The Significance of God's Covenant with Abraham: A Reminder of His Faithfulness

1. Romans 4:17-18 As it is written: I have made you a father of many nations. He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

2. Psalm 105:8-11 He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant: To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion you will inherit.

Genesis 17:16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

God promised Sarah would bear a son and become the mother of many nations.

1. God is faithful to His promises - Hebrews 10:23

2. God's Promises are an expression of His Love - Romans 8:38-39

1. Romans 4:17-21

2. Galatians 4:28-31

Genesis 17:17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

Abraham laughed at the thought of having a child at his age.

1. God can do the impossible - Luke 1:37

2. Trusting in God's faithfulness - Hebrews 11:11

1. Isaiah 40:28-31

2. Romans 4:18-21

Genesis 17:18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

Abraham was asking God to let Ishmael live in His presence.

1. God is gracious and merciful; He allows us to make requests for our needs.

2. We must trust in the Lord and His goodness, even when it seems that our requests may not be granted.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

2. Genesis 18:14 - "Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."

Genesis 17:19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

God promised Abraham that Sarah would give birth to a son, Isaac, and He would establish an everlasting covenant with him and his descendants.

1. God Fulfills His Promises - Genesis 17:19

2. The Power of Covenant - Genesis 17:19

1. Romans 4:18-22 - Abraham's faith in God's promise

2. Galatians 3:15-18 - The promise of the covenant to Abraham's descendants

Genesis 17:20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

God's promise to Abraham to make Ishmael a great nation despite his doubt.

1. God's faithfulness is greater than our doubts.

2. God's promises are greater than our fears.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Genesis 17:21 But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

God reaffirms the covenant He made with Abraham that Isaac will be the one through whom His promises will be fulfilled.

1: God's promises are sure and will come to pass in His perfect timing.

2: We can trust in God's faithfulness and His promise to fulfill His plans.

1: 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

2: Isaiah 55:11 - So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Genesis 17:22 And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

God spoke to Abraham and then departed.

1. God's call to Abraham: Living out our faith in God.

2. Abraham's faithfulness: Obeying God without hesitation.

1. Hebrews 11:8-12 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

Genesis 17:23 And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

On the same day as God commanded, Abraham circumcised the foreskins of all males in his household, including his son Ishmael.

1. The Obedience of Abraham: A Model for Us

2. The Importance of Faithful Fulfillment of God's Commands

1. Romans 4:19-21 - And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Genesis 17:24 And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

Abraham was circumcised at the age of ninety-nine.

1. The Faithfulness of Abraham: How Abraham Lived His Life in Obedience to God

2. The Spiritual Significance of Circumcision: Letting Go of Our Fleshly Desires

1. Romans 4:11-12 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.

2. Galatians 5:13-14 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Genesis 17:25 And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

Ishmael was circumcised at the age of thirteen as prescribed in the Bible.

1. The importance of following biblical commandments.

2. The significance of circumcision in the Bible.

1. Leviticus 12:3, "On the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised."

2. Acts 7:8, "And he gave him the covenant of circumcision: and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs."

Genesis 17:26 In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

On the same day, Abraham and Ishmael were circumcised.

1. Fulfilling God's Covenant: The Sign of Circumcision

2. Abraham and Ishmael: A Lesson in Obedience

1. Colossians 2:11-12 In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

2. Romans 4:11-12 He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well, and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

Genesis 17:27 And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.

Abraham circumcised all the males of his household, both those born into the family and those bought with money from outside.

1. The Importance of Family Traditions

2. The Significance of Circumcision in Abraham's Household

1. Colossians 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

2. Exodus 12:48 - If a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it.

Genesis 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 18:1-8, the chapter begins with Abraham sitting at the entrance of his tent when he sees three men standing nearby. Recognizing them as visitors, Abraham shows great hospitality and urges them to rest and partake in a meal. He quickly arranges for a feast, including freshly baked bread, a choice calf, and curds and milk. While they eat, the visitors ask about Sarah, Abraham's wife. One of them declares that when he returns next year, Sarah will have a son.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 18:9-15, Sarah overhears the conversation from inside the tent and laughs to herself upon hearing that she would bear a child in her old age. The Lord questions why she laughed and wonders if anything is too difficult for Him. Sarah denies laughing out of fear but is told by the Lord that indeed she did laugh. The Lord reiterates His promise to return next year when Sarah will have given birth to a son.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 18:16-33, after their meal together, the visitors prepare to leave towards Sodom while Abraham accompanies them on their way. The Lord contemplates whether He should reveal His plans regarding Sodom to Abraham since He has chosen him to become a great nation. God shares His intention to investigate Sodom's wickedness and determine if it is as severe as reported before taking action against it.

In summary:

Genesis 18 presents:

Abraham showing hospitality to three visitors;

The announcement that Sarah will have a son;

Sarah's disbelief followed by her laughter;

The Lord questioning Sarah's reaction;

Reiteration of God's promise regarding Isaac's birth.

The departure of the visitors towards Sodom;

God contemplating whether or not to reveal His plans regarding Sodom's judgment;

His decision to investigate Sodom's wickedness before taking action.

This chapter highlights Abraham's hospitality and his encounter with the Lord and two angels in human form. It emphasizes Sarah's disbelief at the prospect of bearing a child in her old age, leading to her laughter. God reaffirms His promise of Isaac's birth and demonstrates His knowledge of Sarah's thoughts. The narrative also introduces the impending judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah, foreshadowing future events. Overall, Genesis 18 showcases the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises while addressing human doubts and concerns.

Genesis 18:1 And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

God appeared to Abraham in the plains of Mamre.

1. God's Presence: We Can Rely On God's Promises To Be With Us

2. Living in the Presence of God: Experiencing God's Faithfulness and Comfort

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Genesis 18:2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

Abraham saw three men and ran to meet them, bowing to the ground in respect.

1. The Power of Humility

2. Serving Others with Respect

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Genesis 18:3 And said, My LORD, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

The LORD visits Abraham and Abraham pleads to the LORD to stay with him.

1. The Power of Pleading to God in Prayer

2. God's Visitation and its Impact on Our Lives

1. Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2. Psalm 103:13 - As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

Genesis 18:4 Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

The Lord provides refreshment for those who are weary.

1. God's Rest and Refreshment: Learning to Lean on the Lord

2. The Power of Refreshing: How to Recharge Our Faith

1. Psalm 23:2 - "He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary."

Genesis 18:5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

Abraham offered to provide bread for three visitors who had come to his house.

1. The Power of Hospitality - Using Abraham as an example, we can see how welcoming and hospitable we should strive to be to those around us.

2. The Strength of Faith - Abraham's willingness to trust and obey God showed his faith, even in the face of uncertainty.

1. Romans 12:13 - "Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

2. James 2:14-17 - "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?"

Genesis 18:6 And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

Abraham instructs Sarah to make a meal quickly.

1: God provides for our needs in timely fashion.

2: We must be prepared to act quickly when God calls us to action.

1: Matthew 7:7-8 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

2: James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Genesis 18:7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

Abraham quickly fetched a tender and good calf for a young man and had it prepared.

1. The Power of Kindness: How Abraham's generosity can be an example for us today.

2. The Importance of Promptness: Abraham's haste to prepare the calf for the young man.

1. James 2:15-16 - "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?"

2. Proverbs 19:17 - "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed."

Genesis 18:8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

Abraham prepares a meal for the three visitors under a tree and they eat it.

1. The Importance of Hospitality: Lessons from Abraham

2. Caring for Others: Our Duty as Followers of Abraham

1. Luke 10:30-37 - The parable of the Good Samaritan

2. James 2:14-17 - Faith without works is dead

Genesis 18:9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

Abraham's visitors asked him where his wife Sarah was, and he replied that she was in the tent.

1. God's Faithfulness: We see in Abraham's example the faithfulness of God, who continued to provide for him even when he was in unfamiliar territory.

2. Hospitality: Abraham welcomed the visitors into his home, demonstrating hospitality even when he was far from home.

1. Genesis 18:9 - And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

Genesis 18:10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

Sarah hears the promise of a son from God and it brings her joy.

1. God's Promises: Rejoicing in His Faithfulness

2. Letting God's Promises Shape Our Lives

1. Isaiah 55:11, "so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

2. Romans 4:21, "being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised."

Genesis 18:11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

Sarah was unable to conceive due to her old age.

1. God's faithfulness amidst our human frailty

2. The power of faith in the face of impossibility

1. Romans 4:19-21 - Abraham believed that God was able to do what he had promised, even though it seemed impossible.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - God's ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts.

Genesis 18:12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?

Sarah was skeptical of God's promise that she and Abraham would have a son in their old age.

1. God's promises are greater than our doubts.

2. Believe in the power of God's promises.

1. Romans 4:18-21 - Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles.

Genesis 18:13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

Sarah was surprised to hear God s promise that she would have a child in her old age and laughed.

1: God can do amazing things and we should not be so quick to dismiss his promises.

2: Although we may have doubts, God is faithful and will never forsake His promises.

1: Romans 4:17-20 - As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations. He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

2: Hebrews 11:11 - By faith Abraham, even though he was past age and Sarah herself was barren was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise.

Genesis 18:14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

God is capable of anything, and He will fulfill His promises in His time.

1. Trusting in God's Timing - How God's Timing is Always Perfect

2. God's Promise and Power - How We Can Rely on God's Promises

1. Jeremiah 32:17 - Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

2. Luke 1:37 - For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Genesis 18:15 Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

Sarah denied her laughter to God, yet God knew the truth.

1. God knows our innermost thoughts and feelings, even when we try to hide them.

2. We must be honest with God, even when it is difficult.

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - "O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether."

2. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Genesis 18:16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

Abraham accompanies the men to bring them on their way to Sodom.

1: We should always be willing to accompany and help our friends on their journey.

2: Even in our darkest moments, having companionship can lead to light and hope.

1: Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

2: Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Genesis 18:17 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

God revealed to Abraham the things He was about to do.

1: God desires transparency and open communication with His people.

2: We can trust God to keep His promises.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Genesis 18:18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

God promises Abraham that he will become a great and mighty nation and that he will bless all the other nations of the earth.

1. The Blessing of Abraham: A Study of God's Fulfilled Promise

2. The Greatness of Abraham: An Exploration of Faithfulness and Obedience

1. Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Galatians 3:6-9 - Just as Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness ?

Genesis 18:19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

God will always bless those who faithfully obey him.

1: Faithful Obedience Brings God's Blessing

2: Obeying God's Commands Brings Reward

Romans 2:6-8 - "God 'will repay each person according to what they have done.' To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger."

Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

Genesis 18:20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

God hears the cries of those in need and will provide justice for the wicked.

1: God is Just and Sees Everything

2: God Hears Our Cries and Answers Our Prayers

1: Psalm 145:18-19 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.

2: Psalm 10:17 - You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry.

Genesis 18:21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

God is willing to investigate the cries of His people.

1: God hears our cries and will answer us when we call out to Him.

2: God is our source of truth and He will always provide the answers we seek.

1: Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

2: Isaiah 65:24 - And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Genesis 18:22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

Abraham stood before the Lord while the men with him left and went to Sodom.

1. Trusting in the Lord in the face of temptation.

2. The importance of obedience in our lives.

1. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the one who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Genesis 18:23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

Abraham questions the justice of God in destroying the righteous along with the wicked.

1: God is Just and Righteous in all His Ways - Psalm 145:17

2: We can Trust in God's Judgement - Romans 3:3-4

1: Jeremiah 12:1 - Righteous are not forsaken by God

2: Isaiah 45:21 - Declares the righteousness of God

Genesis 18:24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

Abraham pleads with God to spare Sodom and Gomorrah if there are 50 righteous people living there.

1. God's Mercy and Abraham's Intercession

2. The Power of Righteousness

1. Romans 5:20-21 - "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:"

2. Proverbs 11:4 - "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death."

Genesis 18:25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

God does not condone the unjust mixing of the righteous and the wicked.

1: God expects us to treat the righteous and the wicked differently, and to show justice to all.

2: We should strive to treat others as God would, with mercy and justice.

1: James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2: Isaiah 30:18 - Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

Genesis 18:26 And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

The Lord promised to spare Sodom if fifty righteous people were found in the city.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: The Story of Sodom

2. The Power of Faithful People: An Examination of Abraham and Sodom

1. Ezekiel 16:49-50 - "Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good."

2. James 2:14-17 - "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

Genesis 18:27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD, which am but dust and ashes:

Abraham humbly acknowledges his unworthiness to speak to God.

1. The Importance of Humility Before God

2. Abraham's Example of Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 6:5 "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

2. James 4:10 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

Genesis 18:28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

Abraham pleads with God to spare the city of Sodom from destruction if only 45 righteous people can be found.

1. The Power of Intercession: How Abraham's Plea for Sodom Saved a City

2. How God's Mercy is Greater Than His Judgment: Examining Abraham's Appeal to God

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - "Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?"

Genesis 18:29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

Abraham negotiated with God, asking that if forty righteous people were found in the city of Sodom, God would spare the city.

1. God's Mercy: Abraham Demonstrates a Faith-Filled Intercession

2. God's Justice: The Righteousness of Abraham's Plea

1. James 5:16 (The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective)

2. Romans 8:26-27 (The Spirit helps us in our weakness; we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words)

Genesis 18:30 And he said unto him, Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

Abraham pleads with God to spare Sodom and Gomorrah if there are thirty righteous people living in the cities. God agrees not to destroy the cities if Abraham can find thirty righteous people living there.

1. The Power of Persistence - Abraham's willingness to plead with God for the safety of Sodom and Gomorrah.

2. Finding the Righteous Amid the Unrighteous - God's promise to spare Sodom and Gomorrah if Abraham could find thirty righteous people living there.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Luke 18:1-8 - "The Parable of the Persistent Widow"

Genesis 18:31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

God showed mercy and compassion when he spared the city of Sodom from destruction if at least 10 righteous people could be found there.

1. The Power of Mercy: Exploring God's Compassion and Forgiveness

2. The Power of Small Numbers: The Importance of Every Soul

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

2. Ezekiel 18:4 - Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Genesis 18:32 And he said, Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

Abraham pleads with God to spare the city of Sodom if ten righteous people can be found there. God agrees to not destroy the city if ten righteous people are found.

1. Abraham's Intercession: The Power of Prayer

2. The Mercy of God: Sparing the Righteous

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Ezekiel 33:14-16 - "'Again, though I say to the wicked, You shall surely die, yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live."

Genesis 18:33 And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

Abraham and the Lord had a conversation and then the Lord left, and Abraham returned home.

1: Having faith in God can bring us peace in difficult times.

2: God is always willing to listen to us when we need Him most.

1: Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2: James 1:5-8 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Genesis 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 19:1-11, the two angels who had visited Abraham arrive at Sodom in the evening. Lot, Abraham's nephew, welcomes them into his house and prepares a meal for them. However, before they go to sleep, the men of Sodom surround Lot's house and demand that he bring out his guests so that they may have sexual relations with them. Disturbed by their wickedness, Lot offers his own daughters instead but is ignored by the mob. The angels intervene and strike the men of Sodom with blindness to protect Lot and his guests.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 19:12-22, the angels warn Lot that God has decided to destroy Sodom because of its great wickedness. They instruct him to gather his family his wife and two daughters and flee from the city to escape God's judgment. Despite hesitations from some family members, including his sons-in-law who do not take the warning seriously, Lot eventually leaves with his wife and daughters.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 19:23-38, as dawn breaks over Sodom and Gomorrah, God rains down burning sulfur on these cities as a divine judgment for their sinfulness. However, against explicit instructions not to look back at the destruction, Lot's wife disobeys and turns into a pillar of salt. Fearing for their safety in nearby Zoar (a spared city), Lot and his daughters leave for a cave in the mountains where they dwell out of fear for their lives. The daughters become concerned about preserving their family line since no men are left except themselves and their father. Consequently, they devise a plan where each daughter takes turns getting their father drunk so that they can sleep with him and conceive children.

In summary:

Genesis 19 presents:

The arrival of the two angels in Sodom and Lot's hospitality towards them;

The wickedness of the men of Sodom and their demand to have sexual relations with the visitors;

The intervention of the angels, striking the men with blindness.

The warning from the angels about God's decision to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah;

Lot's hesitation and eventual departure with his family, excluding his sons-in-law who do not believe;

God's destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah through raining down burning sulfur.

Lot's wife disobeying God's command not to look back and turning into a pillar of salt;

Lot and his daughters seeking refuge in a cave in fear for their lives;

The daughters' plan to conceive children through sleeping with their father while he is intoxicated.

This chapter depicts the extreme wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah, leading to their destruction by divine judgment. It showcases Lot as a righteous man who is spared along with his immediate family due to God's mercy. However, it also reveals moral compromises within Lot's family as they seek to preserve their lineage through incestuous relationships. Genesis 19 serves as a cautionary tale about the consequences of immorality, disobedience, and compromising one's values.

Genesis 19:1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

Lot meets two angels in Sodom and bows down to them.

1. Trust in God's messengers.

2. Putting God first in all we do.

1. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

2. Isaiah 66:2 - For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

Genesis 19:2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.

The men of Sodom asked Lot to offer them hospitality, but he refused.

1. God calls us to be hospitable, even to those who are different than us.

2. We should listen to God s commands, even when they are difficult.

1. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

2. Luke 6:31 - "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."

Genesis 19:3 And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

Lot invited two strangers to his house, and he prepared a meal of unleavened bread for them.

1. The Hospitality of Lot: A Model for Us

2. The Power of Invitation: A Life-Changing Opportunity

1. Hebrews 13:2: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

2. Luke 14:12-14: "Then Jesus said to his host, When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.

Genesis 19:4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

The men of Sodom surrounded Lot's house to demand that he surrender the two visitors.

1. God's protection and provision in times of adversity.

2. The power of hospitality and its significance in biblical culture.

1. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

2. Psalm 91:9-11 - "Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

Genesis 19:5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

Lot sought to protect the two angels who had visited him and offered him and his family protection.

1. God uses the most unlikely people to do His work.

2. Our actions have consequences, both good and bad.

1. Matthew 10:40-42 - Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Genesis 19:6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,

Lot welcomed the strangers into his home and closed the door behind him.

1. We should always be welcoming to strangers, even in times of difficulty.

2. The importance of hospitality and being hospitable to those in need.

1. Romans 12:13 - Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

Genesis 19:7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

The passage emphasizes the importance of avoiding wickedness.

1. "The Power of Righteousness: Overcoming Wickedness"

2. "The Warning of Wickedness: Making Right Choices"

1. Proverbs 16:6 - "Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the Lord evil is avoided."

2. James 1:13-15 - When tempted, no one should say, God is tempting me. For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Genesis 19:8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

This passage reveals the lengths to which Lot was willing to go to protect his guests, even offering up his own daughters to appease the townspeople.

1. The Power of Hospitality: How Righteousness and Generosity Can Protect Us

2. The Sacrifice of a Father: The Love of Lot for His Guests

1. Romans 12:13, "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

2. Ephesians 5:2, "Live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Genesis 19:9 And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door.

Lot was threatened by people of Sodom and they were pressing him to break the door.

1. God is our Protector in times of trouble.

2. Do not be afraid to stand up for what is right.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

2. Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Genesis 19:10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

The men of Sodom rescued Lot from the mob and brought him into their house, then shut the door.

1. God is always with us, even in our darkest times.

2. It is our responsibility to help those in need.

1. Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Genesis 19:11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

The men at the door of Lot's house were struck with blindness, both young and old, making it difficult for them to find the door.

1. God is in control of even the most difficult of situations.

2. God is a protector and can work through any obstacle.

1. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 - "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

2. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and he delivers them."

Genesis 19:12 And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place:

The two men asked Lot if he had any family members that he needed to bring out of the city.

1. The importance of family: God's protection encompasses all of our loved ones.

2. The power of faith: Even in the face of incredible danger, Lot remained obedient to God's will.

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith, Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house.

2. Psalm 91:4 - He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Genesis 19:13 For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

The Lord sent two angels to destroy the city of Sodom because of the great outcry against it.

1: Our choices determine our destiny.

2: God is merciful yet just.

1: Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2: James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Genesis 19:14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.

Lot warned his sons-in-law of the impending destruction of the city, but they did not take him seriously.

1. "Don't Mock the Warnings of God"

2. "Heeding the Warnings of God"

1. Proverbs 14:9 "Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour."

2. Romans 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Genesis 19:15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

The angels warned Lot to take his wife and two daughters and leave the city before it was destroyed by iniquity.

1. The Dangers of Iniquity and the Importance of Heeding Warnings

2. The Power of Faith: How Lot Demonstrated His Belief in God

1. James 2:26 (For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.)

2. Romans 12:2 (And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.)

Genesis 19:16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

The LORD was merciful to Lot and his family, allowing them to escape the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah by having the angels take hold of their hands and lead them out of the city.

1. God's mercy can be seen in unexpected places.

2. The power of God's mercy is greater than any disaster.

1. Psalm 136:1 "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."

2. Romans 5:20-21 "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Genesis 19:17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

The Lord commanded Lot to flee for his life and not to look back or stay in the plain.

1: It is essential to obey the Lord's instructions, even if they don't make sense to us.

2: We must trust and obey the Lord, no matter what the cost.

1: Luke 9:62 - Jesus said to him, No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.

2: Deuteronomy 4:2 - You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Genesis 19:18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my LORD:

Lot pleads with two angels not to send him away from the city.

1: When life gets difficult, look to God for help and direction.

2: God is faithful to answer our pleas for help.

1: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: 2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Genesis 19:19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:

Lot pleads with God to save his life as he is unable to escape to the mountains.

1. God is merciful and will always be there to provide protection when we need Him.

2. We must always remember to call on God in times of need and He will provide.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation.

2. Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Genesis 19:20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.

Lot begs the angels to allow him to go to the nearby city of Zoar, which he believes will provide safety for him and his family.

1. God can provide safety and refuge in the most unexpected places.

2. We must have faith in God and trust His plan even when it is not what we expected.

1. Isaiah 26:20 - "Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast."

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

Genesis 19:21 And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken.

God promised not to destroy the city of Sodom, based on Abraham's plea.

1. The Power of Intercession: Abraham's plea for mercy on Sodom.

2. The Promise of Redemption: God's willingness to forgive and restore.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Genesis 19:22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do anything till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

After Lot and his family escape from Sodom and Gomorrah, the Lord tells them to flee to Zoar and Lot does so.

1. God is always with us, even in times of danger and chaos.

2. When God calls us to do something, we must obey without hesitation.

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 "It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

2. Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Genesis 19:23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

Lot entered the city of Zoar as the sun was rising.

1. The Rising Sun: God's Mercy in the Face of Judgment

2. Taking Refuge: Finding Safety in the City of Zoar

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 19:24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

The Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah with fire and brimstone from the heavens.

1. God's Righteous Wrath: The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

2. The Consequences of Disobedience and Rebellion

1. Isaiah 13:19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

2. Luke 17:28-29 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

Genesis 19:25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, along with all the people and vegetation in the surrounding plain.

1. God's Judgment: A Warning to Us All

2. Repentance: The Only Path To Redemption

1. Matthew 10:15 - "Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town."

2. Luke 17:32 - "Remember Lot s wife!"

Genesis 19:26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Lot's wife disobeyed God's instructions and looked back at Sodom and Gomorrah, and as a result she was turned into a pillar of salt.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God's Commands

2. The Consequences of Rebellion

1. Deuteronomy 28:45-46 - "Moreover, all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you. And they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder, and on your descendants forever."

2. Psalm 19:7-8 - "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

Genesis 19:27 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

Abraham shows his devotion to God by rising early in the morning to the place where he had previously stood before the Lord.

1. The Power of Devotion: How Abraham's Early Morning Worship Changed His Life

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Discovering What God Has in Store for Those Who Follow Him

1. James 4:8 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Genesis 19:28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

Lot looks back at Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding plain and notices a thick smoke rising up, like a furnace.

1. God is always in control, even when it seems like chaos and destruction are reigning.

2. The consequences of our decisions are real, and can have far-reaching effects.

1. Isaiah 64:8 - "But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Genesis 19:29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

God's mercy and protection of Lot in the midst of destruction.

1: God is our protector and provider in times of need.

2: We can trust in God's mercy and provision in difficult times.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Genesis 19:30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and went to live in a cave in the mountains out of fear.

1. Finding Strength in Fear - How Lot's courage in the face of fear can help us face our own fears.

2. Overcoming Adversity - How Lot's faith in the face of difficult times can encourage us to persevere.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Genesis 19:31 And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:

The two daughters of Lot in Genesis 19:31 express their concern for their father's old age and lack of a husband for them to marry.

1. The importance of family and the need to care for elderly parents

2. The power of faith and trusting in God's plan

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honour thy father and thy mother.

2. 1 Timothy 5:8 - But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

Genesis 19:32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

Two of Lot's daughters plot to get their father drunk and sleep with him in order to conceive children.

1. The Dangers of Alcohol and its Impact on Judgment

2. The Importance of Making Wise Decisions

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

Genesis 19:33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

Lot's two daughters get him drunk, and the older one sleeps with him, without him being aware.

1. The Danger of Drunkenness

2. The Power of Sin

1. Romans 13:13 - "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying."

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings and such like."

Genesis 19:34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

Passage The two daughters of Lot asked their father to drink wine the night after they had slept with him so they could preserve their father's seed.

1. The Power of Self-Sacrifice: The story of Lot's Daughters

2. The Blessing of Providing for Our Families

1. Ruth 3:13 - "Stay this night, and in the morning it shall be that if he will perform the duty of a close relative for you good; let him do it. But if he does not want to perform the duty for you, then I will perform the duty for you, as the Lord lives! Lie down until morning.

2. 1 Timothy 5:8 - But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Genesis 19:35 And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

The Bible passage discusses how Lot's two daughters made their father drink wine and then lay with him, unbeknownst to him.

1. "The Sin of Deception: Uncovering the Reality of Lies"

2. "The Dangers of Alcohol: Examining the Effects of Intoxication"

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

2. Ephesians 5:18 - "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit."

Genesis 19:36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

Lot's two daughters got pregnant by their own father.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Lessons from the Story of Lot

2. God's Mercy in the Face of Great Mistakes

1. 2 Peter 2:7-9 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked

2. Romans 1:26-27 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another

Genesis 19:37 And the first born bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day.

The first born son of Lot and his wife was named Moab, who is the ancestor of the Moabites.

1. God's Plan for Our Lives: Understanding the Descendants of Lot

2. The Promise of Generations: Trusting in God's Provision

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 139:13-14 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Genesis 19:38 And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.

The birth of Benammi is recorded in Genesis 19:38 and he is the father of the Ammonite people.

1. The Blessing of Descendants: Finding God's Purpose and Fulfilling His Plans

2. The Power of Legacy: Leaving a Lasting Impact on Future Generations

1. Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose".

2. Psalm 127:3, "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward".

Genesis 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 20:1-7, Abraham journeys to Gerar, where he introduces Sarah as his sister instead of his wife. Abimelech, the king of Gerar, takes Sarah into his household. However, God appears to Abimelech in a dream and warns him that he is about to take another man's wife. Abimelech pleads innocence before God and returns Sarah to Abraham. God acknowledges Abimelech's integrity and spares him from sinning against Him by marrying Sarah.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 20:8-13, the next morning, Abimelech confronts Abraham about his deception regarding Sarah's identity. Abraham explains that he believed there was no fear of God in Gerar and thought they would kill him for his wife's sake. He justifies his actions by stating that technically Sarah is his half-sister since they share the same father but different mothers. Despite this explanation, Abraham is reproved for misleading others through half-truths.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 20:14-18, after settling the matter with Abimelech, Abraham receives compensation in the form of sheep, oxen, male servants, and female servants from the king as a gesture of reconciliation. Additionally, Abimelech allows Abraham to dwell anywhere within his land as he pleases. Furthermore, at Abraham's request for prayer due to a barrenness affliction on all women within Abimelech's household caused by God closing their wombs out of protection for Sarah God heals them upon hearing Abraham's intercession.

In summary:

Genesis 20 presents:

Abraham introducing Sarah as his sister instead of his wife;

Abimelech taking Sarah into his household;

God warning Abimelech through a dream about taking another man's wife;

Abimelech returning Sarah to Abraham.

Abimelech confronting Abraham about his deception;

Abraham justifying his actions by explaining the lack of fear of God in Gerar;

Reproof for misleading others through half-truths.

Abraham receiving compensation and reconciliation from Abimelech;

Permission to dwell anywhere within Abimelech's land granted to Abraham;

God healing the barrenness affliction on all women in Abimelech's household upon Abraham's prayer.

This chapter highlights the recurring theme of deception and its consequences. It portrays Abraham resorting to a familiar tactic of presenting Sarah as his sister, which leads to potential harm and misunderstandings. However, God intervenes through a dream, warning Abimelech and protecting Sarah from defilement. The episode demonstrates God's sovereignty in preserving His chosen ones despite their flawed actions. The chapter also showcases Abimelech's integrity and willingness to rectify the situation once he becomes aware of the truth. Ultimately, it emphasizes God's faithfulness in resolving conflicts and bringing healing even amidst human failings.

Genesis 20:1 And Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar.

Abraham journeyed to the south country and stayed in the area between Kadesh and Shur, and also lived in Gerar.

1. God will provide us with a place to stay even when we feel lost and without direction.

2. God is always with us, even in the times when we are journeying to a new place.

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 139:7-10 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Genesis 20:2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, She is my sister: and Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah.

Abraham lied to King Abimelech, claiming Sarah was his sister instead of his wife.

1. The Danger of Lying: How Abraham's Misrepresentation of Sarah Could Have Led to Disaster

2. The Power of Righteousness: How Abraham's Faithfulness to God Led to a Miracle

1. James 5:12: "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your Yes be yes, and your No, no, or you will be condemned."

2. Proverbs 6:16-19: "There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community."

Genesis 20:3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife.

God protected Abimelech from a great sin by warning him in a dream.

1. The importance of listening to God's warnings.

2. God's mercy and grace for those who repent of their sins.

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

2. Proverbs 8:20 - "I walk in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice, to bestow a rich inheritance on those who love me and make the whole world their heritage."

Genesis 20:4 But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, LORD, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation?

Abimelech seeks God's guidance when faced with a difficult decision.

1. "The Wisdom of Seeking God's Guidance"

2. "The Righteousness of Abimelech"

1. Isaiah 55:9 - "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Genesis 20:5 Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.

Abraham's honesty and integrity are highlighted in this passage.

1: "The Integrity of Abraham"

2: "The Power of Honesty"

1: James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your Yes be yes, and your No, no, or you will be condemned.

2: Proverbs 10:9 - Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.

Genesis 20:6 And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.

God knows the integrity of a person's heart and will protect them from sinning.

1. The Power of God to Protect Us from Sin

2. Integrity of Heart as an Essential Virtue

1. Psalm 32:5 - "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin."

2. Proverbs 4:23 - "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Genesis 20:7 Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.

Abraham intercedes on behalf of Abimelech and warns him that if he does not restore Sarah to Abraham, then Abimelech and all his people will die.

1. The Power of Prayer

2. The Weight of Our Actions

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Galatians 6:7 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Genesis 20:8 Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears: and the men were sore afraid.

Abimelech was warned by God about the consequences of taking Sarah, Abraham's wife, and chose to take the right course of action.

1. Listen to God's Warning and Heed His Voice - Genesis 20:8

2. Recognize the Judgement of God and Respond in Fear - Genesis 20:8

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Proverbs 3:5-7 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Genesis 20:9 Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him, What hast thou done unto us? and what have I offended thee, that thou hast brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? thou hast done deeds unto me that ought not to be done.

Abimelech confronts Abraham for his deceit.

1. The importance of truthfulness in our daily lives.

2. The consequences of dishonesty in our relationships.

1. Ephesians 4:15-16 - Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

2. Colossians 3:9 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.

Genesis 20:10 And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?

Abimelech questions Abraham about why he lied about Sarah being his sister.

1. Learning to be Honest in our Relationships

2. The Importance of Accountability in our Lives

1. Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal truthfully are his delight."

2. Matthew 5:37 - "Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil."

Genesis 20:11 And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake.

Abraham feared that he would be killed because of his wife, so he lied about her being his sister.

1. God is our protector and will provide safety even in the midst of danger.

2. We should not let fear lead us to make bad decisions, instead, trust in God's plan.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Genesis 20:12 And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.

Abraham's willingness to put his wife's safety before his own honor is an example of true love.

1: The importance of putting the wellbeing of others before our own honor.

2: The power of true love between husband and wife.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2: Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Genesis 20:13 And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said unto her, This is thy kindness which thou shalt shew unto me; at every place whither we shall come, say of me, He is my brother.

Abraham s faithfulness to God is demonstrated in his willingness to follow God s instructions and put his trust in Him.

1. A lesson in trust: Learning to trust God in the midst of difficulty.

2. The power of kindness: How God calls us to show kindness to others.

1. 1 Corinthians 2:5 - That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

2. Galatians 5:22-23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness.

Genesis 20:14 And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.

Abimelech restored Sarah to Abraham and gave him generous gifts.

1: A Generous Heart Brings Blessings - Genesis 20:14

2: The Power of Forgiveness - Genesis 20:14

1: Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.

2: Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Genesis 20:15 And Abimelech said, Behold, my land is before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee.

Abimelech offers Abraham a place to live.

1. God provides for our needs in unexpected ways.

2. God's generosity is displayed through kindness of others.

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Genesis 20:16 And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee, and with all other: thus she was reproved.

Sarah was given a thousand pieces of silver as a reparation for the wrong done to her by Abimelech.

1. The Power of Reparation - How making up for your wrongs can bring healing and restoration.

2. Overcoming Betrayal - How to trust again after being hurt by someone you trusted.

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

2. Romans 12:17-19 - "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

Genesis 20:17 So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.

Abraham prayed to God and God healed Abimelech and his family, allowing them to have children.

1. Faith in the power of prayer can bring healing.

2. The Lord provides for those who put their trust in Him.

1. James 5:15-16 - "And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Genesis 20:18 For the LORD had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.

Abimelech's household was blessed by the Lord when He closed the wombs of his house due to Sarah, Abraham's wife.

1. The Lord rewards those who fear Him - Proverbs 16:7

2. God's promises are sure - Isaiah 55:11

1. Abraham's faith and obedience - Hebrews 11:8-10

2. The Lord blesses those who obey Him - Ephesians 1:3-4

Genesis 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 21:1-7, God fulfills His promise to Abraham and Sarah by enabling Sarah to conceive and bear a son named Isaac. This event occurs when Abraham is one hundred years old. The birth of Isaac brings joy to Sarah, who previously laughed in disbelief at the prospect of having a child in her old age. As God had commanded, Abraham circumcises Isaac on the eighth day. The fulfillment of God's promise through the birth of Isaac marks a significant milestone in the narrative.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 21:8-14, Ishmael, Abraham's son through Hagar, mocks and laughs at Isaac during his weaning celebration. This distresses Sarah greatly, prompting her to demand that Abraham cast out Hagar and Ishmael from their household. Although this troubles Abraham deeply, God reassures him that He will also make a great nation out of Ishmael because he is his offspring. Early the next morning, Abraham provides Hagar with bread and water before sending her and Ishmael away into the wilderness.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 21:15-34, as Hagar wanders in the wilderness with Ishmael running out of water, she places him under a shrub and distances herself so she does not have to witness his suffering. However, God hears Ishmael's cries and speaks to Hagar through an angel who assures her that He will make a great nation from Ishmael as well. God opens her eyes to see a well nearby where she replenishes their water supply. Meanwhile, Abimelech (the king of Gerar) approaches Abraham seeking an oath of friendship between them due to witnessing how God has blessed him.

In summary:

Genesis 21 presents:

The fulfillment of God's promise with the birth of Isaac to Abraham and Sarah;

The circumcision of Isaac on the eighth day;

Sarah's joy and Abraham's obedience in circumcising Isaac.

Ishmael mocking and Sarah's demand to cast out Hagar and Ishmael;

God reassuring Abraham about Ishmael's future as a great nation;

Abraham sending Hagar and Ishmael away into the wilderness.

Hagar and Ishmael running out of water in the wilderness;

God hearing Ishmael's cries, assuring Hagar, and providing a well for them;

Abimelech seeking an oath of friendship with Abraham due to witnessing God's blessings upon him.

This chapter highlights the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises. The birth of Isaac demonstrates God's ability to bring forth life even in seemingly impossible circumstances. It also reveals the tension that arises between Sarah and Hagar, leading to the separation of their sons. However, God reassures both Abraham and Hagar regarding their respective offspring. The chapter emphasizes how God provides for those who call upon Him, as seen through His intervention on behalf of Hagar and Ishmael in their time of need. Additionally, it showcases Abraham's growing reputation among neighboring kings due to God's blessings upon him.

Genesis 21:1 And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken.

The LORD fulfilled His promise to Sarah and blessed her.

1: We can trust in the Lord's promises and have faith that He will keep them.

2: God will always provide for us and bless us when we remain faithful and obedient to Him.

1: Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2: Hebrews 11:11 - "Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised."

Genesis 21:2 For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

Sarah was able to conceive a son in her old age, exactly as God had promised.

1: God is faithful and will keep His promises.

2: God can use us no matter our age or circumstances.

1: Luke 1:37 - For nothing is impossible with God.

2: Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Genesis 21:3 And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

Abraham named his son Isaac, who was born to him and Sarah.

1. The power of a name and the importance of honoring God through it.

2. God's faithfulness and how it is seen in fulfilling His promises.

1. Luke 1:59-60 - When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

60 And to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord: a pair of doves or two young pigeons.

2. Luke 2:21-22 - On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived. 22 When the time of their purification was completed according to the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Genesis 21:4 And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him.

Abraham circumcised his son Isaac at the age of eight days, as commanded by God.

1. Obeying God's Commands - Genesis 21:4

2. The Significance of Circumcision - Genesis 21:4

1. Romans 4:11 - And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised.

2. Galatians 5:6 - For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

Genesis 21:5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born.

1. The Faith of Abraham: An Example for Us All

2. The Power of Patience: The Story of Abraham

1. Romans 4:19-21: Abraham in hope believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, So shall your offspring be.

2. Hebrews 11:11: By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

Genesis 21:6 And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me.

Sarah rejoiced in the Lord's blessing and the joy that it brought her.

1: If we take joy in God's blessings, our joy will be contagious and bring joy to all around us.

2: We can find joy in the Lord's blessings, even in the midst of trials.

1: Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2: James 1:2-3 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Genesis 21:7 And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have born him a son in his old age.

Sarah gave birth to Isaac in her old age, a miracle that none could have predicted.

1. God's Promises Are Unfailing: The Miraculous Birth of Isaac

2. God's Unconventional Strength: Abraham and Sarah's Example of Faith

1. Romans 4:18-21 - Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness

2. Hebrews 11:11-12 - Sarah believed what God said, even though it seemed impossible

Genesis 21:8 And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned.

Abraham celebrated the weaning of his son Isaac with a great feast.

1. The Joy of Parenthood: Celebrating the Milestones of Life

2. Abraham's Obedience: Celebrating God's Faithfulness

1. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Genesis 21:9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking.

Sarah saw her son, born to Abraham and the Egyptian handmaid, Hagar, mocking.

1. The Danger of Mockery

2. The Blessings of Obedience

1. Galatians 4:30: "But what does the Scripture say? 'Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.'

2. Matthew 7:12: "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Genesis 21:10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.

Sarah asked Abraham to send away Hagar and her son, Ishmael, because Ishmael would not share in the inheritance with Isaac.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Abraham's Faithful Response to God's Commands Brought Blessing

2. The Cost of Disobedience: How Abraham's Unfaithfulness Brought Pain and Conflict

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:21-22 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works.

Genesis 21:11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

Abraham was greatly distressed at the thought of having to send away his son Ishmael.

1. God often calls us to step out in faith, even when it is difficult.

2. God will always provide for us in times of distress.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Genesis 21:12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

God instructs Abraham to obey Sarah's orders and to not be concerned about Ishmael, as Isaac is the one through whom his lineage will continue.

1. The importance of obeying God and honoring His promises.

2. The power of faith and trusting in God's plan.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.

Genesis 21:13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.

God promised to make a nation of Ishmael, the son of the bondwoman, because he was Abraham's seed.

1. God's Promises are True

2. Abraham's Faith in God

1. Romans 4:18-21 - Abraham believed in hope against hope and was made father of many nations, just as God promised.

2. Romans 9:6-13 - Even though Ishmael was the son of the bondwoman, God still made him a great nation because of his promise to Abraham.

Genesis 21:14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

Abraham provided Hagar with bread and a bottle of water, and sent her away into the wilderness of Beersheba.

1. God is always there to provide for us in times of need.

2. Even in the midst of hardship, God will never forsake us.

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Hebrews 13:5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Genesis 21:15 And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

Hagar, finding herself and her son Ishmael in a desperate situation, was forced to leave him under a shrub in the wilderness.

1. In times of difficulty, God will provide a way out.

2. Even in the midst of desperate circumstances, God is faithful and will never leave us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Genesis 21:16 And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bow shot: for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice, and wept.

The mother of Ishmael, Hagar, was so distraught at her son's distress that she sat at a distance so she wouldn't have to witness his death.

1. God's Grace in Times of Distress

2. The Power of a Mother's Love

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 49:15 Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

Genesis 21:17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.

God heard the cries of Ishmael and answered Hagar's prayer.

1: God hears our cries and answers our prayers.

2: Even in our darkest moments, God is there to listen and comfort us.

1: Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

2: Psalm 34:17 "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."

Genesis 21:18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

God promised Abraham he would make Isaac into a great nation.

1: God is faithful to His promises and will provide for His people.

2: We should trust in God and His plans for us.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Romans 4:20-21 - "He did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised."

Genesis 21:19 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink.

God opened Hagar's eyes to see a well of water, providing sustenance for her and her son.

1. God's faithfulness is unwavering and can be relied upon in times of need.

2. God never fails to provide comfort and sustenance to those who trust in Him.

1. Psalm 23:1-3 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

2. Isaiah 41:17-18 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

Genesis 21:20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

Isaac grows up living in the wilderness and becomes an archer.

1. God is with us in times of transition and can bring growth.

2. Pursuing a skill can bring joy and help us to stay connected to God.

1. Gen. 21:20 - "And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer."

2. Rom. 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Genesis 21:21 And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran: and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt.

Abraham's son, Isaac, lived in the wilderness of Paran and his mother found him a wife in Egypt.

1. The Faith of Abraham - How Abraham's trust in God allowed him to follow God's path in life.

2. The Power of Parental Love - How a parent's love and faith can make a difference in the life of their child.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named."

2. Genesis 24:1-4 - Now Abraham was old, well advanced in years. And the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, Put your hand under my thigh, that I may make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell, but will go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac.

Genesis 21:22 And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phichol the chief captain of his host spake unto Abraham, saying, God is with thee in all that thou doest:

Abimelech and Phichol spoke to Abraham, telling him that God is with him in all that he does.

1. God is Always with Us - Exploring how Abraham was reminded of God's presence in his life, and how we can be reminded of God's presence in our own.

2. The Power of God's Promises - Exploring how God's promises of support and guidance are always available to us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Genesis 21:23 Now therefore swear unto me here by God that thou wilt not deal falsely with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son: but according to the kindness that I have done unto thee, thou shalt do unto me, and to the land wherein thou hast sojourned.

Abraham asks Abimelech to swear an oath that he and his descendants will treat Abraham and his descendants with kindness.

1. The Power of Kindness: Examining the Covenant Between Abraham and Abimelech

2. Oaths and Promises: The Significance of Keeping Your Word

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus teaches about the importance of one's word and keeping oaths.

2. James 5:12 - The Bible warns against breaking oaths.

Genesis 21:24 And Abraham said, I will swear.

Abraham promises to swear an oath.

1: God's faithfulness is proven through Abraham's trust in Him.

2: God's faithfulness is seen in His people's commitment to Him.

1: Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

2: James 2:21-23 - "Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.'"

Genesis 21:25 And Abraham reproved Abimelech because of a well of water, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away.

Abraham rebuked Abimelech for having his servants take away a well of water.

1. The Power of Rebuke: The Courage to Speak Truth.

2. Protecting the Resources of Others: An Act of Faith.

1. Matthew 7:1-5 - "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you."

2. Proverbs 25:2 - "It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out."

Genesis 21:26 And Abimelech said, I wot not who hath done this thing: neither didst thou tell me, neither yet heard I of it, but to day.

Abimelech and Abraham reconcile their differences and make a treaty of peace.

1. God is the ultimate peacemaker, and we should strive for peace in our own lives.

2. We should be open to understanding and accepting the perspectives of others.

1. Romans 12:18 "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

2. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

Genesis 21:27 And Abraham took sheep and oxen, and gave them unto Abimelech; and both of them made a covenant.

Abraham and Abimelech made a covenant with one another.

1: God calls us to make covenants with each other to ensure peace and stability.

2: We can learn from the example of Abraham and Abimelech in making covenants with each other.

1: Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2: James 5:12 Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple Yes or No. Otherwise you will be condemned.

Genesis 21:28 And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.

Abraham set aside seven ewe lambs from his flock.

1. "The Power of Setting Apart"

2. "The Significance of Seven"

1. Luke 9:23 - "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

Genesis 21:29 And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What mean these seven ewe lambs which thou hast set by themselves?

Abimelech questions Abraham about why he has set seven ewe lambs aside.

1. The Power of Sacrifice - How Abraham's willingness to give up something precious teaches us about the power of self-giving.

2. The Abundance of God - How God's generosity is revealed in the abundance of Abraham's offering.

1. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

2. 2 Corinthians 8:9 - "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

Genesis 21:30 And he said, For these seven ewe lambs shalt thou take of my hand, that they may be a witness unto me, that I have digged this well.

Abraham offered seven ewe lambs to Abimelech as a witness of his having dug the well.

1. The Generosity of Abraham: Demonstrating God's Blessing through Generosity

2. The Power of Witnesses: Understanding the Role of Witnesses in God's Plan.

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Proverbs 19:5 - A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape.

Genesis 21:31 Wherefore he called that place Beersheba; because there they sware both of them.

Abraham and Abimelech make a peaceful agreement at Beersheba.

1: God is the source of peace in our lives, and when we seek Him, He will bring us peace even in difficult situations.

2: God's promises are trustworthy, and when we keep our end of the bargain, we can trust that He will fulfill His promises.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2: Isaiah 26:3 - "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you."

Genesis 21:32 Thus they made a covenant at Beersheba: then Abimelech rose up, and Phichol the chief captain of his host, and they returned into the land of the Philistines.

Abimelech and Phichol made a covenant at Beersheba and then returned to Philistia.

1. The Power of a Covenant - Genesis 21:32

2. Discerning God's Will in Covenant Relationships - Genesis 21:32

1. Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2. Jeremiah 31:31-33 - The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, declares the Lord. This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Genesis 21:33 And Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba, and called there on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God.

Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba and called on the name of the Lord.

1: A lesson of faith from Abraham: trust in the Lord, the everlasting God.

2: Abraham's example of faith: honoring the Lord through planting a grove.

1: Romans 4:17-22 (And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah s womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.)

2: James 2:20-23 (But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.)

Genesis 21:34 And Abraham sojourned in the Philistines' land many days.

Abraham spent a long time living in the land of the Philistines.

1. The Journey of Faith: Abraham's Example of Resilience and Patience

2. Living for God in Unfamiliar Places: A Look at Abraham's sojourn with the Philistines

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Acts 7:2-4 - And he said, Brethren and fathers, listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, and said to him, Get out of your country and from your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you.

Genesis 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 22:1-8, God tests Abraham's faith by commanding him to take his only son Isaac to the land of Moriah and offer him as a burnt offering on a mountain that He will show him. Early the next morning, Abraham sets out with Isaac and two servants. After traveling for three days, they reach the designated place. Abraham instructs the servants to wait while he and Isaac proceed up the mountain. Isaac questions his father about the absence of a sacrificial animal, to which Abraham responds that God will provide one.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 22:9-14, upon reaching the appointed place on the mountain, Abraham builds an altar and arranges wood on it. He then binds Isaac and places him on top of the wood. As Abraham raises his knife to sacrifice his son, an angel of the Lord calls out from heaven and stops him. The angel commends Abraham's faithfulness and reveals that it was a test from God. At that moment, Abraham notices a ram caught in a thicket nearby provided by God as a substitute for Isaac.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 22:15-24, after passing this profound test of faith, God renews His covenant with Abraham and blesses him abundantly for his obedience. The angel of the Lord reaffirms His promise to multiply Abraham's descendants greatly because he did not withhold his only son from Him. Additionally, God promises that through his offspring all nations will be blessed due to his obedience.

In summary:

Genesis 22 presents:

God testing Abraham's faith by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac;

Abraham's immediate obedience in preparing for this sacrifice;

The journey to Mount Moriah and their arrival at the designated place.

Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac being halted by an angel;

God providing a ram as a substitute for Isaac;

The affirmation of Abraham's faithfulness and the revelation that it was a test.

God renewing His covenant with Abraham and blessing him abundantly;

The promise of multiplying Abraham's descendants greatly;

The assurance that through his offspring, all nations will be blessed.

This chapter showcases the extraordinary faith and obedience of Abraham as he demonstrates his willingness to offer his beloved son Isaac in complete trust in God. It reveals the depth of Abraham's devotion and highlights God's testing of His chosen servant. The provision of a ram as a substitute emphasizes God's mercy and His ultimate plan for redemption. Genesis 22 underscores the significance of obedience and faithfulness in one's relationship with God, while reaffirming His covenant promises to bless and multiply Abraham's descendants.

Genesis 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

God tested Abraham's faith and obedience.

1. A Faith That Obeys: Learning from Abraham's Example

2. The Test of Faith: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

Genesis 22:2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

God commanded Abraham to offer his beloved son Isaac as a burnt offering on a mountain that He would reveal.

1. The Test of Abraham: A Study of Faithful Obedience

2. The Significance of Moriah: Learning from Abraham's Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:21-24 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God.

Genesis 22:3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Abraham rises early in the morning to obey God's command and prepares to offer his son Isaac as a burnt offering.

1. The Power of Obedience - Abraham's example of wholehearted obedience to God.

2. The Rewards of Faith - God's ultimate faithfulness to Abraham despite his hard test.

1. Romans 4:19-21 - Abraham's faith was credited to him for righteousness.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - Abraham's faith was tested and he was willing to offer up Isaac.

Genesis 22:4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

Abraham obeyed God and was willing to sacrifice his son, Isaac, to demonstrate his faith.

1. The Power of Obedience- How Abraham's faithfulness to God showed the power of obedience.

2. The Test of Faith- Examining the challenges of faith that Abraham faced in his life.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19- By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; it was he to whom it was said, IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL BE CALLED. He considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

2. James 2:23- And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS, and he was called the friend of God.

Genesis 22:5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

Abraham instructs his young men to stay with the ass while he and his son go to worship and then come back.

1. Living a Life of Faith: Abraham's Example

2. Learning Obedience from Abraham's Journey

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 (By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.)

2. James 2:21-24 (Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God.)

Genesis 22:6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

Abraham's faith was tested when God asked him to sacrifice his son Isaac. He took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it upon Isaac, taking the fire and a knife with them as they went together.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Obedience to God in Difficult Times

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:22-23 - You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God.

Genesis 22:7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

Abraham is about to sacrifice his son Isaac according to the command of God, when Isaac questions him about the lamb for the offering.

1. The Power of Faith: Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son for God's command.

2. The Power of Questions: Isaac's questioning of God's command to his father.

1. Romans 4:19-21 - "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform."

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - "By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure."

Genesis 22:8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

God will provide for us in our time of need.

1: God is Our Provider - Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2: Abraham's Faith in God's Provision - Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?...

2: Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 22:9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

Abraham obeyed God's command to sacrifice his son Isaac by building an altar and laying him on the wood.

1. Abraham's Unconditional Obedience: A Model of Faith

2. The Power of Faith in the Face of Difficult Choices

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:21-24 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Genesis 22:10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

Abraham was commanded by God to sacrifice his son Isaac, and he obeyed, taking out his knife to do so.

1. Obeying God No Matter What: The Story of Abraham and Isaac

2. Trusting God in the Midst of Difficulty: Abraham's Faithful Sacrifice

1. Romans 4:19-21 - Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son.

Genesis 22:11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

The Angel of the Lord called out to Abraham, who responded "Here I am."

1. Trusting God's Call - How Abraham's Response to the Lord's Call Can Teach Us to Trust in God's Plan

2. The Power of Faith - How Abraham's Response to the Lord's Call Can Teach Us to Trust in God's Power

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:23 - And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God.

Genesis 22:12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

God tested Abraham's faith by asking him to sacrifice his son, Isaac, but God stopped him from doing so when it was clear that Abraham was obedient and willing to do it out of his love and faith in God.

1. When God Tests Our Faith, He Is Testing Our Love and Obedience.

2. Obedience to God Is the Highest Expression of Love.

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commandments.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Genesis 22:13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

Abraham offers a ram in place of his son as a burnt offering.

1. The Power of Obedience - a exploring the ramifications of Abraham's obedience to God's command.

2. The Power of Sacrifice - a examining the self-sacrifice that Abraham was willing to make for God.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.

2. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Genesis 22:14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

Abraham named the place where he had offered up Isaac as 'Jehovahjireh', meaning 'The LORD will provide'.

1. The Lord Will Provide: Trusting in God's Provision.

2. God is Faithful: Learning from Abraham's Test of Faith.

1. Genesis 22:14 - And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

Genesis 22:15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

God tested Abraham's obedience and commitment to Him in his offering of Isaac, and Abraham passed the test.

1. Obedience to God - A Necessary Virtue

2. The Strength of Abraham's Faith

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son

2. James 2:21-24 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

Genesis 22:16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

God tested Abraham's faith and he passed the test by being willing to sacrifice his son Isaac.

1: God often tests our faith, and it is our duty to remain faithful no matter the cost.

2: Abraham's faith in God was remarkable, and it is inspiring to strive to be like him in our own faith.

1: Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Genesis 22:17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

God promises Abraham that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand on the sea shore, and that they will defeat their enemies.

1. The Power of God's Promises - Using Abraham's story to illustrate how God's promises are reliable and powerful.

2. Abraham's Faith - Examining the faith Abraham had to trust in God's promise.

1. Romans 4:17-21 - Explaining how Abraham was justified by faith.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - Exploring Abraham's faith and willingness to obey God's command.

Genesis 22:18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

God promises Abraham that all nations will be blessed through his seed.

1. Obeying God's Voice: The Blessing of Obedience

2. The Blessing of Abraham: A Promise of Blessing for All Nations

1. Matthew 7:21-23: Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

2. Galatians 3:7-9: Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, In you shall all the nations be blessed.

Genesis 22:19 So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

Abraham and his servants returned to Beersheba and Abraham settled there.

1. The Faithfulness of Abraham: How his obedience to God led to great blessings

2. Following in Abraham s Footsteps: How we can seek God s will in our lives

1. Genesis 22:1-19 Abraham s willingness to sacrifice Isaac

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 Abraham s faith in God s promises

Genesis 22:20 And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, Behold, Milcah, she hath also born children unto thy brother Nahor;

Abraham s extended family was extended even more when it was discovered that his brother Nahor had born children through Milcah.

1: God works in mysterious ways. Even when we think our family is complete, God will bring more people into our lives.

2: God s plan for us is greater than our own. We must always be willing to accept his blessings and gifts into our lives.

1: Galatians 6:9-10 "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

2: Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 22:21 Huz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram,

Abraham obeyed God and offered up his son Isaac as a sacrifice.

1. Obeying God Is Always Worth It

2. The Power of Faith in God

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. James 2:21-24 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Genesis 22:22 And Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel.

These are the sons of Bethuel.

This passage from the Bible talks about the five sons of Bethuel - Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel.

1: How the generations of God's people are blessed and preserved.

2: The importance of honoring and respecting our ancestors.

1: Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2: Matthew 10:37 - He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

Genesis 22:23 And Bethuel begat Rebekah: these eight Milcah did bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

God's faithfulness in preserving the lineage of Abraham through Nahor and his children.

1: God is faithful, and He will keep His promises.

2: God is faithful to His covenant, and will ensure His people are blessed.

1: Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2: Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Genesis 22:24 And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, she bare also Tebah, and Gaham, and Thahash, and Maachah.

God's faithfulness to Abraham was seen through the numerous descendants he had.

1: God is always faithful to His promises and will bless us with more than we can imagine.

2: Trust in God and His promises and He will provide abundantly.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 23:1-9, Sarah, the wife of Abraham, dies at the age of 127 in Hebron. Abraham mourns her death and seeks to acquire a burial place for her. He approaches the Hittites, the local people of the land, and requests a plot of land to bury his wife. The Hittites respond respectfully to Abraham's request and offer him his choice of burial sites among their own tombs.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 23:10-16, Abraham insists on purchasing a specific field known as the cave of Machpelah from Ephron the Hittite. Ephron initially offers to give it to Abraham as a gift, but Abraham insists on paying its full price. The negotiation process takes place publicly before witnesses who confirm the transaction's legitimacy. Eventually, Abraham acquires ownership of the field and cave for four hundred shekels of silver.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 23:17-20, after securing Sarah's burial site at Machpelah, Abraham buries her there with reverence and respect. The cave becomes a permanent possession for him and his descendants a family tomb that will serve future generations. This chapter concludes by mentioning that this field is located near Mamre in Hebron.

In summary:

Genesis 23 presents:

The death of Sarah and Abraham's mourning;

Abraham's desire to acquire a burial place for his wife;

His interaction with the Hittites who offer him their tombs.

Abraham's insistence on purchasing the cave of Machpelah from Ephron;

The negotiation process before witnesses;

Abraham acquiring ownership by paying four hundred shekels of silver.

Sarah's burial in Machpelah with reverence;

The establishment of this site as a permanent family tomb for future generations;

The mention that it is located near Mamre in Hebron.

This chapter highlights the significance of Sarah's death and Abraham's desire to honor her by securing a proper burial place. It portrays Abraham's interactions with the Hittites, showcasing their respectful response to his request. The negotiation process demonstrates Abraham's integrity as he insists on paying the full price for the field and cave of Machpelah. The chapter emphasizes the importance of ancestral burial customs and establishes this site as a significant family tomb for Abraham and his descendants. Genesis 23 provides insight into ancient customs surrounding death, mourning, and land ownership while underscoring the faithfulness of God's promises to future generations.

Genesis 23:1 And Sarah was an hundred and seven and twenty years old: these were the years of the life of Sarah.

Sarah died at the age of 127.

1. God's Perfect Timing: The Life of Sarah

2. Honoring the Memory of Loved Ones: Remembering Sarah

1. Psalm 90:10 "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:1 "A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one's birth."

Genesis 23:2 And Sarah died in Kirjatharba; the same is Hebron in the land of Canaan: and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her.

Sarah's death in Hebron is a reminder of the brevity of life and to live life to the fullest.

1. "Life is Fleeting: Living Each Day to Its Fullest"

2. "Grief and Mourning in the Face of Death"

1. Ecclesiastes 7:2 - "It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart."

2. James 4:14 - "Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."

Genesis 23:3 And Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spake unto the sons of Heth, saying,

Abraham spoke to the sons of Heth and stood up from before his dead.

1. The Power of Speaking Up - Genesis 23:3

2. The Importance of Respect - Genesis 23:3

1. James 1:19 - Be quick to listen, slow to speak

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue

Genesis 23:4 I am a stranger and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.

Abraham requests a burial site from the Hittites to bury his wife Sarah.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and the legacy they leave behind.

2. Recognizing when it s time to let go and move on.

1. Psalm 39:12 - "Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were."

2. Hebrews 11:13-16 - "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city."

Genesis 23:5 And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying unto him,

Abraham negotiates with the Hittites for a place to bury his wife Sarah.

1: We can learn from Abraham to show honor and respect for the dead, regardless of culture or background.

2: God guides us through our darkest times, and even in death, He provides comfort and peace.

1: Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces.

2: Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Genesis 23:6 Hear us, my lord: thou art a mighty prince among us: in the choice of our sepulchres bury thy dead; none of us shall withhold from thee his sepulchre, but that thou mayest bury thy dead.

The people of the city were willing to offer Abraham a place to bury his dead without any cost.

1. God's people are willing to serve others, even at their own cost.

2. Be generous and willing to offer help to those in need.

1. Romans 12:13 - "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

2. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Genesis 23:7 And Abraham stood up, and bowed himself to the people of the land, even to the children of Heth.

Abraham bowed himself to the people of Heth as a sign of respect.

1. The Power of Humility: Lessons from Abraham in Genesis 23:7

2. The Importance of Respect: A Study of Abraham in Genesis 23:7

1. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

2. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Genesis 23:8 And he communed with them, saying, If it be your mind that I should bury my dead out of my sight; hear me, and intreat for me to Ephron the son of Zohar,

The passage describes Abraham's request to Ephron the son of Zohar to purchase a burial site for his deceased wife.

1. The importance of honoring the dead and finding comfort in times of grief.

2. The power of humility and respect when asking for help.

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

2. James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Genesis 23:9 That he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he hath, which is in the end of his field; for as much money as it is worth he shall give it me for a possession of a buryingplace amongst you.

Abraham requests Ephron to purchase the cave of Machpelah, which is located at the end of his field, as a burial place for his family.

1. The importance of having a designated burial place for our loved ones.

2. The value of providing proper burial arrangements for our deceased.

1. Ecclesiastes 6:3 - If a man beget an hundred children, and live many years, so that the days of his years be many, and his soul be not filled with good, and also that he have no burial; I say, that an untimely birth is better than he.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:20 - But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

Genesis 23:10 And Ephron dwelt among the children of Heth: and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the audience of the children of Heth, even of all that went in at the gate of his city, saying,

Ephron dwelled among the Hittite people, and he answered Abraham in front of all the people that were in the city gate.

1. Following God's Will, Even In Unfamiliar Places - Genesis 23:10

2. Faithful Obedience To What God Has Called Us To Do - Genesis 23:10

1. Hebrews 13:14 - For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Genesis 23:11 Nay, my lord, hear me: the field give I thee, and the cave that is therein, I give it thee; in the presence of the sons of my people give I it thee: bury thy dead.

The passage tells of Abraham offering a burial place to the Hittites for his deceased wife Sarah.

1. God is a God of grace and mercy, even to those who are not his own.

2. Abraham's generosity and hospitality serves as a reminder of how we should treat others.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

2. Luke 6:35 - "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil."

Genesis 23:12 And Abraham bowed down himself before the people of the land.

Abraham showed respect to the people of the land by bowing down before them.

1. The Power of Respect: Learning from Abraham

2. Showing Humility: An Example from Genesis

1. Proverbs 3:34 - "He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed."

2. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Genesis 23:13 And he spake unto Ephron in the audience of the people of the land, saying, But if thou wilt give it, I pray thee, hear me: I will give thee money for the field; take it of me, and I will bury my dead there.

Ephron offers to sell a field to Abraham so that he may bury his dead.

1. The importance of finding peace in honoring the dead.

2. The importance of establishing relationships through negotiation and compromise.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;"

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

Genesis 23:14 And Ephron answered Abraham, saying unto him,

Abraham and Ephron negotiate the purchase of a burial place.

1. The Power of Negotiation: Learning from Abraham and Ephron

2. The Sanctity of Burial: Reflections from Genesis 23:14

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. Proverbs 25:11 - A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

Genesis 23:15 My lord, hearken unto me: the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver; what is that betwixt me and thee? bury therefore thy dead.

Sarah encourages Abraham to purchase the land in order to bury his dead.

1: Life is short and the afterlife is eternal- make sure to plan for eternity by taking care of earthly matters in a timely manner.

2: God provides us with resources to carry out His will- use them to honor Him and those who have gone before us.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children, but the sinner s wealth is laid up for the righteous.

Genesis 23:16 And Abraham hearkened unto Ephron; and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant.

Abraham listens to Ephron and pays him four hundred shekels of silver for the field.

1. God's Will is Perfectly Fulfilled: Abraham's Obedience in Genesis 23

2. Abraham's Sacrifice: An Example of Faithful Obedience

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Genesis 23:17 And the field of Ephron, which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field, and the cave which was therein, and all the trees that were in the field, that were in all the borders round about, were made sure

The field of Ephron was bought and made secure by Abraham.

1: We can trust in the Lord to provide and secure our needs.

2: We can rely on the Lord to take care of us, even in difficult times.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: 1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Genesis 23:18 Unto Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all that went in at the gate of his city.

Abraham purchases a burial plot from the Hittites.

1: We must demonstrate respect for one another, even in times of sorrow, just as Abraham did with the Hittites.

2: We must be willing to surrender our possessions to the Lord, as Abraham did for his wife Sarah's burial plot.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Ecclesiastes 5:15 As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return, to go as he came; and he shall take nothing from his labor which he may carry away in his hand.

Genesis 23:19 And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre: the same is Hebron in the land of Canaan.

Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the cave of Machpelah in Hebron, in the land of Canaan.

1. The Love of Abraham for Sarah

2. The Sacredness of Death and Burial

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

2. Matthew 22:22-24 - When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left him, and went their way. The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him, saying: "Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.

Genesis 23:20 And the field, and the cave that is therein, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession of a buryingplace by the sons of Heth.

Abraham purchased a burial plot in the land of the Hittites.

1. The Value of a Burial Plot: A Reflection on Abraham's Purchase in Genesis 23:20

2. A Call to Remember and Honor Our Loved Ones: Reflections on Genesis 23:20

1. Psalm 16:10-11 (For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.)

2. Isaiah 25:8 (He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.)

Genesis 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 24:1-9, Abraham, now advanced in age, commissions his oldest servant to find a wife for his son Isaac from among his relatives in Mesopotamia. The servant is instructed not to take a wife for Isaac from the Canaanites but rather from Abraham's country and kindred. Concerned about the possibility of Isaac leaving the land of promise, Abraham makes the servant swear an oath to fulfill this task faithfully. The servant departs with ten camels loaded with valuable gifts and arrives at Nahor's city near a well outside the town.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 24:10-27, the servant prays to God for guidance at the well and devises a test to identify a suitable wife for Isaac. He asks God that when he requests water from a young woman and she responds by offering water not only to him but also to his camels, it will be a sign of her being chosen by God. Rebekah, who is Nahor's granddaughter, arrives at the well and fulfills all aspects of the servant's prayerful request. The servant blesses God for His guidance and provision.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 24:28-67, Rebekah invites the servant into her family home where he recounts his mission and introduces himself as Abraham's servant. Rebekah's brother Laban recognizes that this is indeed an act of divine providence and welcomes him warmly. After hearing about their encounter at the well, Laban agrees to let Rebekah marry Isaac according to God's plan. The next day, as they prepare to depart back to Canaan with Rebekah, her family blesses her and sends her off with their well wishes.

In summary:

Genesis 24 presents:

Abraham commissioning his trusted servant to find a wife for Isaac;

The servant's oath and departure with valuable gifts;

His prayer for guidance and the test at the well.

Rebekah fulfilling the servant's test by offering water to him and his camels;

The servant recognizing God's guidance and blessing Him;

Rebekah being identified as the chosen wife for Isaac.

The servant recounting his mission to Rebekah's family;

Laban acknowledging God's providence in their encounter;

Rebekah's family consenting to her marriage with Isaac, blessing her, and sending her off.

This chapter highlights Abraham's commitment to finding a suitable wife for Isaac within his own kindred rather than among the Canaanites. It showcases God's providential guidance through answered prayers and specific signs. The narrative emphasizes Rebekah as the chosen bride, known for her kindness at the well. It also portrays Laban as a discerning individual who recognizes divine intervention in their meeting. Genesis 24 underscores the importance of seeking God's direction in matters of marriage while highlighting His faithfulness in orchestrating significant events according to His plan.

Genesis 24:1 And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.

Abraham was old and blessed by the Lord in all of his ways.

1. God's Blessing in Old Age - How to make the most of our later years when God has blessed us.

2. Trusting in the Lord - Relying on God to provide for us despite our age.

1. Psalm 91:16 - "With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

Genesis 24:2 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh:

Abraham instructs his eldest servant to put his hand under his thigh.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. Putting Our Faith in God

1. Matthew 17:20 - And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

2. 1 John 5:14 - And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

Genesis 24:3 And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell:

Abraham commands his servant to not take a wife for his son from the Canaanites.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commands

2. Marriage and the Will of God

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Titus 2:3-5 - Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

Genesis 24:4 But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

Abraham instructs his servant to find a wife for his son Isaac in his homeland.

1. Faithful Obedience: The Example of Abraham and His Servant

2. Responding to the Call of God: How Abraham's Faith Led Him to Act

1. Romans 4:18-20 - Abraham believed God, trusting in His promise and believing against all hope.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. He had received the promises, but was ready to offer up his only son.

Genesis 24:5 And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest?

The servant of Abraham asked if he must bring Isaac back to the land he had come from if the woman chosen did not wish to follow him.

1. The Trust We Place in God: Examining Abraham's Faithful Obedience

2. Overcoming Fear: The Courage of Abraham's Servant

1. Romans 4:19-21 - And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about 100 years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 24:6 And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again.

Abraham warned his servant to not bring his son back to the place of his birth.

1: God calls us to leave our past behind us and follow Him.

2: We must rely on God's guidance for our future.

1: Matthew 19:29 "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name s sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life."

2: Joshua 24:15 "Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Genesis 24:7 The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.

This passage speaks of God's promise to send an angel to guide Abraham's servant in finding a wife for Isaac from his own kindred.

1. Trusting in God's Promises: Learning to Lean on the Lord in Uncertain Times

2. Embracing God's Plan: Discovering the Blessings of Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Genesis 24:8 And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath: only bring not my son thither again.

Abraham's servant is tasked with finding a wife for his son, Isaac. If the woman is not willing to follow him, then Abraham's servant is released from his oath.

1. The Power of an Oath: How God Uses Covenants to Guide Us

2. The Faithfulness of Abraham: How We Can Follow His Example

1. Isaiah 24:5 - "The earth is defiled by its people; they have disobeyed the laws, violated the statutes and broken the everlasting covenant."

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."

Genesis 24:9 And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter.

The servant of Abraham swore an oath to his master.

1. The Value of Oaths and Commitments

2. God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises

1. Hebrews 6:16-18 - For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

Genesis 24:10 And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

The servant took the goods of his master and traveled to Mesopotamia to find a bride for Isaac.

1. The Faithfulness of Servants: A Study of Abraham's Servant in Genesis 24.

2. The Power of Obedience: A Reflection on Abraham's Servant in Genesis 24.

1. Genesis 24:10 (NIV): The servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV): "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

Genesis 24:11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water.

Abraham's servant stopped his camels outside of the city of Nahor at a well of water in the evening when the women went out to draw water.

1. The Power of Obedience - Using Abraham's servant as an example of how obedience to God's will can bring blessings and success.

2. Serving God Faithfully - Learning how to faithfully serve God even in small, seemingly insignificant tasks.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Ephesians 6:6-7 - Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men.

Genesis 24:12 And he said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.

Abraham's servant prays to God for guidance and help in his mission.

1. God always shows kindness to those who seek Him.

2. Pray to God for guidance in all your endeavors.

1. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Isaiah 30:21, "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."

Genesis 24:13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water:

The narrator stands by a well and observes the daughters of the men of the city coming out to draw water.

1: God has provided a way for us to receive what we need.

2: We must be ever vigilant in looking to God for our sustenance.

1: John 4:14 - "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

2: Psalm 23:1-2 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters."

Genesis 24:14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master.

Abraham's servant is searching for a wife for his master's son, Isaac, and he prays that God will lead him to the right woman by providing a sign.

1. The Power of Prayer - How God Answers Our Prayers in Unexpected Ways

2. Seeking God's Will - How We Can Better Understand God's Plan for Our Lives

1. James 1:5-7 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

2. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

Genesis 24:15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel and Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out while Abraham's servant was still speaking.

1. God's Faithfulness in Unexpected Ways

2. The Power of Intercessory Prayer

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Genesis 24:16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

The damsel was beautiful and pure, having never been known by any man. She went to the well and filled her pitcher.

1. The Beauty of Purity: Celebrating a Life of Virginity

2. The Power of Obedience: Submitting to God's Will

1. 1 Corinthians 7:34 and 35 - And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband.

2. Ephesians 5:25-27 - Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

Genesis 24:17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher.

The servant asked Rebekah for a drink of water.

1: God provides us with hope and refreshment when we are weary.

2: God will provide us with the resources we need when we ask.

1: John 4:14 - But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

2: Isaiah 41:17-18 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

Genesis 24:18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hasted, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink.

The servant of Abraham was provided with drink.

1: God provides for our every need.

2: Abraham's servant was an example of faith and obedience.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Genesis 22:18 - And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because you have obeyed My voice.

Genesis 24:19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking.

Rebekah showed hospitality to Abraham's servant by offering to draw water for his camels after offering him a drink.

1. The power of hospitality in welcoming strangers.

2. The importance of taking care of the needs of others.

1. Romans 12:13: "Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

2. Colossians 4:5-6: "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

Genesis 24:20 And she hasted, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.

Rebekah went to a well to draw water and filled her pitcher for Abraham's camels.

1. The Power of a Humble Heart: Exploring the Example of Rebekah

2. Living a Life of Sacrifice: Learning from Rebekah

1. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. Matthew 25:40 And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

Genesis 24:21 And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.

The man was amazed by seeing the woman and was praying to God to make his journey successful.

1. Praying for Success: How God Can Help Us Reach Our Goals

2. The Power of Godly Wonders: Experiencing God's Miracles

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Isaiah 55:6 - "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near."

Genesis 24:22 And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold;

Abraham's servant gave Rebekah a golden earring and two bracelets of gold as a token of his master's love.

1. The Power of Kindness: How Abraham's Servant Showed Love to Rebekah

2. The Value of Generosity: The Significance of the Gold Gifts to Rebekah

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Genesis 24:23 And said, Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?

Abraham's servant asks Rebekah if there is room in her father's house for him to lodge.

1. Hospitality: Welcoming the Stranger

2. Faithfulness: Being Prepared to Answer Questions

1. Matthew 25:35-36 - For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Genesis 24:24 And she said unto him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor.

Rebekah is the daughter of Bethuel, the son of Milcah.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises, as seen through the story of Rebekah.

2. The importance of family relationships, as seen through the story of Rebekah.

1. Genesis 24:15 - And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother.

2. Genesis 22:23 - And Bethuel begat Rebekah: these eight Milcah did bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

Genesis 24:25 She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.

Rebekah offered Abraham's servant food and lodging for the night.

1. God's Providence: How God Uses People to Provide for Our Needs

2. The Power of Hospitality: How We Can Show Love and Care to Strangers

1. Matthew 10:42; And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.

2. Romans 12:13; Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Genesis 24:26 And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD.

The man in Genesis 24:26 humbly bowed down and worshipped the LORD.

1: Humility Leads to Worship

2: Worshipping the LORD in Humility

1: James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

2: Psalm 95:6 - "O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!"

Genesis 24:27 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren.

The Lord led Abraham's servant to the house of his master's relatives through his mercy and truth.

1. "The Lord's Faithfulness and Provision"

2. "Trusting God in Every Step"

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Genesis 24:28 And the damsel ran, and told them of her mother's house these things.

A young woman ran to tell her family the good news that she had found a suitable bridegroom for her.

1. God's timing is perfect - Genesis 24:14

2. The importance of living a life of integrity - Genesis 24:1-5

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

6. Philippians 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

Genesis 24:29 And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban: and Laban ran out unto the man, unto the well.

Rebekah had a brother, Laban, who ran out to the man at the well when he arrived.

1. The importance of family and how God uses them in our lives.

2. Being hospitable to strangers as Laban was to the man at the well.

1. 1 John 4:7-8 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

2. Romans 12:13 "Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality."

Genesis 24:30 And it came to pass, when he saw the earring and bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, Thus spake the man unto me; that he came unto the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the well.

Rebekah's brother, upon seeing the gifts of earrings and bracelets given to her by a man, went to meet him by the well.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Small Gifts Make a Big Difference

2. The Art of Listening: How Following the Words of Others Can Lead to Miracles

1. Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

2. Proverbs 18:13 He who answers a matter before he hears it, It is folly and shame to him.

Genesis 24:31 And he said, Come in, thou blessed of the LORD; wherefore standest thou without? for I have prepared the house, and room for the camels.

Abraham's servant is welcomed into Rebekah's home and offered shelter for his camels.

1. God's Blessings: Recognizing and Accepting the Blessings We Receive

2. Trusting God's Plans: Understanding His Provision for Our Lives

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Genesis 24:32 And the man came into the house: and he ungirded his camels, and gave straw and provender for the camels, and water to wash his feet, and the men's feet that were with him.

Abraham's servant arrived at a well and met Rebecca, who welcomed him and provided straw and food for his camels and water for him and his men to wash their feet.

1. The Hospitality of Rebecca: Showing Compassion to Strangers

2. Drawing Strength From Abraham: Living Out the Faith of Our Fathers

1. Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going."

Genesis 24:33 And there was set meat before him to eat: but he said, I will not eat, until I have told mine errand. And he said, Speak on.

Abraham's servant demonstrates faith and obedience by following his master's instructions before partaking in food.

1. The importance of faith and obedience in our daily lives.

2. How to live by the example of Abraham's servant.

1. Luke 9:23-25 - And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Genesis 24:34 And he said, I am Abraham's servant.

Abraham's servant expresses his identity.

1. We are all servants of God.

2. Our identity is found in God.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

Genesis 24:35 And the LORD hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great: and he hath given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and asses.

The Lord has greatly blessed Abraham, providing him with wealth and servants.

1: We should be thankful for the blessings the Lord has provided us.

2: We should strive to use our blessings to further the Lord's work.

1: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2: 1 Chronicles 29:14 - But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

Genesis 24:36 And Sarah my master's wife bare a son to my master when she was old: and unto him hath he given all that he hath.

Sarah, Abraham's wife, gave birth to their son, Isaac, in her old age, and Abraham gave him everything he had.

1. The Power of Faith and Obedience: Becoming a Parent in Old Age

2. The Blessing of Generosity: Abraham's Gift to Isaac

1. Romans 4:18-21 (And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah s womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;)

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 (Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.)

Genesis 24:37 And my master made me swear, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife to my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell:

Abraham's servant was commanded not to take a wife for Isaac from among the Canaanites in the land.

1. Obeying God's Commands brings Blessings

2. Choosing Wisely: The importance of Discernment

1. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2. Philippians 4:5 - Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Genesis 24:38 But thou shalt go unto my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son.

Abraham instructs his servant to go to his father's house and family to find a wife for his son Isaac.

1. The importance of family in God's plan.

2. The power of faith in finding God's will.

1. Genesis 24:38

2. Matthew 19:5-6 - "and said, For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh ? So they are no longer two, but one flesh."

Genesis 24:39 And I said unto my master, Peradventure the woman will not follow me.

Abraham's servant expressed concern to Abraham about whether the woman he had chosen for Isaac would be willing to follow him.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Plan - How Abraham's servant was able to trust in God's plan despite his doubts.

2. Listening to Godly Counsel - How Abraham's servant was wise to seek out his master's opinion.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

Genesis 24:40 And he said unto me, The LORD, before whom I walk, will send his angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take a wife for my son of my kindred, and of my father's house:

Abraham entrusts his servant to find a wife for his son, Isaac, from his own family.

1. The power of trust in God and His promises

2. The importance of family and tradition

1. Isaiah 30:21 - And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Genesis 24:41 Then shalt thou be clear from this my oath, when thou comest to my kindred; and if they give not thee one, thou shalt be clear from my oath.

Abraham's servant went to find a wife for Abraham's son, Isaac, and made an oath to God that if the family he was visiting did not give him a wife for Isaac, he would be released from his oath.

1. God honors those who are faithful to Him and His commands.

2. God will always provide a way out of our trials and tribulations.

1. James 1:12 - "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 24:42 And I came this day unto the well, and said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, if now thou do prosper my way which I go:

Isaac's servant has traveled to find a wife for Isaac and on his journey he prays to God for success.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Relying on His Promises in Difficult Times

2. Praying with Purpose: Seeking God's Will on the Journey of Life

1. Genesis 24:42 - And I came this day unto the well, and said, O LORD God of my master Abraham, if now thou do prosper my way which I go:

2. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Genesis 24:43 Behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass, that when the virgin cometh forth to draw water, and I say to her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher to drink;

Isaac's servant is waiting at the well for a young woman to come and draw water, so he can request a drink from her.

1. God provides us with the help we need when we are seeking guidance.

2. We should show kindness and hospitality to those we meet, as Abraham's servant did.

1. Genesis 24:43

2. Luke 10:25-37 (The Parable of the Good Samaritan)

Genesis 24:44 And she say to me, Both drink thou, and I will also draw for thy camels: let the same be the woman whom the LORD hath appointed out for my master's son.

Rebekah offers to help Abraham's servant by providing water for his camels and himself and suggests that she is the woman God has chosen for Isaac.

1. The Power of Generosity - How offering help to others can lead to blessing.

2. Faithful Obedience - How following God's will can lead to unexpected joys.

1. Galatians 6:7-10 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2. Matthew 7:12 - So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Genesis 24:45 And before I had done speaking in mine heart, behold, Rebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down unto the well, and drew water: and I said unto her, Let me drink, I pray thee.

Abraham's servant meets Rebekah at a well and asks her for a drink.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Abraham's Prayer Was Answered

2. Living a Life of Service: How Rebekah Showed Compassion

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Genesis 24:46 And she made haste, and let down her pitcher from her shoulder, and said, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: so I drank, and she made the camels drink also.

A woman offers a traveler a drink from her pitcher and water for his camels.

1. Good Deeds: The Power of Kindness in Action

2. Hospitality: Welcoming the Stranger

1. Matthew 25:35, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink"

2. Luke 10:25-37, Parable of the Good Samaritan

Genesis 24:47 And I asked her, and said, Whose daughter art thou? And she said, The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bare unto him: and I put the earring upon her face, and the bracelets upon her hands.

Rebekah reveals her parentage to Abraham's servant and he gives her gifts of jewelry.

1. The Power of a Good Name: How God Uses Our Genealogy to Bless Us

2. The Value of Generosity: Giving as an Expression of Faith

1. Romans 4:13-14 - For the promise to Abraham and his seed, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect.

2. Galatians 3:16-18 - Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

18 For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

Genesis 24:48 And I bowed down my head, and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD God of my master Abraham, which had led me in the right way to take my master's brother's daughter unto his son.

This passage from Genesis describes the moment when Abraham's servant bows down and worships the Lord for leading him to the right path to fulfill Abraham's wish.

1. God will always direct us in the right way if we trust and obey Him.

2. God is worthy of our worship and praise for the good He brings into our lives.

1. Psalm 18:30 - As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Genesis 24:49 And now if ye will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me: and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand, or to the left.

Abraham's servant seeks to know if Laban and Bethuel will accept the proposal of marriage for Isaac.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the way He provides for us even when we least expect it.

2. We must always be willing to trust in God's will, no matter what the outcome.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 24:50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, The thing proceedeth from the LORD: we cannot speak unto thee bad or good.

Laban and Bethuel acknowledge that the Lord is in control of the situation.

1: God is always in control, even in the most difficult moments.

2: We must trust God's plan for our lives even when we cannot understand it.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 24:51 Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the LORD hath spoken.

Rebekah was chosen by God to be Isaac s wife.

1. God's sovereignty in the lives of his people

2. The power of God's promises

1. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

2. Isaiah 46:10-11 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

Genesis 24:52 And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth.

The servant of Abraham worshipped the Lord upon hearing the words of the people.

1. Worship the Lord in all circumstances.

2. Demonstrate your faith through your actions.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Genesis 24:53 And the servant brought forth jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment, and gave them to Rebekah: he gave also to her brother and to her mother precious things.

The servant of Abraham gave gifts of gold, silver, and clothing to Rebekah, her brother, and her mother.

1. Generosity: The Power of Giving (Luke 6:38)

2. Sacrifice: Doing What's Right in the Eyes of the Lord (Genesis 22:2-3)

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

2. Genesis 22:2-3 - "He said, Take your son, your only son, whom you love Isaac and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.

Genesis 24:54 And they did eat and drink, he and the men that were with him, and tarried all night; and they rose up in the morning, and he said, Send me away unto my master.

Abraham's servant visits the family of Rebekah to ask her to marry Isaac; they accept and celebrate with a meal.

1. The Power of Abraham's Faith in God's Plan

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Will

1. Hebrews 11:8-12 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;

10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Romans 8:28- And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Genesis 24:55 And her brother and her mother said, Let the damsel abide with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go.

Rebekah's brother and mother agree to let her stay with them for at least ten days before she sets off on her journey.

1. "God's Timing: Embracing Patience in the Waiting"

2. "The Power of Relationships: Blessing Through Family"

1. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!"

2. Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Genesis 24:56 And he said unto them, Hinder me not, seeing the LORD hath prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master.

Abraham's servant asked his relatives not to hinder his journey, as the Lord had prospered him.

1. "Living as a Blessing in the Lord's Prosperity"

2. "God's Pathway to Success"

1. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

2. "Commit your way to the Lord; trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5).

Genesis 24:57 And they said, We will call the damsel, and enquire at her mouth.

The family of Abraham's servant asked Rebekah's family if they could speak to her to ask her opinion.

1. God desires that we seek wise counsel before making decisions.

2. The importance of listening to the voice of the younger generation.

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Genesis 24:58 And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

Rebekah's selfless commitment to the Lord's will.

1. Taking the Step of Faith - Rebekah's commitment to serve the Lord despite the unknown.

2. Making a Sacrifice for God's Plan - Rebekah's willingness to leave her family for the Lord's mission.

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

2. 1 Samuel 3:4-9 - The Lord calls Samuel to minister to Him in the temple.

Genesis 24:59 And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men.

Abraham's servant and his men sent away Rebekah, Abraham's niece, and her nurse.

1. The Value of Obedience: Abraham's servant obeyed Abraham and sent away Rebekah as Abraham had commanded.

2. The Power of Family: Abraham sent away his niece with love and kindness, showing the power of family.

1. Genesis 24:10 - And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

2. Genesis 24:58 - And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

Genesis 24:60 And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.

Rebekah was blessed and told that her descendants would be numerous and possess their enemies.

1. The Power of Blessing: How God is Able to Multiply Our Gifts

2. Overcoming Adversity: How God Can Help Us Triumph Over Our Enemies

1. Genesis 22:17 - "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore"

2. Luke 18:27 - Jesus said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

Genesis 24:61 And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man: and the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Rebekah and her maids followed the man on camels and the servant took Rebekah away with him.

1. Growing in Faith: Learning to Follow God's Will, Even When It's Not Clear

2. God's Providential Care: Relying on God's Plan, Even in Difficult Situations

1. Genesis 24:61 - And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man: and the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Genesis 24:62 And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahairoi; for he dwelt in the south country.

Isaac returned from the well of Lahairoi and settled in the southern part of the land.

1. The Journey of Faith: Isaac's Return to the Promised Land

2. Finding Comfort in Unexpected Places: Isaac's Resilience in the South Country

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.

2. Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said to Abram: Get out of your country, from your family and from your father s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

Genesis 24:63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming.

Isaac saw the camels of his future bride, Rebekah, arriving.

1. The Power of Patience: Waiting on God's Perfect Timing

2. Seeing Beyond the Obvious: Recognizing God's Provision

1. Hebrews 11:10-12, "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable."

2. Psalm 27:14, "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD."

Genesis 24:64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel.

Rebekah meets Isaac and is filled with joy.

1. Finding Joy in Unexpected Places

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Timing

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Acts 16:25-26 - And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

Genesis 24:65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself.

Rebecca was so taken with Isaac that she covered herself with a veil.

1. The Power of Love: How Rebecca's Love for Isaac Transformed Her

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Rebecca's Obedience Brought Her Joy

1. Song of Solomon 2:10-13 - My beloved speaks and says to me: Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away, for behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

2. Proverbs 31:25 - Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

Genesis 24:66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.

The servant reported to Isaac about all the things he had done.

1: God's faithfulness is evident in all of our lives.

2: We can depend on God to provide for us even in the most difficult times.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Genesis 24:67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Isaac brings Rebekah into his mother Sarah's tent and they are married. Isaac is comforted by Rebekah after Sarah's death.

1. A Comforting Love: Rebekah and Isaac's Story of Faith

2. Finding Joy in the Midst of Loss: A Lesson from Isaac and Rebekah

1. 1 Corinthians 13:7-8 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

2. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Genesis 25 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 25:1-11, the chapter begins by introducing Abraham's second wife, Keturah. After Sarah's death, Abraham takes Keturah as his wife and they have several sons. However, Abraham leaves all his possessions to Isaac and gives gifts to his other sons before sending them away to the east while he is still alive. The narrative then shifts focus to the details of Abraham's death at a ripe old age. He is buried in the cave of Machpelah alongside Sarah.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 25:12-18, the descendants of Ishmael are listed. Ishmael has twelve sons who become tribal leaders with their own settlements and territories. These twelve tribes settle from Havilah to Shur, which is east of Egypt toward Assyria. The chapter highlights Ishmael's lifespan and genealogy, tracing his lineage through various generations.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 25:19-34, attention turns to Isaac and Rebekah. Despite being married for twenty years without children due to Rebekah's barrenness, Isaac prays fervently for her fertility. God answers their prayers by enabling Rebekah to conceive twins who struggle within her womb. Seeking an explanation from God regarding this conflict within her pregnancy, Rebekah receives a divine revelation that she carries two nations within her one stronger than the other and that the older will serve the younger.

In summary:

Genesis 25 presents:

Abraham taking Keturah as his wife after Sarah's death;

The birth of several sons through Keturah;

Abraham leaving all possessions to Isaac and giving gifts before sending away his other sons;

Abraham's death and burial alongside Sarah.

The listing of Ishmael's twelve sons who become tribal leaders;

Their settlements stretching from Havilah to Shur;

The tracing of Ishmael's lineage through various generations.

Isaac and Rebekah's twenty-year barrenness and Isaac's prayer for fertility;

Rebekah conceiving twins who struggle within her womb;

Rebekah receiving a divine revelation that she carries two nations within her one stronger than the other, with the older serving the younger.

This chapter marks a transition from Abraham's narrative to that of his descendants. It highlights the continuation of God's promises through Isaac, despite initial challenges in his marriage. The genealogy of Ishmael demonstrates the fulfillment of God's promise to make him into a great nation. The revelation about Rebekah's twins foreshadows future conflicts and reveals God's sovereign choice regarding their destinies. Genesis 25 emphasizes the passing of generations and sets the stage for subsequent events in the unfolding story of Israel.

Genesis 25:1 Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah.

Abraham married his second wife, Keturah.

1. The importance of faithfulness even after a difficult trial.

2. The power of God to bring beauty from ashes.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:8, The end of a thing is better than its beginning; the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

2. Romans 8:28, And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 25:2 And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah.

The passage describes the birth of six sons of Abraham and Keturah.

1. The importance of rejoicing in the blessings of children and family.

2. The beauty of being part of a larger family, even when it is not blood related.

1. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one s youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.

Genesis 25:3 And Jokshan begat Sheba, and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim, and Letushim, and Leummim.

Jokshan had two sons, Sheba and Dedan. Dedan's sons were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim.

1. The Power of Family and Generational Blessing

2. Dedicated to Serving God in All Generations

1. Exodus 20:6 - "but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Genesis 25:4 And the sons of Midian; Ephah, and Epher, and Hanoch, and Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.

This passage reveals the sons of Midian, which were Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abidah, and Eldaah, and they were the children of Keturah.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises - Genesis 25:4

2. The Importance of Following God's Word - Genesis 25:4

1. Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Ephesians 2:8-10 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Genesis 25:5 And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac.

Abraham gave all his possessions to Isaac.

1: We should be generous and willing to share what we have with others.

2: We should follow Abraham's example of faithful stewardship.

1: Ephesians 4:28 - Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

2: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Genesis 25:6 But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east country.

Abraham gave gifts to his sons from his concubines and sent them away from his son Isaac.

1: Abraham's Unconditional Love for All His Descendents

2: The Life Lessons We Can Learn from Abraham

1: Galatians 3:7-9 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, In you shall all the nations be blessed. So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

2: James 2:21-24 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Genesis 25:7 And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years.

Abraham lived a total of 175 years.

1. The Blessing of a Long Life: A Study of Genesis 25:7

2. Making the Most of Our Time: Abraham s Life as an Example

1. Psalm 90:10 - The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:1 - Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.

Genesis 25:8 Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

Abraham died at a ripe old age surrounded by his family.

1: Cherish the time you have with your loved ones.

2: God is faithful to His promises and will provide a peaceful ending.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die

2: Isaiah 46:4 And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

Genesis 25:9 And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre;

Isaac and Ishmael bury their father Abraham in the cave of Machpelah in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, near Mamre.

1. The Example of Abraham: Learning to Live in Faith and Obedience

2. Abraham's Legacy: The Power of Faith-Filled Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

2. James 2:20-24 - But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

Genesis 25:10 The field which Abraham purchased of the sons of Heth: there was Abraham buried, and Sarah his wife.

Abraham and Sarah were buried in the field which Abraham purchased from the sons of Heth.

1. A Life of Faith: The Legacy of Abraham and Sarah

2. Passing on Our Values: Abraham and Sarah's Legacy

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - Abraham and Sarah's faith in God despite their advanced age.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - Passing on a legacy from generation to generation.

Genesis 25:11 And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac; and Isaac dwelt by the well Lahairoi.

God's blessing on Isaac after the death of his father Abraham.

1. God's faithfulness in blessing His children despite life's hardships.

2. God's presence in our sorrows, providing comfort and hope.

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 25:12 Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid, bare unto Abraham:

This passage recounts the generations of Ishmael, the son of Abraham and Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid.

1. The Faithfulness of God even when Our Plans Fail

2. God's Unfailing Love and Provision

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 107:1 - Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Genesis 25:13 And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam,

This passage describes the names of the sons of Ishmael, listed in the order of their birth.

1. The Faithfulness of God to His Promise - Genesis 25:13

2. The Importance of Legacy - Genesis 25:13

1. Romans 4:17-18 - As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

2. Genesis 17:20 - And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: Behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation.

Genesis 25:14 And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa,

The passage mentions three sons of Ishmael: Mishma, Dumah, and Massa.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How Ishmael was Blessed with Three Sons

2. God's Promise to Ishmael: A Legacy of Blessing

1. Genesis 17:20 - And as for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Genesis 25:15 Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah:

The passage describes the five sons of Ishmael.

1. The Importance of Family Bonds: Exploring the Story of Ishmael's Sons

2. God's Faithfulness: Examining How God Fulfilled His Promise to Ishmael

1. Galatians 4:28 31 Paul's reminder of Ishmael's story and its implications for how believers should treat each other

2. Romans 9:7 8 Paul's to God's promise to Ishmael and its continued relevance for God's people today

Genesis 25:16 These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations.

Ismael had twelve sons, each with their own town and castle.

1: God provides strength and protection for the family.

2: God has a plan for every person and family.

1: Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

2: Deuteronomy 6:6-9 - And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Genesis 25:17 And these are the years of the life of Ishmael, an hundred and thirty and seven years: and he gave up the ghost and died; and was gathered unto his people.

Ishmael lived to be 137 years old and died.

1. The brevity of life and the importance of making the most of it.

2. Embracing the end of life and the journey to a better place.

1. Psalm 39:4-6; Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is: that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:2; It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.

Genesis 25:18 And they dwelt from Havilah unto Shur, that is before Egypt, as thou goest toward Assyria: and he died in the presence of all his brethren.

Isaac's descendants lived from Havilah to Shur, which is near Egypt and Assyria, and Isaac died in the presence of his brothers.

1. The Blessing of the Presence of Family - Genesis 25:18

2. The Promise of a Legacy - Genesis 25:18

1. Psalm 16:11 - Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

2. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Genesis 25:19 And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham begat Isaac:

This passage recounts the genealogy of Isaac, the son of Abraham.

1. The Importance of Family: How the Generations of Faithful Servants are Linked

2. Abraham and Isaac: The Father-Son Relationship in the Bible

1. Matthew 1:2: "Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren"

2. Romans 4:16-18: "Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."

Genesis 25:20 And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.

Isaac married Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, when he was forty years old. Rebekah was Laban's sister.

1. God's Timing: How Waiting on God's Timing Brings Fulfillment

2. Rebekah: A Model of Submission and Obedience

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

2. 1 Peter 3:1-6 - In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over by observing your pure and reverent lives.

Genesis 25:21 And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she was barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

Isaac prayed for his wife's barrenness to be healed and God answered his prayer.

1. The power of prayer and trusting God to answer

2. God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises

1. James 5:16b - The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

2. Isaiah 54:1 - Sing, O barren, you who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you who have not labored with child!

Genesis 25:22 And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the LORD.

Rebekah was troubled by the struggle she felt within her and asked the Lord for guidance.

1. Learning to rely on God in times of uncertainty

2. Trusting God's plan for our lives

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Genesis 25:23 And the LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.

The LORD told Rebekah that her womb contained two nations and that one would be stronger than the other, with the elder serving the younger.

1. The Strength of Weakness 2. God's Sovereignty

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Genesis 25:24 And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.

Rebekah was pregnant and expecting twins.

1. God's Perfect Timing: The Story of Rebekah

2. The Miracle of Twins: Rebekah's Story

1. Genesis 25:24

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 25:25 And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau.

Esau, twin brother of Jacob, was the first to be born and he was red and hairy.

1. The Uniqueness of Esau - Exploring how Esau's birth and name are symbolic of his unique identity.

2. Redeeming Esau - Examining how Jacob redeems his relationship with Esau despite their differences.

1. Hebrews 12:16 - Examining how Esau's birth is symbolic of the idea of reconciliation in the Bible.

2. Romans 9:13 - Exploring how Esau and Jacob's story exemplifies the sovereignty of God.

Genesis 25:26 And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.

Isaac and Rebekah had two sons, Esau and Jacob. Esau was the firstborn, but Jacob was born second and grabbed his brother's heel. Isaac was sixty years old when they were born.

1. The Unusual Birth of Jacob: God's Providence in Unforeseen Circumstances

2. The Significance of Esau: A Study in Contrast

1. Galatians 4:28-29 Now you, brothers and sisters, like Isaac, are children of promise. At that time the son born according to the flesh persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now.

2. Romans 9:10-13 Not only that, but Rebekah s children were conceived at the same time by our father Isaac. Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad in order that God s purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls she was told, The older will serve the younger. As it is written: Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.

Genesis 25:27 And the boys grew: and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents.

Esau and Jacob were brothers who had different interests and talents.

1. Embracing our differences to bring glory to God

2. Using our unique gifts to serve God

1. Romans 12:4-8

2. Ephesians 4:11-16

Genesis 25:28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Isaac loved Esau because he enjoyed eating the meat that Esau provided while Rebekah loved Jacob.

1. The Power of Love: How Love Can Change Our Lives

2. The Power of Food: How Food Can Affect Our Relationships

1. 1 John 4:7-10 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

2. Proverbs 15:17 - Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

Genesis 25:29 And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint:

Jacob and Esau were brothers who had a conflict over a meal.

1: God uses our conflicts to teach us valuable lessons.

2: We should value the importance of family.

1: Galatians 5:16-17 - "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do."

2: James 4:1 - "What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?"

Genesis 25:30 And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom.

Esau was so desperate to satisfy his hunger that he sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of red lentil stew.

1: Don't let your hunger for temporary gratification cloud your judgement of what is truly valuable.

2: Even when faced with extreme temptation, it is possible to make the right decision if we prioritize our values.

1: Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 25:31 And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.

Jacob asked Esau to sell him his birthright.

1. The Power of Priorities: How to Live a Life of Intention

2. The Value of a Birthright: What Can We Learn from Jacob and Esau?

1. Luke 14:28-30 - Count the cost of following Jesus

2. Hebrews 12:16 - Do not be like Esau, who traded away his birthright for a single meal.

Genesis 25:32 And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?

Esau expresses his dissatisfaction with his birthright and its lack of value when he is about to die.

1. The Transient Nature of Life and the Futility of Worldly Pursuits

2. The Power of Repentance and Redemption

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

2. Luke 15:11-32 "The Parable of the Prodigal Son"

Genesis 25:33 And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob.

Jacob purchased Esau's birthright in exchange for a meal.

1. The Power of Choice: How Our Decisions Affect Our Lives

2. The Value of Sacrifice: Understanding the Benefits of Giving Up Something We Cherish

1. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

2. Proverbs 21:20 "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."

Genesis 25:34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

Esau despised his birthright for a meal.

1: God's blessings are more valuable than worldly possessions.

2: Don't be tempted by immediate physical pleasures, focus on the spiritual and eternal.

1: Hebrews 11:24-25 - By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.

2: Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Genesis 26 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 26:1-11, a famine occurs in the land, and Isaac, the son of Abraham, goes to Gerar. God appears to Isaac and instructs him not to go down to Egypt but to dwell in the land He will show him. God reaffirms His covenant with Isaac and promises to bless him and multiply his descendants for the sake of Abraham's obedience. Isaac settles in Gerar, where he fears that the inhabitants might kill him because of his wife Rebekah's beauty. To protect himself, Isaac lies and claims that Rebekah is his sister. However, King Abimelech discovers their deception when he sees them acting affectionately towards each other.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 26:12-22, despite Isaac's initial deception regarding Rebekah, God blesses him abundantly. He becomes prosperous with great herds and possessions while living among the Philistines. The Philistines grow envious of his wealth and begin stopping up his wells out of spite. Eventually, Abimelech asks Isaac to leave because he has become too powerful for them. So Isaac moves away from Gerar and settles in a valley where he reopens the wells dug by his father Abraham.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 26:23-35, after relocating to Beersheba from the valley of Gerar, God appears to Isaac once again and reassures him with a promise of blessings due to His covenant with Abraham. Abimelech visits Isaac accompanied by his adviser Ahuzzath along with Phicol the commander of his army. They seek a covenant agreement with Isaac after witnessing God's favor upon him. The chapter concludes by highlighting Esau marrying two Hittite women against his parents' wishes Judith daughter of Beeri and Basemath daughter of Elon.

In summary:

Genesis 26 presents:

Isaac's journey to Gerar during a famine;

God's reaffirmation of His covenant with Isaac;

Isaac's fear for his life and his deception regarding Rebekah as his sister;

Abimelech discovering their deception.

Isaac's prosperity among the Philistines despite initial deception;

The Philistines' envy leading to the stopping up of Isaac's wells;

Abimelech asking Isaac to leave due to his growing power;

Isaac relocating, reopening wells, and settling in Beersheba.

God appearing to Isaac, reaffirming His covenant, and promising blessings;

Abimelech seeking a covenant agreement with Isaac due to witnessing God's favor upon him;

Esau marrying two Hittite women against his parents' wishes Judith and Basemath.

This chapter highlights the theme of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. It portrays both Isaac's moments of faithfulness and instances where he succumbs to fear and deception. Despite these shortcomings, God blesses him abundantly. The conflict with Abimelech demonstrates how God protects His chosen ones even amidst challenging circumstances. The chapter also introduces Esau marrying foreign wives, setting the stage for future conflicts within the family. Genesis 26 underscores the importance of trust in God's provision while showcasing His continued involvement in shaping the lives of Abraham's descendants.

Genesis 26:1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.

Isaac traveled to Gerar in order to escape a famine, as his father Abraham had done before him.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness: How God provides for our needs in times of famine and hardship.

2. The Power of Example: How the faith of our ancestors can shape our own.

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Genesis 26:2 And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

God appeared to Isaac and commanded him not to go to Egypt but to stay in the land.

1. Obey God and trust His commands

2. Find contentment in the land God sets before you

1. Deuteronomy 30:20 - that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days.

2. Numbers 23:19 - God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Genesis 26:3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father;

God promises to bless Isaac and his descendants with all the land they inhabit and to fulfill the oath He made to Isaac's father, Abraham.

1. God is Faithful - Even when we don't deserve it, God is faithful to His Word and will keep His promises.

2. God's Covenant - God's covenant with Abraham and Isaac is a reminder of the power of His promises and the assurance of His grace.

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

2. Romans 4:13-15 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

Genesis 26:4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

God promised to make Isaac's descendants numerous and to bless all the nations of the earth through them.

1. The Promise of Blessing - How God's promises to Isaac show His faithfulness.

2. The Blessing of Multitude - How God's promise to Isaac's descendants is an example of His abundance.

1. Galatians 3:8 - And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

2. Acts 3:25 - Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 26:5 Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.

Abraham obeyed the Lord's voice and kept His commands, statutes, and laws.

1. The Importance of Obeying the Lord's Voice

2. The Blessing of Keeping God's Commands

1. Joshua 24:15 ( choose this day whom you will serve )

2. James 1:22 ( doers of the word and not hearers only )

Genesis 26:6 And Isaac dwelt in Gerar:

Isaac trusted in the Lord and was blessed by Him.

1: We should always put our trust in the Lord, for He will bless us and provide for us.

2: Through faith in God, we can experience His blessings and provision.

1: Hebrews 11:8-10 "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Genesis 26:7 And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, She is my sister: for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon.

Isaac was afraid to tell people that Rebekah was his wife, because he thought they would kill him for her beauty.

1. The Dangers of Fear and How to Overcome It

2. Seeing Beauty Through God's Eyes

1. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Genesis 26:8 And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah his wife.

Isaac and Rebekah were happily spending time together when Abimelech, the king of the Philistines, looked out his window and saw them.

1. God Provides Opportunities for Joy in the Midst of Difficulty

2. The Blessings of Marriage: A Portion of God's Goodness

1. Psalm 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-4 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

Genesis 26:9 And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife: and how saidst thou, She is my sister? And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her.

Isaac and Abimelech's encounter reveals the importance of honesty and truth in our relationships.

1: Honesty is the Foundation of Healthy Relationships

2: Do Not Fear, Speak the Truth

1. Proverbs 12:22, "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

2. James 5:12, "But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation."

Genesis 26:10 And Abimelech said, What is this thou hast done unto us? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.

Abimelech rebukes Isaac for putting the citizens of Gerar in danger of committing adultery.

1. The Danger of Temptation: How to Avoid the Traps of Adultery.

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Abimelech's Response to Isaac's Mistake.

1. James 1:13-15 - When tempted, no one should say, God is tempting me. For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Genesis 26:11 And Abimelech charged all his people, saying, He that toucheth this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.

Abimelech warns his people against touching Isaac and his wife or face death.

1. We must protect God's chosen.

2. God's covenant is for us to guard and protect.

1. 1 John 4:20-21 - "If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother."

2. Luke 10:27-28 - He answered, Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind ; and, Love your neighbor as yourself.

Genesis 26:12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.

Isaac sowed in the land and was blessed by the Lord, receiving a hundredfold harvest in return.

1. God's Blessings Come in Return for Faithful Obedience

2. God Rewards Generosity with Abundance

1. Malachi 3:10-11 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

2. Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

Genesis 26:13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

Isaac prospered in the land of Gerar, and his wealth and influence increased greatly.

1. The Prosperity of Faith: How Isaac s Trust in God Led to Abundance

2. God's Blessing: Living in Righteousness and Receiving God's Favor

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Genesis 26:14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

Isaac was blessed with wealth and possessions, and the Philistines were envious of him.

1. The Blessing of Being Envied

2. The Blessing of Abundance

1. Proverbs 10:22 - The blessing of the LORD makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

Genesis 26:15 For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

Isaac's servants dug wells that Abraham's servants had dug, but the Philistines had filled them with dirt.

1. "A Test of Perseverance: Isaac's Wells"

2. "God's Provision in Difficult Times"

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:13 - For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, Fear not, I am the one who helps you.

Genesis 26:16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

Abimelech tells Isaac to leave because he is more powerful than Abimelech and his people.

1. The Power of God in the Lives of His People

2. Trusting in God in the Face of Adversity

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 26:17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.

Isaac moved from one place and settled in the valley of Gerar.

1. God can provide a safe and comfortable place for us no matter where we are.

2. Never be afraid to move on from one place to another - God will always be with you.

1. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.

Genesis 26:18 And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham: and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.

Isaac dug again the wells of water that his father Abraham had dug, which had been stopped by the Philistines after Abraham's death. He named the wells after the same names his father had given them.

1. The Importance of Following in the Footsteps of Our Forefathers

2. The Power of Naming: How Our Words Create Our Reality

1. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children s children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Genesis 26:19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water.

Isaac's servants found a well of springing water in the valley.

1. God provides for our needs - Genesis 26:19

2. Trust in God even when life is difficult - Genesis 26:19

1. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

Genesis 26:20 And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.

The herdmen of Gerar quarrelled with Isaac's herdmen over a water source, so Isaac named it 'Esek' which means 'strife'.

1. "The Consequences of Strife - A Lesson from Isaac and the Herdmen of Gerar"

2. "Living in Harmony - Resolving Conflict from the Story of Isaac and the Herdmen of Gerar"

1. Proverbs 17:14 - "The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts."

2. James 3:16 - "For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there."

Genesis 26:21 And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.

Isaac and his servants had to dig a well to find water, which they named Sitnah.

1. The importance of perseverance in times of struggle.

2. The power of a name and the importance of its meaning.

1. James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Genesis 26:22 And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

The Lord made more room for Isaac and his family, granting them greater prosperity.

1: God is always ready to provide more space and opportunity in our lives.

2: Through hard work and faith in God, we can be fruitful and prosperous.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Genesis 26:23 And he went up from thence to Beersheba.

The passage recounts the journey of Isaac from Gerar to Beersheba.

1: God's faithfulness in guiding us on our own journeys.

2: Following God's plan even when it's difficult.

1: Isaiah 48:17-18 - "Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go. Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea."

2: Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye."

Genesis 26:24 And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.

God's promise to be with and bless Isaac for Abraham's sake.

1. God's Promise of Blessing and Provision

2. The Faithfulness of God to His Covenant

1. Romans 4:16-17 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all.

2. Galatians 3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Genesis 26:25 And he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well.

Isaac built an altar and called upon the name of the Lord, and set up his tent. His servants then dug a well.

1. The importance of prayer in our lives.

2. Relying on God for strength and provision.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Matthew 6:25-27 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Genesis 26:26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath one of his friends, and Phichol the chief captain of his army.

Abimelech, along with his friend Ahuzzath and the chief captain of his army, Phichol, traveled to meet Isaac from Gerar.

1. The Power of Friendship: Exploring the Relationship between Abimelech, Ahuzzath, and Phichol

2. Walking in the Footsteps of Faith: Learning from Isaac's Example

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

Genesis 26:27 And Isaac said unto them, Wherefore come ye to me, seeing ye hate me, and have sent me away from you?

Isaac humbly questioned why the men had come to him, despite their previous animosity towards him.

1. God will bless us even in the midst of adversity.

2. We must seek to be humble when faced with the animosity of others.

1. Matthew 5:11-12 - "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

2. Romans 12:14-16 - "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits."

Genesis 26:28 And they said, We saw certainly that the LORD was with thee: and we said, Let there be now an oath betwixt us, even betwixt us and thee, and let us make a covenant with thee;

Abraham's descendants made a covenant with Isaac based on God's presence.

1: God's presence is always with us, even during difficult times.

2: We can trust in God's promises and make covenants with each other based on His presence.

1: Hebrews 13:5-6 - for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

2: Joshua 1:5 - There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Genesis 26:29 That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace: thou art now the blessed of the LORD.

Isaac blesses Abimelech and his people for their kindness and sends them away in peace.

1. The Blessing of Kindness - How kindness can bring blessings into our lives.

2. Blessing Those Who Bless Us - How a blessing can be a sign of appreciation.

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

18 If it is possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all.

19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. 8 If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

Genesis 26:30 And he made them a feast, and they did eat and drink.

Isaac and his servants held a feast and enjoyed a meal together.

1. The Joy of Fellowship: Celebrating Together in the Lord

2. Sharing and Caring: The Blessing of Being in Community

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"

Genesis 26:31 And they rose up betimes in the morning, and sware one to another: and Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.

Isaac reconciled with his enemies and sent them away in peace.

1. The Power of Forgiveness

2. Overcoming Conflict through Reconciliation

1. Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. Colossians 3:13-14 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Genesis 26:32 And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac's servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had digged, and said unto him, We have found water.

Isaac and his servants found water on the same day.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: We can trust that God will reward our obedience with blessings.

2. The Power of Prayer: When we seek God in prayer, He will answer and provide for our needs.

1. Isaiah 58:11 - The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your desires in scorched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

2. James 4:2 - You do not have, because you do not ask.

Genesis 26:33 And he called it Shebah: therefore the name of the city is Beersheba unto this day.

Shebah was renamed Beersheba, and the name has endured until today.

1. The faithfulness of God's promises - Genesis 26:33

2. The power of a name - Genesis 26:33

1. Romans 4:13-16 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Isaiah 62:2 - The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

Genesis 26:34 And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite:

Esau married Judith, the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath, the daughter of Elon the Hittite, at the age of 40.

1. The importance of marriage and family in God's plan.

2. Fulfilling God's purpose for your life regardless of age.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:1-16 - It is good for a man not to touch a woman.

Genesis 26:35 Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.

Isaac and Rebekah experienced grief due to the actions of their children.

1. Let us learn from Isaac and Rebekah's experience to be mindful of our children's decisions.

2. In the midst of grief, we must have faith and trust in God.

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 27 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 27:1-17, Isaac, now old and blind, decides to bless his eldest son Esau before his impending death. However, Rebekah overhears Isaac's plan and devises a scheme to secure the blessing for their younger son Jacob instead. She instructs Jacob to disguise himself as Esau by wearing Esau's clothing and covering his hands and neck with animal skins. Jacob is hesitant but complies with his mother's plan.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 27:18-29, Jacob approaches Isaac pretending to be Esau. Isaac questions the quick return of "Esau" after hunting and expresses doubt due to the absence of a familiar voice or scent. To alleviate Isaac's suspicions, Jacob lies once more claiming that God granted him success in hunting game quickly. Convinced by the deception, Isaac blesses "Esau" with abundant harvests, domination over nations, and blessings from those who bless him.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 27:30-46, shortly after receiving the blessing meant for Esau, Jacob barely leaves when Esau returns from hunting. Realizing that he has been deceived by his brother and that the blessing has already been given away, Esau is filled with anger and grief. He pleads with their father for a separate blessing but receives only a lesser one regarding dwelling away from fertile lands. Rebekah learns about Esau's intentions to harm Jacob upon their father's death and advises Jacob to flee to her brother Laban in Haran until Esau's fury subsides.

In summary:

Genesis 27 presents:

Isaac intending to bless his eldest son Esau before his death;

Rebekah overhearing this plan and devising a scheme involving Jacob;

Jacob disguising himself as Esau through clothing and animal skins.

Jacob approaching Isaac pretending to be Esau;

Isaac expressing doubt and Jacob lying to alleviate suspicions;

Isaac blessing "Esau" with abundant harvests, dominion, and blessings.

Esau returning from hunting and discovering the deception;

Esau's anger and grief over losing the blessing;

Rebekah advising Jacob to flee to Laban until Esau's anger subsides.

This chapter showcases the consequences of deceit within a family. Rebekah takes matters into her own hands by orchestrating a plan to secure the blessing for Jacob, leading to a division between Esau and Jacob. It reveals Isaac's vulnerability due to his old age and blindness, which allows for the deception. The chapter highlights the tension between brothers as Esau experiences intense emotions upon realizing that he has been deceived by his brother twice regarding both birthright and blessing. Genesis 27 emphasizes the far-reaching consequences of deceit while setting the stage for future events in the lives of Jacob and Esau.

Genesis 27:1 And it came to pass, that when Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau his eldest son, and said unto him, My son: and he said unto him, Behold, here am I.

Isaac calls his eldest son Esau, despite his eyes being too dim to see.

1. The importance of trust and obedience in honoring our parents.

2. The blessing of Abraham extended to Esau through Isaac's faith.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2. Romans 4:16-17 "Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham s offspring not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all."

Genesis 27:2 And he said, Behold now, I am old, I know not the day of my death:

The passage is about Isaac's acknowledgement of his mortality.

1. "The Gift of Life: Embracing Our Mortality"

2. "God's Providence: Learning to Trust in our Final Hours"

1. Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

2. James 4:13-15

Genesis 27:3 Now therefore take, I pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and thy bow, and go out to the field, and take me some venison;

God calls on us to use the gifts and talents He has given us to help one another.

1. "The Call to Serve: Using Your Talents for Good"

2. "The Blessing of Blessing Others: A Study of Genesis 27:3"

1. Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the Talents)

2. James 1:17 (Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above)

Genesis 27:4 And make me savoury meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die.

Jacob instructs Esau to prepare a savoury meal so that he may bless him before he dies.

1. The Power of a Blessing: How Jacob's Blessing of Esau Is Our Model for Blessing Others

2. Honoring the Elderly: Learning from Jacob's Last Request to Esau

1. Matthew 5:44-45 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

2. Proverbs 16:31 - Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness.

Genesis 27:5 And Rebekah heard when Isaac spake to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for venison, and to bring it.

Rebekah heard Isaac speaking to Esau and Esau went out to hunt for food.

1. The Power of Listening: Learning from Rebekah's Example

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Esau Responded to his Father's Request

1. Proverbs 1:5: "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance."

2. 1 Samuel 3:10: "The LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, Samuel! Samuel! And Samuel said, Speak, for your servant hears.

Genesis 27:6 And Rebekah spake unto Jacob her son, saying, Behold, I heard thy father speak unto Esau thy brother, saying,

Rebekah encourages Jacob to deceive his father Isaac and take advantage of Esau's blessing.

1: We must not use deception to obtain the blessings of God.

2: We should not be envious of the blessings that God has given to others.

1: Proverbs 12:22- "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, But those who deal truthfully are His delight."

2: James 3:14-17- "But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there."

Genesis 27:7 Bring me venison, and make me savoury meat, that I may eat, and bless thee before the LORD before my death.

Isaac requests that Esau provide him with savory meat so that he can eat and bless Esau before the Lord before his death.

1. The Blessing of Obedience - How Isaac's blessing of Esau reveals the power of obedience.

2. The Blessing of Sacrifice - How Isaac's request for savory meat reveals the value of sacrifice.

1. Proverbs 27:18 Whoever tends a fig tree will eat its fruit, and he who guards his master will be honored.

2. Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Genesis 27:8 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to that which I command thee.

God commands Isaac to obey his voice and do as he says.

1. The Power of Obedience - Understanding how obedience to God's word leads to a blessed life.

2. The Blessing of Obeying God - Why it is important to obey God's commands in order to experience His blessing.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Genesis 27:9 Go now to the flock, and fetch me from thence two good kids of the goats; and I will make them savoury meat for thy father, such as he loveth:

Jacob uses craft to secure his father's blessing in place of his brother Esau.

1: We can learn from Jacob s story that God can use our weaknesses for his good.

2: We can see from Jacob s story that God s plan can succeed even when we fail.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 27:10 And thou shalt bring it to thy father, that he may eat, and that he may bless thee before his death.

The passage emphasizes the importance of honoring one's father and obtaining his blessing.

1. "Fathers: A Blessing to Their Children"

2. "The Value of Respect for Parents"

1. Ephesians 6:2-3 "Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2. Proverbs 15:20 "A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish man despises his mother."

Genesis 27:11 And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man:

Jacob deceives his father Isaac to receive the blessing that was meant for his brother Esau.

1: We can learn from Jacob's example to use wisdom and discernment in obtaining our blessings.

2: God's blessings come through faithfulness and obedience, not deception.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Genesis 27:12 My father peradventure will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing.

Isaac is concerned that he will be deceived by Jacob when he blesses him, and that such a deception would bring a curse upon him instead of a blessing.

1. The Power of Deception: How to Recognize and Avoid it.

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How to Receive God's Promises.

1. Proverbs 14:5 - "A faithful witness does not lie, but a false witness breathes out lies."

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Genesis 27:13 And his mother said unto him, Upon me be thy curse, my son: only obey my voice, and go fetch me them.

Jacob, with his mother's blessing, deceives his father in order to gain his brother Esau's inheritance.

1: We should always obey our parents, as Jacob did, even when it may be difficult.

2: We should be wary of deceptive behavior and strive to act honestly and truthfully.

1: Ephesians 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2: Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Genesis 27:14 And he went, and fetched, and brought them to his mother: and his mother made savoury meat, such as his father loved.

Jacob deceives his father Isaac to gain the blessing intended for Esau.

1: We must be careful to remain true to God's will and not deceive others.

2: We must be mindful of our actions and their consequences.

1: James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2: Colossians 3:9-10 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Genesis 27:15 And Rebekah took goodly raiment of her eldest son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them upon Jacob her younger son:

Rebekah took Esau's clothes and put them on Jacob.

1. The Power of Obedience: The Story of Rebekah and Jacob.

2. The Blessing of Deception: The Tale of Jacob and Esau.

1. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Genesis 27:16 And she put the skins of the kids of the goats upon his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck:

Esau is deceived by his mother and brother in order to gain his father's blessing.

1. Discernment and Wisdom: How to Recognize and Avoid Deception

2. The Power of Blessing and How it Affects our Lives

1. Proverbs 3:13-15 - "Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her."

2. James 3:17 - "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

Genesis 27:17 And she gave the savoury meat and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

Jacob received the savoury meat and bread that his mother had prepared for him.

1: God provides for our needs.

2: We should trust in the Lord and His provision.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Genesis 27:18 And he came unto his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I; who art thou, my son?

Isaac asked his son who had pretended to be Esau to identify himself.

1. God can see through our deceptions and lies

2. Be honest and truthful in all your dealings

1. Psalm 51:6 - "Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart."

2. Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

Genesis 27:19 And Jacob said unto his father, I am Esau thy first born; I have done according as thou badest me: arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me.

Jacob convinces his father Isaac to bless him by presenting him with venison.

1. The power of obedience: Learning from Jacob's example to honor authority.

2. The importance of blessings: Experiencing the joy of being blessed by a father.

1. Romans 13:1-7: Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Proverbs 3:1-7: My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

Genesis 27:20 And Isaac said unto his son, How is it that thou hast found it so quickly, my son? And he said, Because the LORD thy God brought it to me.

Isaac's son acknowledges God's guidance in his success.

1. "God's Guidance: A Blessing to Be Grateful For"

2. "Trusting God in Every Circumstance"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Genesis 27:21 And Isaac said unto Jacob, Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou be my very son Esau or not.

Isaac was seeking assurance that Jacob was indeed his son Esau.

1: God's Love Overcomes Doubt - How Isaac trusted God and overcame doubt to accept Jacob as his son.

2: The Importance of Confirmation - The importance of confirmation when making important decisions.

1: Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2: Hebrews 11:11 - By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.

Genesis 27:22 And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.

Jacob and Esau's father Isaac recognizes his son Jacob in disguise after feeling his hands.

1. God is a God of detail. He knows us far better than we know ourselves.

2. We should not be deceived by outward appearances, but must trust God to lead us to the truth.

1. Hebrews 11:20, "By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding things to come."

2. John 10:27, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

Genesis 27:23 And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.

Esau was deceived by his brother Jacob into giving up his blessing.

1: God's grace is greater than our mistakes - Romans 5:20-21

2: God uses unlikely people to do His work - Luke 1:26-38

1: Jacob was an imperfect man who God used despite his flaws - Hebrews 11:21

2: God's promises are not dependent on our efforts - Romans 4:13-17

Genesis 27:24 And he said, Art thou my very son Esau? And he said, I am.

Isaac asked his son Jacob if he was Esau, and Jacob responded that he was.

1. The Power of Identity: Our True Selves in God's Image

2. The Nature of Deceit: Jacob's Journey of Pretense

1. John 1:12 - But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Genesis 27:25 And he said, Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat: and he brought him wine, and he drank.

Isaac instructs his son, Jacob, to bring him venison so that his soul may bless Jacob. Jacob brings the venison to Isaac, who eats it and drinks wine.

1. God's blessings come to those who are obedient.

2. A parent's blessing is a special gift.

1. 1 Samuel 15:22 - "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

2. Matthew 7:21 - "Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

Genesis 27:26 And his father Isaac said unto him, Come near now, and kiss me, my son.

Isaac calls for his son, Esau, to come near and kiss him.

1. The Power of Emotional Bonding in the Family

2. The Importance of Affirmation in Parenting

1. Genesis 33:4 - "And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept."

2. Ruth 1:14 - "And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her."

Genesis 27:27 And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the LORD hath blessed:

Esau's recognition of the blessing of God on Jacob.

1. The Blessing of God Can Transform Us

2. Recognizing God's Blessing in the Lives of Others

1. John 1:17 - For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Genesis 27:28 Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine:

The Lord will bless His chosen ones with abundance of dew, fatness, corn and wine.

1. Abundance of Blessings: Reaping the Benefits of Faithful Obedience

2. God's Generosity: The Blessings of Abundance

1. Deuteronomy 28:8-12: The Lord will command the blessing on you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Psalm 104:27-28: These all look to you, to give them their food in due season. When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

Genesis 27:29 Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee.

God desires us to be a blessing to others and to be respected.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: Reverence God and Serve Others

2. The Power of Blessing: Being a Blessing to Others

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

Genesis 27:30 And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

Esau and Jacob's relationship is tested when Esau returns from hunting and finds Jacob had received his blessing.

1. God's faithfulness can be seen even in the midst of broken relationships.

2. Despite our mistakes, God is still willing to bless us and show us grace.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Genesis 27:31 And he also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me.

Isaac's son, Jacob, made savory meat and brought it to his father, Isaac, in the hopes that Isaac would bless him.

1. The Power of Blessing: How Jacob Received Isaac's Blessing

2. The Gift of Obedience: Jacob's Example of Faithfulness

1. Hebrews 11:20 - By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even though he was aware of their difference in character.

2. Romans 12:14-16 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Genesis 27:32 And Isaac his father said unto him, Who art thou? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau.

Isaac asked his son, Esau, who he was, and Esau replied that he was Isaac's firstborn son.

1. God's answers to our prayers often come in unexpected forms.

2. We should remain humble and obedient to our parents as demonstrated by Esau.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Genesis 27:33 And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea, and he shall be blessed.

Isaac trembles when he realizes that Jacob has been blessed by him instead of Esau.

1. The importance of God's blessings in our lives.

2. God's perfect timing and purpose in all things.

1. Proverbs 16:9 "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 27:34 And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father.

Esau cries out in anguish when he hears his father's words.

1: The Value of Humility - We should learn from Esau's humility in the face of his father's rebuke.

2: The Power of Forgiveness - Esau's willingness to forgive his father despite his disappointment is a powerful example of grace and mercy.

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

2: Colossians 3:13 - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Genesis 27:35 And he said, Thy brother came with subtilty, and hath taken away thy blessing.

Esau accused Jacob of taking away his rightful blessing.

1. God's blessings are not taken away lightly.

2. The consequences of deceit can be severe.

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. James 1:15 - Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Genesis 27:36 And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?

Jacob received both his brother's birthright and blessing through deceit.

1. The Danger of Deception: How Jacob's Deceit Led to Consequences

2. The Power of Blessing: How God Honors Our Obedience

1. James 1:17-18 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Proverbs 10:22 - The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it.

Genesis 27:37 And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto thee, my son?

Isaac acknowledges Esau's authority over Jacob and his family and offers him further support.

1. "The Power of Submission: A Study of Esau and Jacob in Genesis 27"

2. "The Rewards of Faith and Obedience in Genesis 27"

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God."

Genesis 27:38 And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one blessing, my father? bless me, even me also, O my father. And Esau lifted up his voice, and wept.

Esau pleads with his father Isaac for a second blessing.

1: God shows us in Genesis that even though things may not have gone our way, we should still remain humble and trust in Him.

2: We can learn from Esau s example in Genesis that our response to difficult circumstances can reflect our faith in God.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2: James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Genesis 27:39 And Isaac his father answered and said unto him, Behold, thy dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above;

Isaac blesses Jacob with an inheritance of abundance.

1: We can trust God to provide for us, even in times of need.

2: God has promised to bless us with abundance when we are faithful to Him.

1: Psalm 34:10 - The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Genesis 27:40 And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck.

Isaac tells his son, Esau, that he will have to serve his brother and that his power will come when he is able to break his brother's rule over him.

1. The Power of Overcoming Adversity

2. The Strength of the Patriarchal System

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:37 - Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Genesis 27:41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

Esau harbored a deep hatred for Jacob due to the blessing his father gave him. He was so consumed by his hatred that he planned to kill his brother.

1. Don't let envy consume you and lead you to sin.

2. Love your brother despite your differences.

1. 1 John 3:15 - Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

2. Romans 12:20 - If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.

Genesis 27:42 And these words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah: and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee.

Rebekah was told of the words of Esau, her elder son, who was plotting to kill his brother, Jacob, her younger son.

1. None are too young to persevere in the face of adversity

2. We must trust in God even in the most dire of circumstances

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 (Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.)

2. James 1:2-3 (Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.)

Genesis 27:43 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran;

The passage speaks of obeying one's parent's voice, and fleeing to Laban in Haran.

1. The importance of honoring our parents and obeying their voices

2. Taking refuge in the Lord and trusting in Him

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Genesis 27:44 And tarry with him a few days, until thy brother's fury turn away;

The passage discusses how one should wait until their sibling's anger has subsided.

1. Waiting on God's Timing: Learning Patience in Difficult Situations

2. Overcoming Anger: Finding Peace in Unsettling Times

1. Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Genesis 27:45 Until thy brother's anger turn away from thee, and he forget that which thou hast done to him: then I will send, and fetch thee from thence: why should I be deprived also of you both in one day?

Rebekah's plea to her son Jacob to stay with her until his brother Esau's anger subsided.

1. Learning Forgiveness: Rebekah's plea to Jacob to wait until Esau's anger subsided is a lesson in learning forgiveness.

2. Overcoming Conflict: Rebekah's plea to Jacob to stay with her until his brother Esau's anger subsided shows us the importance of overcoming conflict.

1. Matthew 5:43-44 - "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

2. Colossians 3:13 - "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Genesis 27:46 And Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth: if Jacob take a wife of the daughters of Heth, such as these which are of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life do me?

Rebekah expresses her discontentment with the daughters of Heth and asks Isaac what good her life would do her if Jacob were to marry one of them.

1: We must remember to put the Lord first in all things. Genesis 28:20-22 says, And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, So that I come again to my father s house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God s house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

2: We must remember to trust in the Lord s plan for our lives. Proverbs 3:5-6 states, Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1: Genesis 28:20-22

2: Proverbs 3:5-6

Genesis 28 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 28:1-9, Isaac blesses Jacob and instructs him not to take a wife from the Canaanite women but to go to his mother's family in Paddan-aram. Isaac reaffirms God's covenant with Jacob, blessing him with the promise of descendants and land. Esau, realizing that his Canaanite wives displease his parents, also takes wives from Ishmael's family. Jacob obeys his father's instructions and departs for Paddan-aram.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 28:10-17, during Jacob's journey, he stops for the night at a certain place and rests there. In a dream, he sees a ladder reaching from earth to heaven with angels ascending and descending on it. God stands above the ladder and reiterates His covenant promises to Jacob land, descendants, and blessings for all nations through him. Upon waking up, Jacob realizes that he has encountered the presence of God in that place.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 28:18-22, deeply moved by this encounter with God, Jacob takes the stone he used as a pillow during his sleep and sets it up as a pillar. He anoints it with oil as an act of consecration and names the place Bethel (meaning "house of God"). Jacob makes a vow to serve God faithfully if He fulfills His promises by providing for him on his journey and bringing him back safely to his father's house. He declares that this stone will be set up as God's house where he will give Him offerings.

In summary:

Genesis 28 presents:

Isaac blessing Jacob before his departure for Paddan-aram;

Jacob being instructed not to take Canaanite wives;

Esau marrying wives from Ishmael's family;

Jacob obeying his father's instructions and setting out for Paddan-aram.

Jacob's dream of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven;

God reaffirming His covenant promises to Jacob;

Jacob realizing the presence of God in that place.

Jacob consecrating a stone pillar as a memorial at Bethel;

His vow to serve God faithfully and make offerings at that place;

His desire for God's provision and safe return to his father's house.

This chapter highlights the transition in Jacob's life as he embarks on his journey to Paddan-aram. It underscores the significance of familial blessings, obedience, and adherence to God's instructions. The dream of the ladder symbolizes divine connection between heaven and earth, emphasizing God's presence and involvement in Jacob's life. Jacob responds with reverence by consecrating the stone pillar at Bethel, establishing it as a sacred site. Genesis 28 portrays Jacob's growing awareness of God's promises and sets the stage for future events in his life as he encounters various trials and transformations.

Genesis 28:1 And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.

Jacob was instructed by his father Isaac not to marry a woman from Canaan.

1: God's Will Is Greatly Connected to Our Actions

2: The Importance of Listening to Our Parents

1: Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

2: Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Genesis 28:2 Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of Laban thy mother's brother.

This passage from Genesis 28:2 encourages Jacob to seek a wife from the family of his mother's father, Bethuel.

1. God's Wisdom in Choosing Right Relationships

2. How to Discern God's Will in Finding a Spouse

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.

Genesis 28:3 And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people;

God promises Jacob that He will bless him, make him fruitful, and multiply him into a multitude of people.

1: God blesses those who put their trust in Him.

2: God can bring greatness out of small beginnings.

1: Romans 10:11 - "For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.'"

2: Luke 1:37 - "For nothing is impossible with God."

Genesis 28:4 And give thee the blessing of Abraham, to thee, and to thy seed with thee; that thou mayest inherit the land wherein thou art a stranger, which God gave unto Abraham.

God promised Abraham to give him a land and the same promise was extended to his descendants.

1. The Power of God's Promises: How God's Promises Impact Our Lives

2. The Blessing of Abraham: How We Can Receive God's Blessings

1. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

2. Genesis 12:2-3 - "And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Genesis 28:5 And Isaac sent away Jacob: and he went to Padanaram unto Laban, son of Bethuel the Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's and Esau's mother.

Jacob sets out on a journey to find a wife and meets Laban, Rebekah's brother.

1. Understanding God's Plan for Our Lives - Genesis 28:5

2. Trusting in God's Guidance - Genesis 28:5

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Genesis 28:6 When Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob, and sent him away to Padanaram, to take him a wife from thence; and that as he blessed him he gave him a charge, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan;

Isaac blessed Jacob and instructed him to go to Padanaram to find a wife outside of the daughters of Canaan.

1. God's Purpose for His People: How God's Blessings and Instructions Guide Us

2. Overcoming Temptation: Learning to Listen and Obey God's Voice

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Genesis 28:7 And that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother, and was gone to Padanaram;

Jacob obeyed his parents and left for Padanaram.

1. Obeying parents is honoring God.

2. Our obedience to our parents is an example of our obedience to God.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Colossians 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Genesis 28:8 And Esau seeing that the daughters of Canaan pleased not Isaac his father;

Esau saw that his father was not pleased with the Canaanite women.

1. We must strive to please our fathers and mothers according to God's will.

2. We should use wisdom when selecting a spouse.

1. Ephesians 6:1-2 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise.

2. Proverbs 1:8-9 Hear, my son, your father s instruction, and forsake not your mother s teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

Genesis 28:9 Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife.

Esau married Mahalath, the daughter of Ishmael and the sister of Nebajoth.

1. The importance of family and honoring family traditions.

2. Marriage, a divine institution, and the importance of finding a spouse who shares the same values.

1. Matthew 19:5-6 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Genesis 28:10 And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran.

Jacob leaves Beersheba and sets out for Haran.

1. God's Faithfulness Even When We Are Faithless

2. The Journey Of Faith

1. Romans 4:19-20 - And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 28:11 And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

The passage describes Jacob's journey and how he found a place to rest for the night.

1. The importance of resting in the Lord and trusting in His provision.

2. How God provides us with comfort in times of need.

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Genesis 28:12 And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

Jacob's dream of a ladder reaching to Heaven.

1. Trusting in God's Guidance in Life

2. The Blessings of Faith and Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:9 - By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

2. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

Genesis 28:13 And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

God promised the land to Jacob and his descendants.

1. God's Covenant with Jacob: The Blessings of Obedience

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God Keeps His Promises

1. Psalm 105:8-9 - He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations.

2. Romans 4:13-14 - It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

Genesis 28:14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

This verse describes God's promise to Jacob that his descendants will be as numerous as the dust of the earth and through them, all the families of the earth will be blessed.

1. God s Promises for His People: How God Blesses Those Who Rely on Him

2. The Abundance of God s Blessings: How God s Blessing Extends to All Nations

1. Isaiah 54:2-3 - Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

2. Ephesians 3:6 - That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.

Genesis 28:15 And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

God's promise of protection and presence.

1: God Will Always Be With You - Deuteronomy 31:8

2: God's Faithful Promises - Isaiah 55:11

1: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Genesis 28:16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not.

Jacob recognized the presence of the Lord in a place which he had not expected.

1. Learning to Recognize God's Presence in Unexpected Places

2. How to Discern God's Presence Even When You Don't Feel It

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 Isaiah's Vision of the Lord

2. Psalm 139:7-12 Where Can I Go from Your Spirit?

Genesis 28:17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

Jacob encounters a place he believes to be the House of God, and is overwhelmed with fear.

1. God's Presence is Enough to Fill Us With Awe

2. How to Properly Respond to God's Presence

1. Isaiah 6:1-5

2. Revelation 14:1-5

Genesis 28:18 And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it.

Jacob consecrated a stone as a pillar of remembrance to God.

1. The Power of Remembrance: How Jacob's Pillar Can Inspire Us to Remember God

2. Cultivating an Attitude of Gratitude: Lessons from Jacob's Pillar

1. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

2. Ephesians 2:19-20 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

Genesis 28:19 And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first.

Jacob's encounter with God at Bethel, formerly known as Luz.

1. God's Mercy in Transforming Our Lives from the Inside Out

2. Learning to Recognize God's Presence in Our Lives

1. John 1:14 - And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Genesis 28:20 And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on,

Jacob makes a vow to God to serve Him if He provides for him.

1. Recognizing God's Provision: Learning to Appreciate What We Have

2. Serving God in Gratitude: Acknowledging His Faithful Provision

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on trusting in God's provision

2. Psalm 23:1-6 - God's faithfulness and provision in all aspects of life

Genesis 28:21 So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God:

Jacob's promise to return to his father s house and to serve the Lord.

1. Putting Our Trust in God: Jacob's Promise to Follow the Lord

2. Relying on God's Promises: Jacob's Commitment to Return Home

1. Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Genesis 28:22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

This passage speaks of Jacob dedicating a tenth of all he possesses to God's house.

1. "Giving Back to God: The Blessing of Generosity"

2. "God's Covenant with Jacob: A Story of Faithfulness"

1. Malachi 3:10-11 - "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

2. Deuteronomy 14:22-23 - "Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. And thou shalt eat before the Lord thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the Lord thy God always."

Genesis 29 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 29:1-14, Jacob arrives in the land of Paddan-aram and encounters a well where shepherds are gathering their flocks. He learns that they are from Haran, his mother's hometown. Jacob asks about Laban, his mother's brother, and the shepherds confirm his identity. Rachel, Laban's daughter, arrives with her father's sheep. Jacob is immediately drawn to her beauty and strength and rolls the stone away from the well to water her flock. Overwhelmed by emotions upon meeting Rachel, Jacob kisses her and weeps.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 29:15-30, after staying with Laban for a month, Jacob offers to work for him in exchange for marrying Rachel. Laban agrees but requires seven years of service before allowing the marriage. Jacob serves faithfully for those years because of his love for Rachel; they seem like only a few days to him due to his deep affection. When the time comes for Jacob to marry Rachel, Laban deceives him by giving him Leah instead on their wedding night.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 29:31-35, when Jacob discovers that he has been deceived into marrying Leah instead of Rachel due to a veiled bride at nightfall, he confronts Laban about this deceitful act. Laban explains that it is not customary to give the younger daughter in marriage before the elder one but promises that if Jacob completes Leah's bridal week as planned, he can also marry Rachel afterward by working another seven years. The chapter concludes by highlighting God's favor toward Leah despite being unloved by Jacob initially she conceives and gives birth to four sons: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah.

In summary:

Genesis 29 presents:

Jacob arriving in Paddan-aram and meeting Rachel at the well;

His immediate attraction to Rachel and his willingness to work for Laban to marry her;

Laban's agreement for Jacob to marry Rachel after seven years of service.

Jacob serving faithfully for seven years, mistakingly marrying Leah instead of Rachel;

Laban's explanation and promise of allowing Jacob to marry Rachel after completing Leah's bridal week by working another seven years;

Leah conceiving and giving birth to four sons: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah.

This chapter highlights the beginning of Jacob's time in Paddan-aram and his encounters with Laban's family. It emphasizes Jacob's love for Rachel, leading him to serve Laban for fourteen years in order to marry her. The deception involving Leah showcases the consequences of deceit within relationships. Despite being unloved initially by Jacob, God shows favor toward Leah by granting her fertility. Genesis 29 sets the stage for future events involving Jacob, his wives, and their children while exploring themes of love, loyalty, deception, and God's providence in unexpected circumstances.

Genesis 29:1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east.

Jacob journeys to the land of the people of the east.

1. Our journey with God - embracing change and trusting in His plan.

2. The blessings of obedience - Jacob's example of faithfulness.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Genesis 29:2 And he looked, and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth.

Jacob arrived at a well in a field where he found three flocks of sheep being watered from the well, with a great stone covering the mouth of the well.

1. Jesus is the Living Water that will never run dry

2. The Stone of Salvation is the only Rock that can protect us from spiritual darkness

1. John 4:10-14 - Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

2. Psalm 62:6 - He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Genesis 29:3 And thither were all the flocks gathered: and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone again upon the well's mouth in his place.

The flocks were gathered at the well, and the stone was rolled away from the well's mouth to water the sheep before being replaced.

1. The importance of stewardship - taking care of the resources we are given.

2. The value of hard work and diligence in all that we do.

1. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

2. Colossians 3:23 - And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

Genesis 29:4 And Jacob said unto them, My brethren, whence be ye? And they said, Of Haran are we.

Jacob meets his extended family in Haran.

1. Never forget where you came from.

2. God will use unexpected places and people to bring us closer to Him.

1. Romans 10:12-15, For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

2. Psalm 145:4, One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

Genesis 29:5 And he said unto them, Know ye Laban the son of Nahor? And they said, We know him.

Jacob meets his relatives and learns of the whereabouts of his long-lost uncle Laban.

1: God guides us in our times of need, just as He guided Jacob to his relatives in order to find his uncle Laban.

2: Even when we feel like we are alone, God is always with us and will always provide a way.

1: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Genesis 29:6 And he said unto them, Is he well? And they said, He is well: and, behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep.

Jacob meets his relatives and they give him the news that Rachel is coming with the sheep.

1. God's providence is evident in the timing of Rachel's arrival.

2. God's grace surrounds us even when we don't recognize it.

1. Psalm 145:18-19 "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 29:7 And he said, Lo, it is yet high day, neither is it time that the cattle should be gathered together: water ye the sheep, and go and feed them.

Laban asked Jacob to water his sheep and feed them, as it was still early in the day.

1. God provides us with abundant blessings, even in the mundane tasks of everyday life.

2. We should not be so quick to judge the menial tasks we are asked to do, as they may be from the Lord.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Genesis 29:8 And they said, We cannot, until all the flocks be gathered together, and till they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep.

Jacob meets Laban's sons and they explain that they cannot water the sheep until the flocks are all gathered and the stone is removed from the well.

1. God's Provision For Our Needs - Genesis 29:8

2. Faithfully Serving Others - Genesis 29:8

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

2. James 2:18 - Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Genesis 29:9 And while he yet spake with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep: for she kept them.

Jacob meets Laban and while they are talking, Rachel arrives with her father's sheep.

1. God's Providence: How God Works in Unexpected Ways

2. The Value of Hard Work: The Blessings of Diligence

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

Genesis 29:10 And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

Jacob and Rachel meet at the well.

1: God provides opportunities for us to meet new people, just as He provided Jacob and Rachel a chance to meet.

2: Jacob's willingness to serve Laban's flocks shows us the importance of being willing to serve others.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

2: 1 John 3:18 "Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."

Genesis 29:11 And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept.

Jacob and Rachel were reunited and shared an emotional embrace.

1: A reunion of loved ones is a precious moment, and we should cherish every moment with our family and friends.

2: God is faithful and is with us through all of our trials and joys.

1: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Genesis 29:12 And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's brother, and that he was Rebekah's son: and she ran and told her father.

Jacob reveals to Rachel that he is her father's brother and Rebekah's son.

1. Developing a sense of family identity and loyalty.

2. The importance of honesty in relationships.

1. Romans 12:10, Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

2. Ephesians 4:25, Therefore, putting away lying, Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.

Genesis 29:13 And it came to pass, when Laban heard the tidings of Jacob his sister's son, that he ran to meet him, and embraced him, and kissed him, and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things.

Laban welcomed Jacob with open arms when he heard the news of his arrival.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: A Study from Jacob and Laban's Relationship

2. The Power of Reconciliation: The Story of Jacob and Laban

1. Luke 15:20 - So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Genesis 29:14 And Laban said to him, Surely thou art my bone and my flesh. And he abode with him the space of a month.

Laban welcomed Jacob into his family, allowing him to stay for an extended period of time.

1. The Power of Hospitality: Embracing Strangers with Open Arms

2. The Meaning of Family: Sharing God's Love and Grace

1. Romans 15:7 - Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Genesis 29:15 And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be?

Laban and Jacob discuss wages for Jacob's work.

1: God provides us with the opportunity to work hard and be rewarded for it.

2: We should be generous with our wages and thankful for the gifts that God has given us.

1: Ephesians 4:28 "Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need."

2: Exodus 20:15 "You shall not steal."

Genesis 29:16 And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.

Leah and Rachel were Laban's two daughters.

1. God's Plan: Learning to Embrace Change

2. The Strength of Sisters: Finding Encouragement in the Story of Leah and Rachel

1. Ruth 1:16-17 But Ruth replied, Don t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

2. Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Genesis 29:17 Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured.

Leah was not as attractive as her sister Rachel, who was beautiful and well-favored.

1. The Power of Unconditional Love: A Study of Jacob and Leah

2. Appreciating Beauty and Inner Strength: A Study of Leah and Rachel

1. 1 John 4:7-12 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

2. Romans 12:9-10 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection.

Genesis 29:18 And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.

Jacob loves Rachel and agrees to work for her father for seven years.

1: Love is worth sacrificing for.

2: Fulfilling your commitments is important.

1: Mark 12:30-31 - "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

2: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Genesis 29:19 And Laban said, It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me.

Laban tells Jacob that it is better for him to marry his daughter than for him to marry someone else.

1. The importance of family and loyalty in relationships.

2. The beauty of God's provision in difficult situations.

1. Proverbs 18:22 - He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.

2. Psalm 91:14-15 - "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him."

Genesis 29:20 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her.

Jacob served seven years for the woman he loved, Rachel, and it seemed to him like only a few days.

1: Love Makes All Things Possible

2: The Power of Love to Transform

1: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

2: Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

Genesis 29:21 And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her.

Jacob asked Laban to give him his wife so that he could fulfill his duty to her.

1: We should strive to fulfill our obligations to our loved ones.

2: We should trust in God's timing for our lives.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

2: Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Genesis 29:22 And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast.

Laban gathered all the men of the place and hosted a feast.

1. How to Gather Others to Celebrate God's Blessings

2. The Power of Community Celebrations

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Genesis 29:23 And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her.

Jacob married Leah in the evening after his father-in-law Laban tricked him.

1. The Importance of Discernment in Relationships

2. The Blessings of Obedience

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:10-16 - A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

Genesis 29:24 And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid for an handmaid.

Laban gave his daughter Leah the maid Zilpah to be her servant.

1. The Gift of Graciousness: Receiving and Giving Gifts with Love

2. Faithfulness in Obedience: The Example of Zilpah and Leah

1. Matthew 7:12, "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

2. Proverbs 31:15, "She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants."

Genesis 29:25 And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me?

Jacob was tricked by Laban into marrying Leah instead of Rachel, the woman he had served Laban for seven years.

1. The Dangers of Deception: Understanding the Consequences of Jacob's Mistake

2. Honoring Promises: The Value of Keeping Your Word

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord. On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple Yes or No. Otherwise you will be condemned.

Genesis 29:26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.

Laban objects to Jacob taking Rachel as his bride before Leah, his eldest daughter.

1. God's Timing Is Perfect: Learning to Trust in His Plan

2. The Righteousness of Honor and Respect: Recognizing Our Duty to Others

1. Ruth 1:16 17 - But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

2. Proverbs 3:1 2 - My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

Genesis 29:27 Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years.

Jacob agrees to work for seven more years in exchange for marrying Rachel.

1: We all have something we are willing to sacrifice for the things we love.

2: Love can be a powerful motivator to do what is difficult.

1: Philippians 3:8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ

2: Luke 14:25-27 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters yes, even their own life such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

Genesis 29:28 And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also.

Jacob fulfilled Leah's week and then married Rachel, his daughter.

1. The Joy of Marriage - Genesis 29:28

2. Fulfilling God's Promises - Genesis 29:28

1. Ephesians 5:25-33 - Husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the church.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-5 - Marriage is a holy covenant and couples should not separate.

Genesis 29:29 And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid.

Laban gave Rachel his daughter Bilhah as a handmaid.

1. The Power of Generosity: Laban's example of giving his daughter's handmaid to Rachel.

2. The Significance of Marriage: A look at the relationship between Laban, Rachel, and Bilhah.

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Genesis 29:30 And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.

Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah and served Laban for seven more years to marry her.

1. Love that goes the extra mile - Genesis 29:30

2. The blessings of a loving heart - Genesis 29:30

1. Luke 16:10 - He who is faithful in very little is faithful also in much

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Genesis 29:31 And when the LORD saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb: but Rachel was barren.

Leah was blessed with fertility despite being disliked, while Rachel remained barren.

1: Despite our feelings of being unloved, God still blesses us with fertility.

2: God is gracious, even when we are not.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - Because of the Lord s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Genesis 29:32 And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the LORD hath looked upon my affliction; now therefore my husband will love me.

Leah's son Reuben was born as a result of the Lord's blessing on her despite her affliction.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Love and Protection for His People

2. Reuben: A Symbol of God's Faithfulness

1. Psalm 7:10 - "And my defense is of God, which saveth the upright in heart."

2. Psalm 34:19 - "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."

Genesis 29:33 And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Because the LORD hath heard that I was hated, he hath therefore given me this son also: and she called his name Simeon.

Leah conceived and bore a son, whom she named Simeon, because the Lord heard she was hated and gave her this son.

1. God listens to those who are suffering and gives them hope and comfort.

2. God cares for us even in the midst of hatred and oppression.

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

2. Psalm 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Genesis 29:34 And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Now this time will my husband be joined unto me, because I have born him three sons: therefore was his name called Levi.

Leah conceived a third son, who she named Levi, believing that it would bring her closer to her husband.

1. The Hope of Reconciliation: How God's Love Brings Families Together

2. The Power of Names: How Our Choices Can Affect Our Future

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Colossians 3:13-14 - "bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

Genesis 29:35 And she conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, Now will I praise the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah; and left bearing.

Rachel conceives and gives birth to a son, and names him Judah, praising the Lord in the process.

1. The Power of Praise: How Praising the Lord Can Bring Forth Blessing

2. The Faith of Rachel: How Her Faith Brought Forth a Nation

1. Psalm 150:6 "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD."

2. Romans 4:17-18 "As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, So shall your offspring be.

Genesis 30 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 30:1-13, Rachel, who is barren, becomes envious of her sister Leah's ability to bear children. She confronts Jacob and demands that he give her children. Jacob responds in frustration, blaming Rachel for her infertility. Rachel then gives her maid Bilhah to Jacob as a wife so that she can have children through her. Bilhah conceives and bears two sons named Dan and Naphtali. Seeing this, Leah also gives her maid Zilpah to Jacob as a wife, and Zilpah bears two sons named Gad and Asher.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 30:14-24, Reuben finds mandrakes in the field and brings them to his mother Leah. Rachel asks Leah for some of the mandrakes in exchange for letting Jacob spend the night with her. When Jacob comes home from the field, Leah tells him about the arrangement regarding the mandrakes. As a result, God listens to Leah's prayers and she conceives again, giving birth to two more sons named Issachar and Zebulun along with a daughter named Dinah.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 30:25-43, after Joseph's birth to Rachel following years of barrenness for her, Jacob approaches Laban seeking permission to return home with his wives and children. However, Laban convinces him to stay by offering him better wages for his work. They make an agreement where Laban will give Jacob all the speckled or spotted sheep and goats as his wages while keeping all those without spots or speckles for himself. Through cunning breeding techniques involving striped rods placed before mating animals at watering troughs during breeding season, Jacob increases his flock size significantly while Laban's flock diminishes.

In summary:

Genesis 30 presents:

Rachel's envy of Leah's ability to bear children and her demand for children from Jacob;

The introduction of Bilhah and Zilpah as additional wives to Jacob;

The births of Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher through Bilhah and Zilpah.

The exchange between Rachel and Leah regarding mandrakes;

Leah conceiving again and giving birth to Issachar, Zebulun, and Dinah;

Joseph's birth to Rachel after years of barrenness.

Jacob seeking permission from Laban to return home with his family;

Laban convincing Jacob to stay by offering better wages;

Jacob increasing his flock size through cunning breeding techniques while Laban's flock diminishes.

This chapter showcases the complex dynamics within Jacob's household as both Rachel and Leah vie for attention and children. It highlights the use of maids as surrogate mothers in their quest for offspring. The story also reveals God's intervention in answering prayers, particularly in granting fertility to Leah despite being initially unloved by Jacob. Additionally, it demonstrates Jacob's resourcefulness in managing his livestock under Laban's supervision. Genesis 30 sets the stage for future events involving the growing family of Jacob while exploring themes such as jealousy, fertility struggles, divine intervention, and perseverance.

Genesis 30:1 And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.

Rachel's jealousy of her sister's fertility leads her to plead with Jacob for children of her own.

1. Overcoming Jealousy Through Faith in God

2. Trusting God's Timing in Fulfilling His Promises

1. James 3:16 - "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work."

2. Psalm 31:15 - "My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me."

Genesis 30:2 And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?

Jacob's anger at Rachel for her barrenness causes him to question God's role in her lack of fertility.

1. Learning to put our trust in God's will in times of struggle

2. Understanding the importance of not blaming God for our own suffering

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 30:3 And she said, Behold my maid Bilhah, go in unto her; and she shall bear upon my knees, that I may also have children by her.

God created us to be fruitful and multiply, so that we may bring glory to Him.

1. The Fruits of Faith: How God Uses our Trust to Bring Glorious Blessings

2. The Power of Generosity: How Our Giving Brings Joy to God

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Genesis 30:4 And she gave him Bilhah her handmaid to wife: and Jacob went in unto her.

Jacob married Bilhah, the handmaid of his wife Rachel.

1. The Power of Love: A Study of Jacob and Bilhah

2. Commitment to Covenant: A Case Study of Jacob and Bilhah

1. Genesis 2:24 - "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

2. Romans 7:2-3 - "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress."

Genesis 30:5 And Bilhah conceived, and bare Jacob a son.

Bilhah, one of Jacob's wives, gave birth to a son.

1. The Blessing of New Life - Romans 8:22

2. God's Faithfulness - Lamentations 3:22-23

1. Isaiah 66:9 - "Shall I bring to the point of birth and not cause to bring forth?"

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Genesis 30:6 And Rachel said, God hath judged me, and hath also heard my voice, and hath given me a son: therefore called she his name Dan.

Rachel praised God for giving her a son and named him Dan.

1. Praise God in all circumstances

2. Trust in God's timing

1. Psalm 34:1 - "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

2. Lamentations 3:25-26 - The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Genesis 30:7 And Bilhah Rachel's maid conceived again, and bare Jacob a second son.

Rachel's maid Bilhah conceives and gives birth to Jacob's second son.

1. God's Faithfulness: Jacob's Story - Romans 8:28

2. The Power of Hope in Difficult Circumstances - Isaiah 40:31

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Genesis 30:8 And Rachel said, With great wrestlings have I wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali.

Rachel had a difficult battle with her sister, but she was victorious and named her son Naphtali.

1. Never Give Up: God Will See You Through Difficult Battles

2. God's Wisdom is Revealed in Unexpected Ways

1. Romans 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Genesis 30:9 When Leah saw that she had left bearing, she took Zilpah her maid, and gave her Jacob to wife.

Leah gave her maid Zilpah to Jacob to wife.

1. God's Plan for Marriage is Always Clear

2. The Meaning of Faithful Service

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Genesis 2:24-25

Genesis 30:10 And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a son.

Zilpah, Leah's maid, gave birth to Jacob's son.

1. The Miraculous Births in the Bible

2. The Power of Faith and Perseverance

1. Psalm 113:9 - He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the Lord.

2. Isaiah 54:1 - Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord.

Genesis 30:11 And Leah said, A troop cometh: and she called his name Gad.

Leah named her son Gad, saying the name meant "a troop cometh."

1. God Gives Us Strength and Hope in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of a Name: Understanding the Meaning Behind What We Call Others

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold."

Genesis 30:12 And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a second son.

Zilpah, Leah's maid, gave birth to Jacob's second son.

1. The Power of Faith: God's Provision Through Our Trials

2. The Blessing of Motherhood: A Gift from God

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 30:13 And Leah said, Happy am I, for the daughters will call me blessed: and she called his name Asher.

Leah celebrates the birth of her son Asher, feeling blessed that her daughters will call her "blessed".

1. "Blessed in the Name of Asher" - A about the power of blessings, and how the act of being blessed can be passed through generations.

2. "The Joy of Parenthood" - A about the joy a parent feels at the birth of a child, and how it can be a source of strength and comfort.

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."

2. Proverbs 17:6 - "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers."

Genesis 30:14 And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest, and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them unto his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Give me, I pray thee, of thy son's mandrakes.

Reuben found mandrakes in the field during the wheat harvest and brought them to his mother Leah. Rachel then asked Leah for some mandrakes.

1. The importance of being generous and giving to others

2. The power of a mother's love

1. Proverbs 11:25 - "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

2. Proverbs 31:28 - "Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:"

Genesis 30:15 And she said unto her, Is it a small matter that thou hast taken my husband? and wouldest thou take away my son's mandrakes also? And Rachel said, Therefore he shall lie with thee to night for thy son's mandrakes.

Rachel agrees to let Leah sleep with her husband Jacob in exchange for Leah's son's mandrakes.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: A Study of Rachel in Genesis 30

2. Redeeming Relationships: The Power of Forgiveness in Genesis 30

1. Ephesians 5:21-33 - submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ

2. Romans 12:17-21 - overcoming evil with good

Genesis 30:16 And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, Thou must come in unto me; for surely I have hired thee with my son's mandrakes. And he lay with her that night.

Jacob and Leah's relationship is further revealed in this passage, showing that Jacob had a physical relationship with Leah.

1. God's Plan for Love and Marriage - Genesis 30:16

2. The Power of Commitment - Genesis 30:16

1. Song of Solomon 4:10-12 - "How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume than any spice! Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue. The fragrance of your garments is like that of Lebanon."

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-5 - "But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

Genesis 30:17 And God hearkened unto Leah, and she conceived, and bare Jacob the fifth son.

God heard Leah's prayers and she gave birth to Jacob, her fifth son.

1. God always hears our prayers.

2. God answers our prayers in His own time.

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. 1 John 5:14-15 - This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us whatever we ask we know that we have what we asked of him.

Genesis 30:18 And Leah said, God hath given me my hire, because I have given my maiden to my husband: and she called his name Issachar.

God rewards those who are generous to others: 1. God rewards those who honor their commitments: 2. 1: Ecclesiastes 11:1, "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days." 2: Proverbs 19:17, "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."

Genesis 30:19 And Leah conceived again, and bare Jacob the sixth son.

Leah had her sixth son, Jacob.

1. The Faithfulness of God: The Story of Leah and Jacob

2. The Power of Obedience: The Story of Leah and Jacob

1. Genesis 30:19

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 30:20 And Leah said, God hath endued me with a good dowry; now will my husband dwell with me, because I have born him six sons: and she called his name Zebulun.

Leah was blessed with a good dowry, and she had borne her husband six sons. She named the youngest son Zebulun.

1. The Blessings of Fertility: Celebrating God's Gifts of Life

2. The Power of a Name: Understanding the Meaning Behind Biblical Names

1. Luke 1:45 - "And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord."

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

Genesis 30:21 And afterwards she bare a daughter, and called her name Dinah.

Jacob's wife Leah bore a daughter and named her Dinah.

1. God's faithfulness in our lives, even in difficult circumstances - Genesis 30:21

2. The power of a name and the significance of the names that God gives us - Genesis 30:21

1. Matthew 1:22-23 - "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us."

2. Isaiah 43:1 - But now, this is what the Lord says-- he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

Genesis 30:22 And God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her, and opened her womb.

God answered Rachel's prayer and opened her womb, allowing her to become pregnant.

1. God Hears the Prayers of His People

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

1. Luke 1:37 - For nothing will be impossible with God

2. Psalm 145:18-19 - The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.

Genesis 30:23 And she conceived, and bare a son; and said, God hath taken away my reproach:

God has blessed us with the gift of children, showing us that He is faithful to His promises.

1: We can trust in the Lord to fulfill His promises.

2: God's love is demonstrated through the gift of children.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Genesis 30:24 And she called his name Joseph; and said, The LORD shall add to me another son.

Laban's daughter Rachel gives birth to a son and names him Joseph, believing that the LORD will give her another son in the future.

1. Abundant Blessing: God's Promises of Provision

2. The Power of a Name: The Story of Joseph

1. Deuteronomy 28:11-12 - The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you.

12 The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.

2. Isaiah 49:15 - Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!

Genesis 30:25 And it came to pass, when Rachel had born Joseph, that Jacob said unto Laban, Send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country.

Jacob requests to be sent away from Laban, with his family, so he could return to his homeland.

1. Taking responsibility: Jacob's role in the story of Joseph.

2. Following God's will: Learning to trust God in times of uncertainty.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Genesis 30:26 Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served thee, and let me go: for thou knowest my service which I have done thee.

Jacob requests to be released from Laban's service and to take his wives and children with him.

1: God provides us with the strength to endure difficult times.

2: We must be thankful for the opportunities we are given.

1: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2: Psalm 25:4-5 Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Genesis 30:27 And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.

Laban expresses his gratitude towards Jacob for the Lord blessing him through Jacob's presence.

1.God's blessings come through others

2.Recognize and thank God for every blessing

1.James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2.1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God s will for you in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 30:28 And he said, Appoint me thy wages, and I will give it.

Jacob worked hard for Laban and asked for his wages.

1: God rewards hard work.

2: The importance of honest labor.

1: Proverbs 12:14 - From the fruit of their lips people are filled with good things, and the work of their hands brings them reward.

2: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Genesis 30:29 And he said unto him, Thou knowest how I have served thee, and how thy cattle was with me.

Jacob reminds Laban of how he served him and how Laban's cattle were with him.

1. Serving Others with a Right Heart

2. The Value of Hard Work

1. Matthew 25:21 - His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

Genesis 30:30 For it was little which thou hadst before I came, and it is now increased unto a multitude; and the LORD hath blessed thee since my coming: and now when shall I provide for mine own house also?

Jacob's prosperity has increased greatly due to the Lord's blessing since his arrival. He now desires to provide the same blessing for his own household.

1.God Will Bless Us If We Follow His Word

2.Abundance Comes From Obeying God

1.Psalm 1:1-3 - Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

2.Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God.

Genesis 30:31 And he said, What shall I give thee? And Jacob said, Thou shalt not give me any thing: if thou wilt do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep thy flock.

Jacob and Laban reach an agreement that Jacob will take care of Laban's flocks in return for Laban not asking for anything.

1. God will provide for us, even if it may not be in the way we expect.

2. We should always be willing to work hard for what we want in life.

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:19 - Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work this is a gift of God.

Genesis 30:32 I will pass through all thy flock to day, removing from thence all the speckled and spotted cattle, and all the brown cattle among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats: and of such shall be my hire.

Jacob agrees to work for Laban in exchange for the spotted and speckled cattle from his flock.

1. God has a Plan for our Lives: Jacob's Story

2. The Power of Blessing: Laban and Jacob's Agreement

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 1:11 - In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.

Genesis 30:33 So shall my righteousness answer for me in time to come, when it shall come for my hire before thy face: every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the sheep, that shall be counted stolen with me.

Jacob makes a promise to Laban that any animals in his flock that are not speckled or spotted among the goats, or brown among the sheep, will be considered stolen by him.

1. The Power of a Promise: How the Righteousness of Jacob Honors God

2. The Blessing of Integrity: A Call to Uphold Our Promises

1. Proverbs 11:3 (The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.)

2. Matthew 5:33-37 ( Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.)

Genesis 30:34 And Laban said, Behold, I would it might be according to thy word.

Laban agrees with Jacob's request.

1: The importance of being open to the will of God.

2: Learning to be flexible in order to gain God's favor.

1: Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Genesis 30:35 And he removed that day the he goats that were ringstraked and spotted, and all the she goats that were speckled and spotted, and every one that had some white in it, and all the brown among the sheep, and gave them into the hand of his sons.

Jacob sets aside the speckled and spotted goats and sheep, as well as those with white and brown markings, to give to his sons.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Jacob's Generosity Reveals God's Heart

2. Finding Beauty in the Ordinary: How Jacob Celebrated the Small Things

1. Matthew 10:8: "Freely you have received, freely give"

2. Acts 20:35: "It is more blessed to give than to receive"

Genesis 30:36 And he set three days' journey betwixt himself and Jacob: and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks.

Jacob and Laban agreed to a three-day journey between themselves and Jacob took care of the rest of Laban's flocks.

1. Patience and Trust in God: The Story of Jacob and Laban

2. Fulfilling our Obligations: The Example of Jacob and Laban

1. Genesis 31:41 - Thus have I been twenty years in your house; I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock: and you have changed my wages ten times.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Genesis 30:37 And Jacob took him rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chestnut tree; and pilled white strakes in them, and made the white appear which was in the rods.

Jacob used rods to mark his animals and make them distinguishable.

1. The power of personal identification: how God gives us ways to recognize and differentiate ourselves.

2. The importance of claiming our possessions: how God gives us the strength to protect what's ours.

1. Ezekiel 34:11-12 - For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day.

2. Psalm 23:1-2 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Genesis 30:38 And he set the rods which he had pilled before the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs when the flocks came to drink, that they should conceive when they came to drink.

Jacob placed peeled rods in the gutters of the watering troughs so that the flocks would conceive when they came to drink.

1. The Power of God's Provision - Romans 8:28

2. Believing in Miracles - Hebrews 11:1

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters

2. Matthew 6:25-26 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Genesis 30:39 And the flocks conceived before the rods, and brought forth cattle ringstraked, speckled, and spotted.

Jacob's flocks were producing multicolored offspring due to the rods he placed in front of them.

1. The Power of Faith: How Jacob's faith in God enabled his flocks to produce multicolored offspring.

2. Abundance in God's Creation: How God's bounty and provision can be seen in the variety of life.

1. John 10:11, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

2. James 1:17, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights."

Genesis 30:40 And Jacob did separate the lambs, and set the faces of the flocks toward the ringstraked, and all the brown in the flock of Laban; and he put his own flocks by themselves, and put them not unto Laban's cattle.

Jacob successfully separated his own flocks from those of Laban, despite Laban's attempts to confuse the herds.

1. God's provision is enough to overcome any obstacle.

2. God's plans are greater than our own.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 30:41 And it came to pass, whensoever the stronger cattle did conceive, that Jacob laid the rods before the eyes of the cattle in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods.

Jacob used rods to help the stronger cattle conceive.

1. God's sovereignty in the smallest details of life

2. The power of faith in accomplishing great tasks

1. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 30:42 But when the cattle were feeble, he put them not in: so the feebler were Laban's, and the stronger Jacob's.

Jacob's hard work was rewarded with the stronger cattle.

1: God rewards hard work with blessings.

2: Persevere through hardship and God will provide.

1: Proverbs 10:4 - He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Genesis 30:43 And the man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle, and maidservants, and menservants, and camels, and asses.

Jacob had become very wealthy, owning many animals, servants, and livestock.

1. The Blessing of Abundance: Learning to Appreciate and Share God's Provision

2. Contentment: What Does It Mean to Be Truly Satisfied in Life?

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

Genesis 31 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 31:1-16, Jacob becomes aware of Laban's sons' growing resentment towards him and realizes that Laban's attitude has also changed. God instructs Jacob to return to the land of his fathers. Jacob gathers his wives, children, and livestock secretly and sets out on a journey back to Canaan without informing Laban. Rachel steals her father's household idols, unbeknownst to Jacob. After traveling for a while, Laban discovers that Jacob has left and pursues him with his relatives.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 31:17-35, God warns Laban in a dream not to harm Jacob. When he catches up with Jacob's camp in the mountains of Gilead, he confronts him about leaving secretly and accuses him of stealing his household gods. Unaware that Rachel had taken them, Jacob allows Laban to search their belongings but warns that whoever is found with the idols will not live. Rachel cleverly hides the idols under her camel saddle and avoids detection when Laban searches their tents.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 31:36-55, after failing to find the stolen idols, Laban and Jacob make a covenant at Mizpah as a sign of reconciliation between them. They set up a heap of stones as a witness and agree not to cross it with harmful intentions towards each other or reveal each other's secrets. They part ways peacefully after exchanging oaths. The chapter concludes by highlighting how Jacob continues his journey back home while establishing new settlements along the way.

In summary:

Genesis 31 presents:

Jacob becoming aware of growing resentment from Laban's sons;

God instructing him to return to Canaan;

Jacob secretly leaving with his family and livestock without informing Laban;

Laban pursuing them upon discovering their departure.

Laban confronting Jacob about leaving secretly and accusing him of theft;

Rachel stealing Laban's household idols and hiding them cleverly;

Jacob allowing Laban to search their belongings but the idols remaining hidden.

Laban and Jacob making a covenant at Mizpah as a sign of reconciliation;

Establishing a heap of stones as a witness to their agreement;

Parting ways peacefully after exchanging oaths.

This chapter highlights the strained relationship between Jacob and Laban, leading to Jacob's decision to return to Canaan. It showcases God's protection over Jacob by warning Laban not to harm him in a dream. The story emphasizes Rachel's deceit in stealing her father's idols, which foreshadows future consequences. The covenant made between Laban and Jacob signifies an attempt at peaceful resolution despite their differences. Genesis 31 portrays the ongoing journey of Jacob back to his homeland while addressing themes such as family dynamics, trust, deception, divine intervention, and reconciliation.

Genesis 31:1 And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory.

Jacob had taken from Laban s sons what belonged to their father.

1. The Blessing of Obedience - How following God's commands can bring great rewards.

2. God's Provision - How God will provide strength and guidance in times of need.

1. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Be humble and trust in God.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Genesis 31:2 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.

Jacob noticed that Laban's attitude towards him had changed and was no longer friendly.

1. God is always watching and will protect us in difficult times.

2. Don't let your circumstances define you; stay focused on God's plan.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Genesis 31:3 And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee.

God commands Jacob to return to his family and promises that He will be with him.

1: God is always with us, even when we are far from home.

2: Trust in the Lord's plan for your life, even when it takes you away from those you love.

1: Matthew 28:20 "Remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

2: Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Genesis 31:4 And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock,

Jacob calls Rachel and Leah to the field to meet him at his flock.

1. The Power of Reconciliation: Jacob's Example of Healing Broken Relationships

2. Following God's Call: Jacob's Obedience to God's Plan

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Genesis 31:5 And said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me.

Jacob notices a change in Laban's attitude toward him and recognizes the hand of God at work.

1. God is with us in our darkest times and will never abandon us.

2. God is faithful and will work on our behalf to bring about good.

1. Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:28, And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 31:6 And ye know that with all my power I have served your father.

Jacob tells Laban that he had been a faithful servant to him and his father.

1. Serving God and Others with Diligence

2. The Blessings of Faithful Service

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

2. Proverbs 22:29 - Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

Genesis 31:7 And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me.

Laban deceived Jacob and changed his wages ten times, but God protected him from harm.

1. God Is Always There To Protect Us - Genesis 31:7

2. How To Trust In God's Protection - Genesis 31:7

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall condemn.

2. Psalm 121:3 - He will not suffer your foot to be moved: he that keeps you will not slumber.

Genesis 31:8 If he said thus, The speckled shall be thy wages; then all the cattle bare speckled: and if he said thus, The ringstraked shall be thy hire; then bare all the cattle ringstraked.

Laban offered Jacob different wages based on the markings of the livestock, and all of the livestock ended up having the markings that Jacob was offered.

1. God honors those who are faithful to Him by blessing their labor.

2. God will provide us with exactly what we need, even if it is unexpected.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 31:9 Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me.

God has taken away Laban's cattle and given them to Jacob.

1. God rewards those who are faithful and obedient.

2. God is the ultimate provider and sustainer of life.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 God's promise of blessing for obedience.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord and He will provide.

Genesis 31:10 And it came to pass at the time that the cattle conceived, that I lifted up mine eyes, and saw in a dream, and, behold, the rams which leaped upon the cattle were ringstraked, speckled, and grisled.

Jacob saw a dream in which the rams that were leaping upon the cattle were ringstraked, speckled, and grisled.

1. God's Guidance: Seeing God's Hand in Difficult Times

2. Trusting in God's Promises: Understanding the Power of Dreams

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 33:3 - Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

Genesis 31:11 And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: And I said, Here am I.

The angel of God speaks to Jacob in a dream, to which Jacob responds, "Here am I."

1. God Speaks to Us: Learning to Listen to God's Voice

2. The Power of an Unmistakably Obedient Response

1. Matthew 7:7-8 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

2. James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Genesis 31:12 And he said, Lift up now thine eyes, and see, all the rams which leap upon the cattle are ringstraked, speckled, and grisled: for I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee.

Jacob notices that all the rams that are leaping upon the cattle are ringstraked, speckled, and grisled, and he remembers all that Laban has done to him.

1. The Power of Perception: Learning to Appreciate the Blessings in Our Lives

2. The Journey of Faith: Overcoming Challenges and Obstacles

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Genesis 31:13 I am the God of Bethel, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.

God speaks to Jacob and tells him to leave the land and return to his own family.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

2. The Importance of Obedience to God

1. Genesis 28:10-22 - Jacob's experience at Bethel and his vow to the Lord

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - Loving and obeying the Lord with all our heart and soul.

Genesis 31:14 And Rachel and Leah answered and said unto him, Is there yet any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house?

Rachel and Leah ask Jacob if there is any inheritance for them in their father's house.

1. The Importance of Asking for What is Due

2. A Lesson in Contentment from Rachel and Leah

1. Matthew 7:7 - Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

Genesis 31:15 Are we not counted of him strangers? for he hath sold us, and hath quite devoured also our money.

Jacob and Laban's relationship had deteriorated to the point that Jacob felt he was being treated as a stranger.

1. The Power of Unforgiveness: How Even Our Closest Relationships Can Be Destroyed

2. The Value of Money: How Greed Can Poison Our Relationships

1. Ephesians 4:31-32 - "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Genesis 31:16 For all the riches which God hath taken from our father, that is ours, and our children's: now then, whatsoever God hath said unto thee, do.

Jacob has reminded Laban that God has given him and his children the riches of his father, and he encourages Laban to abide by God's commands.

1: We must be obedient to God's commands, no matter the cost.

2: We must recognize the gifts of God in our life, no matter how unexpected.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?"

2: Psalm 37:4-5 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Genesis 31:17 Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives upon camels;

Jacob departed from Laban with his family, possessions, and flocks.

1: God will provide the way for us to accomplish our goals.

2: God will protect us when we are in danger.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2: Psalm 91:11 - "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

Genesis 31:18 And he carried away all his cattle, and all his goods which he had gotten, the cattle of his getting, which he had gotten in Padanaram, for to go to Isaac his father in the land of Canaan.

Laban followed Jacob as he left Padanaram with his family and property, intending to return to the land of Canaan to his father Isaac.

1. The importance of family and honoring one's parents.

2. The importance of keeping our promises and fulfilling our obligations.

1. Exodus 20:12 - "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - "When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it."

Genesis 31:19 And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's.

Rachel stole her father Laban's household gods while he was away shearing his sheep.

1. The Power of Taking a Stand: The Story of Rachel and Laban

2. Doing What's Right Even When It's Hard: Lessons from Rachel's Theft

1. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Proverbs 21:6 The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor, the pursuit of death.

Genesis 31:20 And Jacob stole away unawares to Laban the Syrian, in that he told him not that he fled.

Jacob deceived Laban by not telling him he was leaving.

1: We must be honest with our brothers, even when it is difficult.

2: We should not deceive ourselves or others by our actions.

1: Ephesians 4:15 Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.

2: Matthew 5:37 Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

Genesis 31:21 So he fled with all that he had; and he rose up, and passed over the river, and set his face toward the mount Gilead.

Jacob escapes from Laban and returns to his homeland.

1: Stand firm in your convictions and do not let fear guide your decisions.

2: Have faith in God and He will guide your path.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Genesis 31:22 And it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob was fled.

Jacob fled from Laban after being informed Laban was searching for him.

1: God can use any circumstance to protect us and provide for us, even when it appears He has abandoned us.

2: Jacob's faith and obedience to God's commandment to return to the land of his fathers was a testimony of his trust in God's promise and guidance.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Genesis 28:15 - "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."

Genesis 31:23 And he took his brethren with him, and pursued after him seven days' journey; and they overtook him in the mount Gilead.

God's faithfulness is seen in his protection of Jacob.

1: God will always be faithful and protect us no matter the circumstance.

2: We can trust in God's faithfulness to keep us safe and secure.

1: 2 Timothy 2:13 - "If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Genesis 31:24 And God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night, and said unto him, Take heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad.

God appears to Laban in a dream, warning him not to speak to Jacob either positively or negatively.

1. "The Power of God's Warnings: Learning from Laban's Story"

2. "God Knows Best: Listening to His Warnings"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Matthew 7:24-27 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Genesis 31:25 Then Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the mount: and Laban with his brethren pitched in the mount of Gilead.

Jacob and Laban meet in the mount of Gilead.

1. When God Brings Us Together - Learning to Work Together Despite Differences

2. The Importance of Keeping Promises - The Example of Jacob and Laban

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Genesis 31:26 And Laban said to Jacob, What hast thou done, that thou hast stolen away unawares to me, and carried away my daughters, as captives taken with the sword?

Laban confronts Jacob for taking his daughters away without his knowledge.

1. Our hearts should be open to the need of others.

2. We can't be too quick to judge the actions of others.

1. Matthew 7:1-2 Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.

2. Philippians 2:4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Genesis 31:27 Wherefore didst thou flee away secretly, and steal away from me; and didst not tell me, that I might have sent thee away with mirth, and with songs, with tabret, and with harp?

Jacob fled from Laban without telling him, causing Laban distress.

1. The Power of Honesty and Communication in Relationships

2. The Effects of Dishonesty in Relationships

1. Ephesians 4:15 - Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

2. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple Yes or No. Otherwise you will be condemned.

Genesis 31:28 And hast not suffered me to kiss my sons and my daughters? thou hast now done foolishly in so doing.

Laban is angry with Jacob for leaving without saying goodbye and not allowing him to kiss his children.

1. The importance of showing gratitude and respect.

2. The consequences of selfishness and foolishness.

1. Ephesians 6:2-3: Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 15:5: A fool despises his father s instruction, but he who regards reproof is prudent.

Genesis 31:29 It is in the power of my hand to do you hurt: but the God of your father spake unto me yesternight, saying, Take thou heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad.

God instructed Laban not to speak either good or bad to Jacob.

1. God's power works in mysterious ways

2. Do not be quick to judge

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 4:11-12 - Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

Genesis 31:30 And now, though thou wouldest needs be gone, because thou sore longedst after thy father's house, yet wherefore hast thou stolen my gods?

Jacob is accusing Laban of stealing his gods after Laban allowed Jacob to leave for his hometown.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting in God's Plan Despite Temptation

2. The Importance of Honesty and Integrity

1. Matthew 6:24-25 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

2. Proverbs 11:3 "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."

Genesis 31:31 And Jacob answered and said to Laban, Because I was afraid: for I said, Peradventure thou wouldest take by force thy daughters from me.

Jacob feared that Laban would take his daughters by force, so he ran away with them.

1. God's protection is always with us, even in times of fear.

2. We must trust in the Lord even when we are afraid.

1. Psalm 118:6 - "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Genesis 31:32 With whomsoever thou findest thy gods, let him not live: before our brethren discern thou what is thine with me, and take it to thee. For Jacob knew not that Rachel had stolen them.

Jacob told his family that whoever had taken his gods should not live, and they should determine what belonged to him.

1. Do not Steal: A on the Consequence of Stealing.

2. The Honesty of Jacob: A on the Integrity of Doing the Right Thing.

1. Proverbs 6:30-31 - "People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger when he is starving. Yet if he is caught, he must pay sevenfold, though it costs him all the wealth of his house."

2. Mark 10:19 - "You know the commandments: You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, You shall not defraud, Honor your father and mother.

Genesis 31:33 And Laban went into Jacob's tent, and into Leah's tent, and into the two maidservants' tents; but he found them not. Then went he out of Leah's tent, and entered into Rachel's tent.

Laban searched Jacob, Leah, and the two maidservants' tents but could not find what he was looking for, and eventually went into Rachel's tent.

1. Trusting in God's timing and providence rather than our own.

2. The power of faithfulness and loyalty in our relationships.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Genesis 31:34 Now Rachel had taken the images, and put them in the camel's furniture, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but found them not.

Rachel took the idols of her father and hid them in the camel's furniture.

1. The power of deceit in our lives

2. The need for repentance and faithfulness

1. Proverbs 12:23 - A prudent man conceals knowledge, But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

2. Romans 10:9-10 - that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Genesis 31:35 And she said to her father, Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before thee; for the custom of women is upon me. And he searched, but found not the images.

Jacob and Laban part ways peaceably but Laban searches for his teraphim and discovers they are not with Jacob.

1. The Power of Gods Providence: How God's Blessing and Protection Guides Our Lives

2. The Importance of Keeping Our Promises: Fulfilling Our Obligations to One Another

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 12:17-19 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Genesis 31:36 And Jacob was wroth, and chode with Laban: and Jacob answered and said to Laban, What is my trespass? what is my sin, that thou hast so hotly pursued after me?

Jacob questions Laban's motives for pursuing him.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Midst of Conflict

2. Trusting God When We Feel Overwhelmed

1. Romans 8:31: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 23:4: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."

Genesis 31:37 Whereas thou hast searched all my stuff, what hast thou found of all thy household stuff? set it here before my brethren and thy brethren, that they may judge betwixt us both.

Jacob and Laban settle their dispute in a peaceful and fair manner.

1. The importance of settling disputes peacefully and fairly.

2. Conflict resolution through compromise and understanding.

1. Matthew 18:15-17 - "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector."

2. Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Genesis 31:38 This twenty years have I been with thee; thy ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young, and the rams of thy flock have I not eaten.

Jacob spent twenty years working for Laban, during which he did not consume any of the flock's offspring.

1. The Value of Hard Work: Jacob's example of twenty years of faithful service to Laban.

2. Faithful Stewardship: Jacob's dedication to safeguarding Laban's flock.

1. Proverbs 12:11 - He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Genesis 31:39 That which was torn of beasts I brought not unto thee; I bare the loss of it; of my hand didst thou require it, whether stolen by day, or stolen by night.

The passage reveals that Jacob acknowledges that some of his flock had been lost, and he accepted responsibility for it.

1. Accepting Responsibility: Learning from Jacob's Example

2. Overcoming Adversity: A Look at Jacob's Strength

1. 2 Corinthians 4:8-10 - We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Genesis 31:40 Thus I was; in the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night; and my sleep departed from mine eyes.

Jacob expresses his exhaustion due to the extreme weather conditions.

1. The Struggle of Faith: Trusting God During Difficult Times

2. God's Provision in the Desert: Learning from Jacob's Endurance

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

Genesis 31:41 Thus have I been twenty years in thy house; I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle: and thou hast changed my wages ten times.

Jacob recounts to Laban how he has served him faithfully for 20 years.

1: God calls us to serve Him faithfully, as Jacob did for Laban.

2: We must be mindful of how we treat those around us, as Laban did not keep his word with Jacob.

1: Galatians 5:13 - For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

2: 1 Peter 4:10 - As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Genesis 31:42 Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely thou hadst sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction and the labour of my hands, and rebuked thee yesternight.

Jacob acknowledges the protection of the God of Abraham and Isaac, and that God had seen his affliction and labor and had rebuked Laban the previous night.

1. God Sees and Rewards Our Faithfulness

2. The Protection of God in Times of Affliction

1. James 5:7-8 - Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 31:43 And Laban answered and said unto Jacob, These daughters are my daughters, and these children are my children, and these cattle are my cattle, and all that thou seest is mine: and what can I do this day unto these my daughters, or unto their children which they have born?

Laban acknowledges that Jacob has taken his daughters, children, and cattle, and he asks what he can do for them.

1. God's Provision in Times of Need - Genesis 31:43

2. The Power of Recognizing God's Sovereignty - Genesis 31:43

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Genesis 31:44 Now therefore come thou, let us make a covenant, I and thou; and let it be for a witness between me and thee.

Jacob and Laban make a covenant as a witness between them.

1: The importance of honoring covenants.

2: The power of a witness.

1: Ecclesiastes 5:4 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

2: Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths.

Genesis 31:45 And Jacob took a stone, and set it up for a pillar.

Jacob sets up a stone as a pillar in remembrance of his covenant with Laban.

1: Remembering God's Faithfulness - Jacob serves as an example of how we can remember God's faithfulness and blessings in our lives.

2: Making Covenants with God - Jacob's example shows us the importance of making and keeping covenants with God.

1: Joshua 24:26-27 - "And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God. And he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord."

2: 2 Samuel 18:18 - "Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up a pillar for himself, which is in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in remembrance." He called the pillar after his own name, and it is called Absalom's Monument to this day."

Genesis 31:46 And Jacob said unto his brethren, Gather stones; and they took stones, and made an heap: and they did eat there upon the heap.

Jacob and his brothers ate together on a pile of stones.

1. The Power of Shared Meals - how gathering for a meal can bring people closer together

2. The Strength of Unity - how coming together as a family is essential for success

1. Acts 2:42-47 - The importance of communal meals and fellowship in the early church.

2. Psalm 133 - How unity among brothers brings joy and blessing from God.

Genesis 31:47 And Laban called it Jegarsahadutha: but Jacob called it Galeed.

Laban and Jacob had a meeting, and Laban named the place Jegarsahadutha, while Jacob named it Galeed.

1. The Power of Names: How the Words We Choose Can Impact Our Lives

2. The Meaning of Covenant: The Significance of Making and Keeping Promises

1. Isaiah 62:2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.

2. Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Genesis 31:48 And Laban said, This heap is a witness between me and thee this day. Therefore was the name of it called Galeed;

This passage describes how Laban and Jacob agreed to a covenant and named the heap of stones that served as a witness between them as Galeed.

1. God's grace can help us create covenants with one another.

2. Our actions and words should reflect the covenants we make.

1. Galatians 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

2. Romans 12:9-10 "Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Genesis 31:49 And Mizpah; for he said, The LORD watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another.

Mizpah was a reminder to Jacob and Laban of the Lord's presence in their lives, even when they were apart.

1. God is always with us, no matter where we are.

2. Let us remember to call on the Lord for strength and guidance, even during difficult times.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Genesis 31:50 If thou shalt afflict my daughters, or if thou shalt take other wives beside my daughters, no man is with us; see, God is witness betwixt me and thee.

Jacob and Laban make a covenant to not harm each other or their families in front of God as a witness.

1: We should always honor our agreements and promises, even if they are made in front of God.

2: We should work to build trust in our relationships by keeping our word.

1: Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

2: Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.

Genesis 31:51 And Laban said to Jacob, Behold this heap, and behold this pillar, which I have cast betwixt me and thee:

This passage discusses Laban's actions of casting a pillar and heap between himself and Jacob as a way to make a covenant.

1: God's covenants are not to be taken lightly and are meant to be respected and honored.

2: We are called to respect the terms and conditions of the covenants we make with others.

1: Jeremiah 34:18-20 - "And I will give the men that have transgressed my covenant, which have not performed the words of the covenant which they had made before me, when they cut the calf in twain, and passed between the parts thereof. The princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, which passed between the parts of the calf; I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life: and their dead bodies shall be for meat unto the fowls of the heaven, and to the beasts of the earth."

2: Ezekiel 17:18-20 - "Seeing he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, when, lo, he had given his hand, and hath done all these things, he shall not escape. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; As I live, surely mine oath that he hath despised, and my covenant that he hath broken, even it will I recompense upon his own head. Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even bring upon him a reign of terror, according to the terror of him that is at his hand; and I will cut off from him him that passeth through the gate, and him that returneth from the battle."

Genesis 31:52 This heap be witness, and this pillar be witness, that I will not pass over this heap to thee, and that thou shalt not pass over this heap and this pillar unto me, for harm.

This verse emphasizes the importance of peace and respect between two parties.

1. "The Value of Keeping Promises," emphasizing the power of a mutual agreement to maintain peace.

2. "The Blessing of Mutual Respect," emphasizing the importance of honoring one another.

1. Proverbs 6:1-5, emphasizing the importance of fulfilling obligations.

2. Philippians 2:3-4, emphasizing the importance of humility and respect in relationships.

Genesis 31:53 The God of Abraham, and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge betwixt us. And Jacob sware by the fear of his father Isaac.

Jacob and Laban settle their differences by invoking the God of Abraham and Nahor, and Jacob swore by the fear of his father, Isaac.

1. The Benefits of Resolving Conflict Through Peaceful Means

2. The Power of Invoking God in Difficult Situations

1. Romans 12:18 - "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

Genesis 31:54 Then Jacob offered sacrifice upon the mount, and called his brethren to eat bread: and they did eat bread, and tarried all night in the mount.

Jacob and his brethren celebrated their covenant by sacrificing and eating a meal together on the mount.

1. The importance of celebrating and honoring covenants.

2. The power of eating together in unity.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Acts 2:42-45 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts.

Genesis 31:55 And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them: and Laban departed, and returned unto his place.

Laban departed from his family after blessing them.

1. God's Blessing in Times of Separation

2. The Power of a Parent's Embrace

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 11:19 - You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Genesis 32 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 32:1-8, Jacob prepares to meet his estranged brother Esau as he returns to Canaan. Jacob sends messengers ahead of him to inform Esau of his return and to gauge his intentions. The messengers return with news that Esau is approaching with four hundred men. Fearing for the safety of himself and his family, Jacob divides his camp into two groups, hoping that if one is attacked, the other may escape. He prays to God for protection and reminds Him of His promises.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 32:9-21, Jacob sends gifts ahead as a peace offering to appease Esau's potential anger. He sends herds of livestock in separate droves and instructs his servants on how they should approach Esau when they encounter him. That night, while alone at the Jabbok River, a man wrestles with Jacob until daybreak. The man realizes he cannot overpower Jacob and touches the socket of his hip joint, dislocating it. However, Jacob refuses to let go unless the man blesses him.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 32:22-32, as dawn breaks after their wrestling match, the man reveals himself as God or an angel representing God. He changes Jacob's name to Israel because he has struggled with both God and men and has prevailed. Jacob realizes that he has encountered God face-to-face but survives despite seeing Him directly a remarkable event in itself. As a result of this encounter, Israel limps due to his dislocated hip joint from wrestling with God.

In summary:

Genesis 32 presents:

Jacob preparing to meet Esau after years of separation;

Sending messengers ahead and receiving news of Esau's approach;

Dividing his camp into two groups out of fear for their safety;

Praying to God for protection and reminding Him of His promises.

Jacob sending gifts as a peace offering to Esau;

Wrestling with a man at the Jabbok River throughout the night;

The man dislocating Jacob's hip joint but being unable to prevail against him;

Jacob refusing to let go until receiving a blessing.

The man revealing himself as God or an angel representing God;

Changing Jacob's name to Israel due to his struggle with God and men;

Jacob realizing he has encountered God face-to-face and surviving the encounter despite seeing Him directly;

Israel limping due to his dislocated hip joint as a result of wrestling with God.

This chapter showcases Jacob's apprehension and preparations as he faces the impending meeting with Esau. It highlights his reliance on prayer, strategy, and offering gifts in an attempt to reconcile with his brother. The mysterious wrestling match symbolizes Jacob's struggle not only with a physical opponent but also with God Himself. It signifies a significant turning point in Jacob's life, resulting in both physical injury and spiritual transformation. Genesis 32 emphasizes themes such as fear, reconciliation, divine encounters, perseverance, and personal transformation through wrestling with God.

Genesis 32:1 And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.

Jacob encounters the angels of God on his journey.

1: God's presence is with us during our journeys.

2: We should trust in God as we journey through life.

1: Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and staff, they comfort me."

2: Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Genesis 32:2 And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

Jacob encounters God's host and names the location Mahanaim.

1. God's presence and protection in times of difficulty.

2. The importance of recognizing God's work in our lives.

1. Psalm 46:7 - The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Genesis 32:3 And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

Jacob sends messengers to Esau in order to seek his approval and blessing.

1: God desires us to make peace with those we have wronged and seek the approval of others.

2: We can learn from Jacob's example in seeking reconciliation with those we have wronged.

1: Matthew 5:24 "Leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

2: Romans 14:19 "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

Genesis 32:4 And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall ye speak unto my lord Esau; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed there until now:

Jacob sends messengers to Esau to tell him of his sojourn with Laban and his stay there until present.

1. The importance of patience and preparation in life.

2. God's faithfulness in guiding us in life's journey.

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 32:5 And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight.

Jacob sends a message to Esau, asking for grace so that he can safely enter his territory.

1. Learning to Ask for Grace in Difficult Situations

2. The Power of Humility in Everyday Life

1. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace.

2. Philippians 4:6 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Genesis 32:6 And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him.

The messengers Jacob had sent to Esau returned with news that Esau was coming to meet Jacob with four hundred men.

1. The Power of Reconciliation: Jacob and Esau's Journey to Reunification

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning from Jacob and Esau's Story

1. Romans 12:14-16 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Genesis 32:7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands;

Jacob was afraid and divided his party into two groups for protection.

1: When facing a difficult situation, it is important to trust in God and remember that He will protect you.

2: God will provide a way for us even in seemingly impossible situations.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Genesis 32:8 And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape.

Jacob sent a message to Esau asking for peace in exchange for gifts. He divided his people into two camps, so that if Esau attacked one camp, the other would escape.

1. The Wisdom of Jacob: How We Can Learn from His Example

2. The Peace of God: Embracing Reconciliation and Forgiveness

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Proverbs 15:18 - "A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel."

Genesis 32:9 And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:

Jacob prays to God, asking for His protection and provision as he returns to his homeland.

1. Jacob's Faithful Prayer - Knowing God to Trust Him

2. God's Faithful Provision - Experiencing His Promises in Our Lives

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

Genesis 32:10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.

Jacob acknowledges his unworthiness of the Lord's mercy and grace, as he reflects on his journey across the Jordan River.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Learning to Appreciate God's Blessings

2. The Journey to Faith: Understanding the Power of God's Providence

1. Psalm 103:2-4 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

2. Romans 11:33-36 - O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

Genesis 32:11 Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.

Jacob prays to God for protection from his brother Esau, whom he fears will attack him and his family.

1. The Danger of Fearing Our Brothers

2. Learning to Trust God in Times of Fear

1. Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

2. Psalm 56:3-4 - When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

Genesis 32:12 And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

God's promise of blessing and abundance.

1: With faith, God will bless us with more than we can imagine.

2: God has the power to give us more than we can count.

1: Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

2: Psalms 112:2 - His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Genesis 32:13 And he lodged there that same night; and took of that which came to his hand a present for Esau his brother;

Jacob prepared a gift for his brother Esau in order to make peace between them.

1. The power of reconciliation and understanding between family members.

2. The importance of humility in recognizing our responsibilities to others.

1. Romans 12:18, "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Proverbs 17:17, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Genesis 32:14 Two hundred she goats, and twenty he goats, two hundred ewes, and twenty rams,

Jacob prepared a peace offering to appease the anger of Esau.

1: We must always be prepared to make peace with our enemies. Matthew 5:43-44 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

2: God is generous and blesses us with abundance. James 1:17 "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

1: Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2: Psalm 34:14 "Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it."

Genesis 32:15 Thirty milch camels with their colts, forty kine, and ten bulls, twenty she asses, and ten foals.

Jacob was blessed with an abundance of livestock.

1: God will provide for us in our time of need.

2: God can and will bless us beyond our expectations.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-6 If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

Genesis 32:16 And he delivered them into the hand of his servants, every drove by themselves; and said unto his servants, Pass over before me, and put a space betwixt drove and drove.

Jacob divided his cattle into two groups and instructed his servants to separate them as they crossed the river.

1. The Importance of Following Instructions - Genesis 32:16

2. God's Providence in Jacob's Journey - Genesis 32:16

1. Proverbs 19:20 - Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Genesis 32:17 And he commanded the foremost, saying, When Esau my brother meeteth thee, and asketh thee, saying, Whose art thou? and whither goest thou? and whose are these before thee?

Passage Jacob sends messengers ahead to meet his brother Esau, and instructs them to answer any questions he may have.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Jacob's forethought set an example for us.

2. Family Reconciliation: The importance of creating and maintaining strong bonds with loved ones.

1. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Genesis 32:18 Then thou shalt say, They be thy servant Jacob's; it is a present sent unto my lord Esau: and, behold, also he is behind us.

Jacob sends a present to Esau to ask for his forgiveness.

1: God encourages us to seek forgiveness and reconciliation with those who have wronged us.

2: We can learn from Jacob's example of humility and courage in the face of adversity.

1: Luke 23:34 - Jesus said, Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.

2: Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

Genesis 32:19 And so commanded he the second, and the third, and all that followed the droves, saying, On this manner shall ye speak unto Esau, when ye find him.

Jacob gives instructions to his servants to speak to Esau in a certain manner.

1. The importance of having a plan before engaging in difficult conversations.

2. The power of words in our relationships with others.

1. Proverbs 16:1 "The plans of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD."

2. James 3:5-6 "So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell."

Genesis 32:20 And say ye moreover, Behold, thy servant Jacob is behind us. For he said, I will appease him with the present that goeth before me, and afterward I will see his face; peradventure he will accept of me.

Jacob sends a gift to Esau in order to appease him, hoping that Esau will accept him.

1. The power of a present: how gifts can be used to bridge gaps between people.

2. The courage of Jacob: how he faced his fears and took the initiative to reconcile with his brother.

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Genesis 32:21 So went the present over before him: and himself lodged that night in the company.

Jacob sent gifts to his brother Esau in order to appease him and spent the night in the company of his servants.

1. The power of peace offerings: Jacob shows us the power of humbly offering peace to those whom we have wronged.

2. The importance of repentance: Jacob's story is a reminder of the importance of repentance and making peace with our enemies.

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Genesis 32:22 And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two womenservants, and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford Jabbok.

Jacob prepared to leave for the land of his father-in-law, Laban, by taking with him his two wives, two female servants, and eleven sons and crossing over the ford Jabbok.

1. Taking on the Challenges of Life: Jacob's Journey

2. Living a Life of Faith: Jacob's Example

1. Psalm 18:30 - As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all them that trust in him.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Genesis 32:23 And he took them, and sent them over the brook, and sent over that he had.

Jacob sent his possessions across a brook and crossed over himself.

1. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Genesis 32:24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

Jacob wrestles with God and is left alone.

1: Jacob's Struggle with Faith

2: Overcoming Challenges with God's Help

1: Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

2: Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Genesis 32:25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

Jacob wrestles with God and prevails, but at a cost.

1: We can be victorious in our struggles with God, but it may not come without a price.

2: Through faith we can overcome any obstacle, but it may come with a cost.

Luke 9:23 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Genesis 32:26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

Jacob wrestles with an angel and is blessed.

1: God's blessings will come after perseverance.

2: God's blessings come to those who are willing to fight for them.

1: James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2: Ephesians 6:10-12 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Genesis 32:27 And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.

The Lord asked Jacob his name.

1. The Power of Names: What Does Our Name Say About Us?

2. Knowing Who We Are: Learning from Jacob

1. Exodus 3:13-15 - God reveals His name to Moses

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - God's promise of redemption to His people, Jacob, Israel

Genesis 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

Jacob's name was changed to Israel after he wrestled with God and overcame.

1. The Strength of Faith: How Jacob Overcame Through His Belief

2. God's Promise to His People: The Significance of Jacob's Name Change

1. Romans 8:31-39 - How nothing can separate us from the love of God

2. Colossians 1:13-14 - How the power of Jesus' blood redeems us from darkness to the kingdom of light.

Genesis 32:29 And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

Jacob asked an unnamed figure for his name, but the figure instead asked why Jacob wanted to know and blessed him.

1. God's blessings come with no strings attached.

2. God is always willing to answer our prayers.

1. John 15:7 "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

2. James 4:2-3 "You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

Genesis 32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

Jacob names a place Peniel after having a personal encounter with God and being preserved.

1. God's Power to Preserve Us

2. The Blessing of Seeing God Face to Face

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:8 - "Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!"

Genesis 32:31 And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.

Jacob encountered God at the ford of the Jabbok, where he wrestled with Him all night until the sun rose.

1. Wrestling with God: Why We Should Not Fear Difficult Times

2. Transforming Our Struggle: How To Find Victory In The Midst Of Adversity

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer.

Genesis 32:32 Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.

Jacob wrestled with an angel and was injured in the thigh, and as a result, the Israelites are not allowed to eat that particular sinew.

1. God's blessings come with a price, and are not without sacrifice. 2. God's power is greater than our own, and we must remember to humble ourselves before Him.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. 2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up.

Genesis 33 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 33:1-7, Jacob approaches Esau with trepidation, but instead of hostility, Esau runs to meet him and embraces him warmly. They both weep as they reconcile after years of separation. Jacob introduces his family to Esau, including his wives and children. Esau questions the purpose of the gifts Jacob had sent ahead and initially refuses them. However, Jacob insists that Esau accept the offerings as a gesture of goodwill and peace between them.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 33:8-15, Esau eventually agrees to accept the gifts from Jacob. He suggests that they travel together towards Seir but offers some of his men to accompany Jacob for protection. However, Jacob declines the offer and explains that his children are young and need rest during their journey. Instead, he promises to meet Esau in Seir at a later time. Despite their reconciliation, Jacob takes a different route and settles near Shechem while building an altar there.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 33:16-20, after parting ways with Esau on good terms, Jacob arrives at Shechem where he purchases a plot of land from Hamor's sons for one hundred pieces of money. He erects an altar there called El-Elohe-Israel (meaning "God is the God of Israel"). This chapter concludes by highlighting Dinah's unfortunate encounter with Shechem (son of Hamor) when he violates her; this incident sets the stage for future events involving Dinah's brothers seeking revenge.

In summary:

Genesis 33 presents:

Jacob's apprehension turning into a warm reunion with Esau;

Their emotional reconciliation after years apart;

Jacob introducing his family to Esau;

Esau initially refusing but eventually accepting Jacob's gifts.

Esau suggesting they travel together towards Seir;

Jacob declining the offer and promising to meet Esau later;

Jacob settling near Shechem and building an altar there.

Jacob purchasing land in Shechem from Hamor's sons;

Erecting an altar called El-Elohe-Israel;

Dinah's unfortunate encounter with Shechem, leading to future consequences.

This chapter highlights the significant reconciliation between Jacob and Esau after years of estrangement. It emphasizes their emotional reunion, forgiveness, and the exchange of gifts as symbols of peace. The story also introduces the city of Shechem as a location where Jacob settles temporarily. The incident involving Dinah foreshadows future conflicts and events involving her brothers seeking justice. Genesis 33 explores themes such as reconciliation, forgiveness, family dynamics, land acquisition, and the consequences of immoral actions.

Genesis 33:1 And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids.

Jacob and Esau reunite after years of separation.

1. The Healing Power of Reconciliation

2. The Blessing of Forgiveness

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Genesis 33:2 And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph hindermost.

Jacob places his handmaids and their children first, Leah and her children second, and Rachel and Joseph last in line.

1. The Order of Priority: Putting Others First

2. The Importance of Family: Honoring Our Relationships

1. Matthew 6:33, But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:13, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Genesis 33:3 And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

Jacob humbly bows before his brother in reconciliation.

1. Humility in Reconciliation: Learning to Bow Before Others

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Jacob and Esau s Story

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Genesis 33:4 And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

Esau and Jacob reunited after a long time apart, expressing their joy through tears and embracing each other.

1: God's love and mercy can bring about reconciliation, even after long periods of estrangement.

2: We need to seek out and cherish relationships with our family members, as they are a great source of joy and comfort in our lives.

1: Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

2: Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Genesis 33:5 And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children; and said, Who are those with thee? And he said, The children which God hath graciously given thy servant.

Jacob lifts up his eyes and sees his wives and children. He asks who they are, and is told that they are the children God has given to him.

1. The Blessings of God: Rejoicing in the Children God Has Given

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Seeing the Children God Has Given

1. Matthew 6:26-27 "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

2. Psalm 127:3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

Genesis 33:6 Then the handmaidens came near, they and their children, and they bowed themselves.

The handmaidens in Genesis 33:6 bowed in respect, along with their children.

1. The Power of Respect: A Study of Genesis 33:6.

2. The Legacy of Humility: How Submission Impacts Our Children.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 22:6-7 - Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.

Genesis 33:7 And Leah also with her children came near, and bowed themselves: and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed themselves.

Jacob and his family bow before Joseph when they meet at a certain location, including Leah and her children, followed by Joseph and Rachel.

1. The Power of Humility: A Study on Jacob and His Family

2. To Bow or Not to Bow: Jacob's Example of Reverence

1. Genesis 33:7- "And Leah also with her children came near, and bowed themselves: and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed themselves."

2. Matthew 5:3-5-"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

Genesis 33:8 And he said, What meanest thou by all this drove which I met? And he said, These are to find grace in the sight of my lord.

Esau and Jacob reconcile after a long period of separation.

1. The Importance of Reconciliation

2. Finding Grace Through Forgiveness

1. Romans 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

2. Colossians 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

Genesis 33:9 And Esau said, I have enough, my brother; keep that thou hast unto thyself.

Esau generously forgave Jacob for deceiving him and allowed him to keep his possessions.

1. Forgiveness is a sign of strength and humility.

2. It is better to forgive than to hold a grudge.

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Genesis 33:10 And Jacob said, Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found grace in thy sight, then receive my present at my hand: for therefore I have seen thy face, as though I had seen the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me.

Jacob recognizes and acknowledges God's grace in his life.

1. Recognizing God's Grace in our Lives

2. Living a Life of Gratitude

1. Psalm 23:5-6 - Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Genesis 33:11 Take, I pray thee, my blessing that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it.

Jacob and Esau's reunion is marked with Jacob's generosity in giving Esau his blessing.

1. God's grace can bring us together and lead us to generosity.

2. Our response to God's grace should be one of humility and thankfulness.

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

Genesis 33:12 And he said, Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before thee.

Jacob agrees to lead Esau on their journey to Seir.

1. God often works through unlikely sources to accomplish His will.

2. When we accept God s leadership, our lives are enriched.

1. Isaiah 45:2-3 I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places.

2. John 14:6 Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

Genesis 33:13 And he said unto him, My lord knoweth that the children are tender, and the flocks and herds with young are with me: and if men should overdrive them one day, all the flock will die.

Jacob reminds Esau of the tenderness of his children and flock and warns him of the consequences of overdriving them.

1. Don't Overdo It: The Consequences of Pushing Too Hard

2. Caring for the Vulnerable: Jacob's Warning to Esau

1. Proverbs 14:1 - "The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands."

2. Proverbs 12:10 - "A righteous man has regard for the life of his animal, but even the mercy of the wicked is cruel."

Genesis 33:14 Let my lord, I pray thee, pass over before his servant: and I will lead on softly, according as the cattle that goeth before me and the children be able to endure, until I come unto my lord unto Seir.

Jacob asks Esau to pass ahead of him while he slowly follows with his family and animals.

1. The Importance of Patience in Leadership

2. The Benefits of Kindness and Understanding

1. James 5:7-8 - "Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord s coming is near."

2. Galatians 5:22-23 - "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Genesis 33:15 And Esau said, Let me now leave with thee some of the folk that are with me. And he said, What needeth it? let me find grace in the sight of my lord.

Esau and Jacob reconcile after a long separation.

1: Reconciliation is possible through grace and humility.

2: We can learn from the example of Esau and Jacob to forgive and move forward.

1: Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2: Colossians 3:13 - "Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

Genesis 33:16 So Esau returned that day on his way unto Seir.

Esau returns to Seir.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises - Genesis 33:14

2. The importance of keeping our commitments - Genesis 33:16

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Genesis 33:17 And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him an house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

Jacob traveled to Succoth and built a house and shelters for his animals, so the place was named Succoth.

1. God's Provision - The Story of Jacob in Succoth

2. A Lesson in Trusting God - Jacob's Journey to Succoth

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you."

Genesis 33:18 And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padanaram; and pitched his tent before the city.

Jacob returns to the land of Canaan and sets up his tent outside the city of Shechem.

1. The Joy of Homecoming: Finding Peace and Comfort in the Place of God's Promise

2. The Power of Perseverance: How Jacob's Faith and Determination Led Him Home

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Romans 8:18-21 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

Genesis 33:19 And he bought a parcel of a field, where he had spread his tent, at the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for an hundred pieces of money.

Jacob purchased a parcel of land from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money.

1. The Importance of Investing in the Future - Genesis 33:19

2. Sowing and Reaping - Genesis 33:19

1. Proverbs 13:22 - "A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just."

2. Proverbs 22:7 - "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."

Genesis 33:20 And he erected there an altar, and called it EleloheIsrael.

Jacob builds an altar and names it "EleloheIsrael" in commemoration of his reunion with Esau.

1. The Power of Reconciliation: Lessons from Jacob and Esau

2. Commitment to the Lord: Jacob's Expression of Gratitude

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Genesis 34 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 34:1-12, Dinah, the daughter of Jacob and Leah, goes out to visit the women of the land. Shechem, a prince of the Hivites and son of Hamor, sees Dinah and becomes infatuated with her. He takes her by force and violates her. Shechem then approaches his father Hamor to ask for Dinah's hand in marriage. When Jacob hears about what happened to Dinah, he remains silent until his sons return from the field.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 34:13-24, when Jacob's sons learn about their sister's violation by Shechem, they are filled with anger and deceitfully plot revenge. They agree to make a deal with Hamor and Shechem on one condition: that all the men of their city be circumcised like them. The Hivites agree to this proposal because they desire peaceful relations and intermarriage with Jacob's family.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 34:25-31, while the men are still recovering from their circumcision pain on the third day after the procedure, Simeon and Levi take advantage of their vulnerability. They enter the city together and kill every male there, including Hamor and Shechem. They rescue Dinah from Shechem's house and bring her back home. Jacob rebukes Simeon and Levi for their violent actions out of concern for potential retaliation from neighboring tribes.

In summary:

Genesis 34 presents:

Dinah being violated by Shechem;

Shechem seeking permission from his father for marriage;

Jacob remaining silent until his sons return.

Jacob's sons plotting revenge against Shechem;

The deceitful agreement for all men in the city to be circumcised;

Simeon and Levi taking advantage of vulnerable men after circumcision and killing them.

Dinah being rescued and brought back home;

Jacob rebuking Simeon and Levi for their violent actions.

This chapter portrays the distressing incident involving Dinah's violation by Shechem, which leads to a series of events filled with deceit, revenge, and violence. It highlights the protective nature of Jacob's sons towards their sister but also reveals their excessive use of force in seeking justice. The story raises questions about appropriate responses to wrongdoing and the consequences of acting out of anger. Genesis 34 explores themes such as justice, vengeance, family loyalty, cultural clashes, and the potential repercussions of hasty actions.

Genesis 34:1 And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.

Dinah went out to see the daughters of the land.

1. The Power of Curiosity: Exploring the Benefits of Investigative Interest

2. The Freedom to Explore: Celebrating the Joy of Discovery

1. Proverbs 25:2 - It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.

2. Deuteronomy 11:19 - You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Genesis 34:2 And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her.

Shechem, the son of Hamor the Hivite, saw Dinah, the daughter of Jacob, and took her, lay with her, and defiled her.

1. The Sanctity of Marriage and Purity of Heart

2. The Power of Forgiveness and Unconditional Love

1. Matthew 5:27-30 You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Genesis 34:3 And his soul clave unto Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spake kindly unto the damsel.

Jacob's son, Shechem, was deeply in love with Dinah.

1. The power of love and how it can inspire us to better ourselves.

2. The importance of kindness and how it can bring us closer to God.

1. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

2. Matthew 22:37-40 "And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'"

Genesis 34:4 And Shechem spake unto his father Hamor, saying, Get me this damsel to wife.

Shechem asked his father to get him the damsel as a wife.

1. The importance of making wise decisions in relationships.

2. The importance of valuing the sanctity of marriage.

1. Proverbs 10:23- Doing wrong is like a joke to a fool, but wisdom is pleasure to a man of understanding.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:1-2 Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman. But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

Genesis 34:5 And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter: now his sons were with his cattle in the field: and Jacob held his peace until they were come.

Jacob is deeply troubled when he finds out that Dinah has been defiled, but he remains silent until his sons return.

1. The Power of Patience: How Jacob's Silence Can Help Us Handle Difficult Circumstances

2. The Weight of Your Words: The Consequences of Speaking Too Soon

1. Proverbs 15:28 - The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

2. James 1:19-20 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Genesis 34:6 And Hamor the father of Shechem went out unto Jacob to commune with him.

Hamor visits Jacob to communicate with him.

1. The importance of communication in relationships

2. Seeking reconciliation and understanding in difficult times

1. Proverbs 17:27-28 - Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

2. James 3:17-18 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Genesis 34:7 And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth, because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done.

Jacob's sons were filled with grief and anger when they heard of their sister's violation.

1. The importance of protecting family honor and the consequences of violating it.

2. The importance of adhering to God's commands and the consequences of disregarding them.

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 - For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God.

2. Proverbs 6:20-23 - My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life.

Genesis 34:8 And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray you give her him to wife.

Hamor proposes an alliance between his son Shechem and Jacob's daughter.

1: When faced with a difficult decision, it is important to seek advice from those in authority.

2: The importance of family unity and the need to seek peace in our relationships.

1: Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2: Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Genesis 34:9 And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters unto us, and take our daughters unto you.

The sons of Jacob asked the citizens of Shechem to intermarry with them by exchanging their daughters.

1. The importance of intermarriage in building stronger relationships between communities.

2. The need to look beyond cultural barriers and embrace diversity in relationships.

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Genesis 34:10 And ye shall dwell with us: and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye therein, and get you possessions therein.

The people of Shechem are inviting Jacob's family to live amongst them and to take advantage of the land as a way to obtain possessions.

1. God provides us with the means to acquire possessions when we are obedient to Him.

2. We can gain possessions and success through the generosity of others if we trust in God.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Genesis 12:2 - And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

Genesis 34:11 And Shechem said unto her father and unto her brethren, Let me find grace in your eyes, and what ye shall say unto me I will give.

Shechem requests grace from Dinah's father and brothers, offering to give whatever they ask of him.

1. The Grace of God and Selfless Love

2. The Power of Forgiveness and Love

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Genesis 34:12 Ask me never so much dowry and gift, and I will give according as ye shall say unto me: but give me the damsel to wife.

Shechem expresses his love for Dinah, daughter of Jacob, and offers a large dowry and gift in exchange for her hand in marriage.

1. God's Plan for Marriage: Understanding the Sacredness of a Covenant

2. The Value of a Woman: How to Honor the Unique Role of Women in Society

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Instructions on how to love one another in a Christian marriage.

2. Proverbs 31:10-31 - A passage on the value of a virtuous woman and her worth in society.

Genesis 34:13 And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully, and said, because he had defiled Dinah their sister:

The sons of Jacob deceived Shechem and Hamor in retaliation for Dinah's defilement.

1. Revenge is never the answer: Practicing forgiveness and mercy in difficult situations.

2. God's love and justice: Recognizing God's sovereignty in our lives.

1. Proverbs 24:17-18 - Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles, lest the Lord see it and be displeased, and turn away his anger from him.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Genesis 34:14 And they said unto them, We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one that is uncircumcised; for that were a reproach unto us:

The sons of Jacob refused to give their sister to a man who was not circumcised.

1: Circumcision is a sign of faith in the Lord and devotion to His covenant.

2: Our actions must be ones of honour and respect for our family and our faith.

1: Deuteronomy 10:16 - Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiff-necked.

2: Romans 2:29 - But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Genesis 34:15 But in this will we consent unto you: If ye will be as we be, that every male of you be circumcised;

The people of Shechem are asking for the males of Jacob s family to be circumcised if they are to become part of their community.

1. The importance of community and the willingness to accept change in order to belong.

2. The power of God's promises as demonstrated by Jacob's faith in being circumcised.

1. Galatians 5:6 - "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any avail, but faith working through love."

2. Romans 4:11 - "He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised."

Genesis 34:16 Then will we give our daughters unto you, and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people.

The people of Shechem and Jacob's sons were willing to intermarry in order to become one people.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Brings Success

2. The Importance of Interfaith Marriage

1. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Genesis 34:17 But if ye will not hearken unto us, to be circumcised; then will we take our daughter, and we will be gone.

Dinah's brothers, Simeon and Levi, demand that the men of Shechem agree to be circumcised in order to marry her, or they will take her away.

1. The Power of Covenant: How Making and Keeping Promises Can Strengthen Our Relationships

2. Fulfilling God's Will in Our Lives: How Obedience to God Brings Peace and Joy

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Genesis 34:18 And their words pleased Hamor, and Shechem Hamor's son.

Shechem and Hamor reached an agreement that pleased both of them.

1. God's Will for Our Lives: Trusting in His Plans.

2. God is Faithful: Relying on His Promises.

1. Romans 8:28 (And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.).

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 (Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.).

Genesis 34:19 And the young man deferred not to do the thing, because he had delight in Jacob's daughter: and he was more honourable than all the house of his father.

A young man willingly agrees to marry Jacob's daughter because he was fond of her and he was highly esteemed by his family.

1. The Value of Love and Respect in Relationships

2. The Benefits of Being Honorable

1. Ephesians 5:33 - However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

2. Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Genesis 34:20 And Hamor and Shechem his son came unto the gate of their city, and communed with the men of their city, saying,

This passage describes the visit of Hamor and his son Shechem to the city gate to negotiate with the men of the city.

1. The Power of Negotiation: How to Effectively Use Dialogue to Resolve Conflict

2. The Strength of Relationships: How to Foster Meaningful Connections with Others

1. Proverbs 15:1: A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. Romans 12:18: If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Genesis 34:21 These men are peaceable with us; therefore let them dwell in the land, and trade therein; for the land, behold, it is large enough for them; let us take their daughters to us for wives, and let us give them our daughters.

The people of Shechem suggest that they allow the outsiders to stay and trade in their land, and that they marry their daughters.

1. The power of hospitality in allowing others to stay and trade in our land.

2. The importance of marriage and the need for mutual respect in relationships.

1. Luke 10:25-37 - Parable of the Good Samaritan.

2. Romans 12:12-13 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Genesis 34:22 Only herein will the men consent unto us for to dwell with us, to be one people, if every male among us be circumcised, as they are circumcised.

This passage explains why the men of Shechem agreed to intermarry with Jacob's sons: they only accepted the offer on the condition that all the men be circumcised.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How We Can Demonstrate Commitment Through Self-Denial

2. The Purpose of Covenant: How God Uses Us to Fulfill His Promises

1. Philippians 2:8 - "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

2. Jeremiah 31:33 - "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Genesis 34:23 Shall not their cattle and their substance and every beast of theirs be ours? only let us consent unto them, and they will dwell with us.

The inhabitants of Shechem offered to compromise with Jacob's family by allowing them to own their cattle, substance and beasts in exchange for the family's acceptance.

1. Compromise can lead to peaceful resolutions.

2. We should strive for reconciliation even in difficult circumstances.

1. Romans 12:18 ( If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. )

2. Philippians 4:5-7 ( Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. )

Genesis 34:24 And unto Hamor and unto Shechem his son hearkened all that went out of the gate of his city; and every male was circumcised, all that went out of the gate of his city.

This passage shows that Hamor and Shechem influenced the people of their city to be circumcised.

1. The Power of Influence: How our Actions and Decisions Impact Others

2. Living a Life of Obedience to God s Commandments

1. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Ephesians 5:1-2 - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Genesis 34:25 And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brethren, took each man his sword, and came upon the city boldly, and slew all the males.

The sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, avenged their sister Dinah by slaying all the males in the city.

1. The Power of Family Unity: The story of Dinah and her brothers reminds us of the power of family connections and standing up for one another.

2. The Price of Vengeance: The consequences of vengeance can be great, and this story serves as a reminder of the cost of such actions.

1. Proverbs 20:22 - Do not say, I will repay evil ; wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.

2. Romans 12:17-19 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Genesis 34:26 And they slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went out.

Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, took revenge on Shechem and Hamor for the rape of their sister Dinah by killing them both with a sword and taking Dinah from Shechem's house.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Choosing to Overcome Revenge

2. The Importance of Family: Overcoming Adversity Together

1. Ephesians 4:31-32 - "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

2. Colossians 3:13 - "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Genesis 34:27 The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and spoiled the city, because they had defiled their sister.

Jacob's sons exacted revenge on the city for their sister's defilement.

1. Proverbs 19:11 - "Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense."

2. Matthew 5:38-39 - "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, do not resist the one who is evil."

1. Leviticus 19:18 - "You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord."

2. Romans 12:17-19 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'"

Genesis 34:28 They took their sheep, and their oxen, and their asses, and that which was in the city, and that which was in the field,

The sons of Jacob take the possessions of the city and the field.

1. The Importance of Taking Possessions

2. Understanding the Blessings of Ownership

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your ancestors, as it is today."

2. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

Genesis 34:29 And all their wealth, and all their little ones, and their wives took they captive, and spoiled even all that was in the house.

The family of Shechem took captive all the wealth, children, and wives of Jacob's family and looted everything in the house.

1. God's faithfulness to His people even in difficult times.

2. The consequences of sin and trusting in worldly things.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Genesis 34:30 And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, Ye have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites: and I being few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me, and slay me; and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.

Jacob rebukes his sons Simeon and Levi for causing trouble among the Canaanites and Perizzites, as they are outnumbered and could be killed.

1. The Power of Words - How Our Words Can Impact Others

2. The Consequences of Sin - The Effects of Sin on Ourselves and Others

1. James 3:5-6 - "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell."

2. Psalm 37:8 - Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

Genesis 34:31 And they said, Should he deal with our sister as with an harlot?

The sons of Jacob were angered that their sister had been treated as a prostitute.

1. Being Righteous in a Fallen World

2. The Sanctity of Family

1. Proverbs 31:10 - Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Genesis 35 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 35:1-8, God instructs Jacob to go to Bethel and build an altar there. Jacob commands his household to put away their foreign gods and purify themselves. They give Jacob all their idols, and he buries them under the oak tree near Shechem. As they journey towards Bethel, a terror from God falls upon the surrounding cities, preventing anyone from pursuing them. Jacob arrives safely at Bethel and builds an altar called El-Bethel (meaning "God of Bethel"). God blesses Jacob once again and reaffirms his name as Israel.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 35:9-15, God appears to Israel again and reiterates His covenant promises. He assures Israel that he will be fruitful and multiply into a great nation. Additionally, God confirms that the land He promised to Abraham and Isaac will belong to Israel's descendants. After their encounter with God, Israel sets up a pillar of stone at the place where God spoke with him and pours a drink offering on it.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 35:16-29, Rachel goes into labor while traveling from Bethel to Ephrath (Bethlehem). She gives birth to her second son but tragically dies during childbirth. Rachel is buried near Bethlehem, where Jacob sets up a pillar on her grave as a memorial. Continuing their journey from Bethlehem towards Mamre (Hebron), Reuben sleeps with Bilhah (Rachel's maid), causing further strife within the family.

In summary:

Genesis 35 presents:

God instructing Jacob to go to Bethel;

Jacob purifying his household by removing foreign gods;

Burying idols near Shechem;

Journeying safely towards Bethel;

Building an altar called El-Bethel.

God reaffirming His covenant promises to Israel;

Israel setting up a stone pillar and pouring a drink offering;

God appearing to Israel and reiterating His blessings.

Rachel giving birth to her second son but tragically dying;

Jacob setting up a memorial pillar on Rachel's grave;

Continuing the journey towards Mamre, where Reuben sleeps with Bilhah.

This chapter highlights Jacob's obedience to God's instructions and his family's purification from foreign influences. It emphasizes God's reaffirmation of His covenant promises, including the assurance of land and numerous descendants. The tragic death of Rachel during childbirth brings sorrow to the family, while Reuben's actions further complicate their relationships. Genesis 35 explores themes such as obedience, purification, divine encounters, covenant faithfulness, loss, and family dynamics.

Genesis 35:1 And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother.

God commands Jacob to go to Bethel and build an altar to Him in remembrance of their encounter when Jacob fled from Esau.

1. God's Faithful Provision in Times of Trouble

2. Remembering God's Faithfulness in Challenging Times

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Psalm 86:17 - Show me a sign of your favor, that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

Genesis 35:2 Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments:

Jacob commanded the people of his household to remove any foreign gods and to purify themselves and change their clothes.

1. The Power of Repentance: Removing False Idols from Our Lives

2. Cleansing Ourselves from Sin: Jacob s Call to Holiness

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Genesis 35:3 And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.

Jacob calls for his family to go to Bethel and make an altar to God who answered him in his time of need and was with him on his journey.

1. God is ever present in our lives, even in times of distress.

2. We must be willing to go to Bethel and give thanks to God for His presence in our lives.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Matthew 28:20 - And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Genesis 35:4 And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem.

Jacob and his family gave him all the idols and earrings they had with them, which he then hid under an oak tree near Shechem.

1. The importance of getting rid of idols and focusing on God.

2. Learning from Jacob's example of humility and commitment to God.

1. Deuteronomy 7:25-26 - "You shall burn the carved images of their gods with fire; you shall not covet the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, lest you be snared by it; for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing."

2. Isaiah 42:8 - "I am the Lord, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images."

Genesis 35:5 And they journeyed: and the terror of God was upon the cities that were round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob.

Jacob and his family traveled and were protected by the fear of God from the cities around them.

1. "God's Protection" - A about how God can protect us from any danger.

2. "Fear of the Lord" - A about the power of fearing God and what it can do in our lives.

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."

Genesis 35:6 So Jacob came to Luz, which is in the land of Canaan, that is, Bethel, he and all the people that were with him.

Jacob and his people arrived in the land of Canaan, in the city of Bethel.

1: Do not be afraid to take the path God has set before you.

2: We must trust in God to guide us on our journey.

1: Psalm 16:8 - I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 35:7 And he built there an altar, and called the place Elbethel: because there God appeared unto him, when he fled from the face of his brother.

God appeared to Jacob in a time of distress and provided him with comfort and guidance.

1: God is always with us, even in our darkest moments.

2: God's love and provision is available to all who turn to Him.

1: Psalms 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2: Matthew 28:20 "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Genesis 35:8 But Deborah Rebekah's nurse died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak: and the name of it was called Allonbachuth.

Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died and was buried beneath Bethel under an oak, which was named Allonbachuth.

1. God's Care for Those Who Serve Him: The Example of Deborah

2. The Power of Death: Mourning the Loss of a Beloved Friend

1. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

2. Matthew 5:4 - "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Genesis 35:9 And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him.

God appeared to Jacob again after he left Padanaram and blessed him.

1. God's faithfulness in times of trial

2. The power of His blessing

1. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Proverbs 10:22 "The blessing of the Lord makes rich, and he adds no sorrow with it."

Genesis 35:10 And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel.

God renamed Jacob to Israel, signifying a change in his character and purpose.

1. God has the power to transform and re-identify us.

2. We can be made new through God's grace.

1. Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

Genesis 35:11 And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;

God told Jacob that he would become a father of many nations and kings would come from his descendants.

1. God's Promises to Jacob: God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. God's Covenant with Jacob: The Blessing of an Unconditional Promise

1. Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Hebrews 11:20 - By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.

Genesis 35:12 And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.

The Lord promised to give the land of Canaan to the descendants of Abraham and Isaac.

1: God s Promise of Land: Our inheritance of faith

2: God s Covenant of Land: Our assurance of hope

1: Isaiah 54:10 Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2: Galatians 3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham s seed, heirs according to the promise.

Genesis 35:13 And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him.

God spoke to Jacob and then left the place where they talked.

1. Learning to Listen: Paying Attention to God's Voice.

2. Abiding in God's Presence: Finding Comfort in Times of Need.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Genesis 35:14 And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon.

Jacob sets up a memorial to commemorate God's presence in his life.

1: God is Always with Us - Genesis 35:14

2: The Power of Memorials - Genesis 35:14

1: Deuteronomy 6:7-9 "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

2: Matthew 28:20 "...lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Genesis 35:15 And Jacob called the name of the place where God spake with him, Bethel.

Jacob named the place where God spoke to him Bethel.

1. God Speaks to Us in Unexpected Places

2. Discernment and Listening for God's Voice

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

Genesis 35:16 And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.

Rachel struggled through her labor as she and her family traveled a short distance from Bethel to Ephrath.

1. God Is Faithful in All Circumstances - Genesis 35:16

2. The Strength of a Mother During Labor - Genesis 35:16

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations:

2. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Genesis 35:17 And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, Fear not; thou shalt have this son also.

This passage tells of the midwife's words of encouragement to a woman in labor.

1. The Power of Encouragement - How Our Words Can Impact Others

2. Bearing One Another's Burdens - The Comfort of Community in Times of Trouble

1. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Genesis 35:18 And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin.

Rachel dies in childbirth and names her son Benoni, but his father Jacob calls him Benjamin.

1. The Importance of a Name - Exploring the meaning and significance of Jacob's decision to rename his son Benjamin.

2. The Power of a Parent's Love - Discussing the power of parental love and how it can overcome even death.

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Matthew 19:13-15 - Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them and went away.

Genesis 35:19 And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.

Rachel died and was buried in Bethlehem.

1. The Comfort of Death in the Lord

2. The Faithfulness of God in Times of Grief

1. 2 Corinthians 5:8 - We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

2. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Genesis 35:20 And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day.

Jacob set a pillar on Rachel's grave, which remains until the present day.

1. God's faithfulness is seen through the lasting memorial of Rachel's grave.

2. God's love for us is demonstrated through Rachel's lasting memorial.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children.

Genesis 35:21 And Israel journeyed, and spread his tent beyond the tower of Edar.

Israel journeyed and pitched his tent beyond the Tower of Edar.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for our journey

2. Trusting in the Lord in times of uncertainty

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Genesis 35:22 And it came to pass, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine: and Israel heard it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:

Reuben's sin of incest with Bilhah, Jacob's concubine, proves that we can be deceived by our own sins and mistakes.

1. God's grace and mercy can redeem us from even the most grievous of sins.

2. We must be vigilant in guarding our hearts against the deception of sin.

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

Genesis 35:23 The sons of Leah; Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Zebulun:

This passage describes the sons of Leah, who were Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun.

1. The Power of Patience: Learning from the Example of Leah

2. The Blessing of Family: God s Provision Through the Sons of Leah

Cross-

1. Matthew 1:2-3 - The genealogy of Jesus through the line of Judah

2. Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Genesis 35:24 The sons of Rachel; Joseph, and Benjamin:

God rewards those who remain loyal and true.

1: We must remain loyal and true to God and He will reward us.

2: Faithfulness to God is essential if we want to receive His rewards.

1: Proverbs 3:3-4, Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

2: Hebrews 11:6, But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Genesis 35:25 And the sons of Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid; Dan, and Naphtali:

God blessed Rachel through Bilhah's sons.

1: Through God's grace, Rachel was blessed with the birth of Bilhah's sons.

2: Through faith, Rachel was able to experience the joy of motherhood.

1: Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2: Ruth 4:13 - So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the Lord gave her conception, and she bare a son.

Genesis 35:26 And the sons of Zilpah, Leah's handmaid; Gad, and Asher: these are the sons of Jacob, which were born to him in Padanaram.

Jacob has twelve sons, born to him in Padanaram, two of whom are Gad and Asher, sons of Leah's handmaid Zilpah.

1. God's love is evident in the abundance of Jacob's children.

2. We have the opportunity to experience the same abundance and joy that Jacob did.

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."

2. Deuteronomy 7:13-14 - "And he will love you and bless you and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you. You shall be blessed above all peoples. There shall not be male or female barren among you or among your livestock."

Genesis 35:27 And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.

Jacob returns to the city of Hebron where Abraham and Isaac had previously dwelled.

1. The importance of returning to our spiritual roots

2. Never forgetting our faith heritage

1. Hebrews 11:9-10 (By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise)

2. Genesis 12:6-7 (And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land. And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land:)

Genesis 35:28 And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.

Isaac lived to be 180 years old.

1. God's faithfulness and provision is evident through Isaac's long life.

2. God gives us an example of living a life of faith through Isaac.

1. Deuteronomy 34:7 - "Moses was 120 years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone."

2. Psalm 90:10 - "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty;"

Genesis 35:29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Isaac passed away at a great age, and was buried by his two sons, Esau and Jacob.

1: Even in death, family can be a great source of comfort.

2: Age is a blessing from God, and should be celebrated when obtained.

1: Psalm 90:10 - "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

2: Ecclesiastes 7:1 - "A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth."

In summary:

Genesis 36 presents:

A genealogy detailing the descendants of Esau (Edom);

Esau taking Canaanite wives;

The listing of his sons' names along with their territories;

The prominence of these tribes as separate from Jacob's lineage.

Continued genealogical records including more names,

Details about rulership positions within Edomite tribes,

An account of clans descending from Seir the Horite,

Names recorded alongside information about families and territories.

This chapter primarily focuses on tracing the lineage and development of Esau's descendants (the Edomites). It highlights how they established themselves as distinct tribes within the region surrounding Jacob's lineage. The genealogical records provide insights into the leadership and territorial divisions among the Edomites. Genesis 36 explores themes such as lineage, tribal identity, and the fulfillment of God's promises to Esau as a separate nation from Israel.

Genesis 36:1 Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom.

Esau's generations are recorded in Genesis 36.

1. God's faithfulness in recording our stories.

2. The importance of lineage and family history.

1. Hebrews 11:20-22 - "By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions concerning his bones."

2. Psalm 78:4-7 - "We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments."

Genesis 36:2 Esau took his wives of the daughters of Canaan; Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite;

Esau took Canaanite wives.

1. God's Warning against Intermarriage

2. The Danger of Assimilation

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4, Do not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the Lord would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly.

2. Joshua 23:11-13, Take diligent heed to yourselves, that you love the Lord your God. Otherwise, if you do in any way go back, and cling to the remnant of these nations these that remain among you and make marriages with them, and go in to them and they to you, know for certain that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations from before you. But they shall be snares and traps to you, and scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land that the Lord your God has given you.

Genesis 36:3 And Bashemath Ishmael's daughter, sister of Nebajoth.

Bashemath was the daughter of Ishmael and the sister of Nebajoth.

1. Lessons from Bashemath: How We Can Overcome Our Family's Challenges

2. The Power of Sisterhood: The Story of Bashemath and Nebajoth

1. Genesis 25:12-18 - The birth of Esau and Jacob, sons of Isaac and Ishmael

2. Romans 9:6-8 - God's Promise to Abraham and his descendants through Isaac and Ishmael

Genesis 36:4 And Adah bare to Esau Eliphaz; and Bashemath bare Reuel;

Adah and Bashemath were the wives of Esau who bore him two sons, Eliphaz and Reuel.

1. God's perfect plan for the family in Genesis 36.

2. How God uses our families to bring about His will.

1. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

2. Deuteronomy 5:16 - Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Genesis 36:5 And Aholibamah bare Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah: these are the sons of Esau, which were born unto him in the land of Canaan.

Esau had three sons, Jeush, Jaalam, and Korah, born to him in the land of Canaan.

1. God's Faithfulness in Providing a Fulfilled Promise to Esau

2. The Power of Family and Generational Influences

1. Jeremiah 33:22 - As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

2. Romans 8:17 - And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Genesis 36:6 And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had got in the land of Canaan; and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob.

1: God blesses us with family and all the resources we need to live a prosperous life.

2: We should be thankful for the gifts that God has given us and use them to honor Him.

1: Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."

2: Psalm 107:9 - "For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

Genesis 36:7 For their riches were more than that they might dwell together; and the land wherein they were strangers could not bear them because of their cattle.

The land was too small to accommodate the wealth of Esau's family.

1: God provides what we need, not necessarily what we want.

2: We should not become too attached to material possessions.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: 1 Timothy 6:7-10 For we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Genesis 36:8 Thus dwelt Esau in mount Seir: Esau is Edom.

Esau settled in the Mount Seir and became the ancestor of the Edomites.

1: God has a plan for each of us and will lead us to our destiny if we follow Him.

2: God can use our circumstances for our ultimate good.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Genesis 36:9 And these are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in mount Seir:

Esau was the father of the Edomites who lived in mount Seir.

1: God is the ultimate provider and He provided for the Edomites who were descendants of Esau.

2: We can learn from the example of Esau that God is faithful to those who call on Him.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

Genesis 36:10 These are the names of Esau's sons; Eliphaz the son of Adah the wife of Esau, Reuel the son of Bashemath the wife of Esau.

Esau's sons are named Eliphaz and Reuel.

1: God's faithfulness in keeping His promises is evident even in the life of Esau.

2: God's plan for our lives can be seen in the stories of those who came before us.

1: Romans 9:13 Just as it is written: Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.

2: Hebrews 11:20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

Genesis 36:11 And the sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz.

Eliphaz had four sons named Teman, Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz.

1. The Strength of Family Bonds: Exploring the Relationship between Eliphaz and His Sons

2. What Can We Learn from the Biblical Characters of Teman, Omar, Zepho, Gatam, and Kenaz?

1. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Genesis 36:12 And Timna was concubine to Eliphaz Esau's son; and she bare to Eliphaz Amalek: these were the sons of Adah Esau's wife.

Timna was a concubine to Eliphaz, who was the son of Esau. She had a son, Amalek, with Eliphaz. Adah was Esau's wife and the mother of Eliphaz.

1. The importance of family and lineage in the Bible.

2. The significance of the lineage of Esau.

1. Genesis 36:12

2. Romans 9:13 - "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."

Genesis 36:13 And these are the sons of Reuel; Nahath, and Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah: these were the sons of Bashemath Esau's wife.

This passage reveals that Esau's wife, Bashemath, had four sons: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

1. The Importance of Family in the Bible

2. The Faithfulness of Esau's Wife

1. Proverbs 18:22 - "He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord."

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 - "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Genesis 36:14 And these were the sons of Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon, Esau's wife: and she bare to Esau Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah.

Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon, was the wife of Esau, and she bore three sons to him: Jeush, Jaalam, and Korah.

1. The faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises through generations

2. The importance of family lineage and the strength found in it

1. Romans 4:13-17 - God s promise to Abraham and his descendants

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children honoring their parents in the Lord

Genesis 36:15 These were dukes of the sons of Esau: the sons of Eliphaz the firstborn son of Esau; duke Teman, duke Omar, duke Zepho, duke Kenaz,

This passage describes the five dukes of the sons of Esau.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping his promises to Abraham and Isaac, no matter how many generations pass (Genesis 12:1-3, 17:1-8, 26:1-5).

2. The importance of having faith and trusting in God's plan for our lives (Hebrews 11:8-10).

1. Romans 9:7-13 - In this passage Paul talks about God's faithfulness in keeping his promises to the people of Israel, even though they have been disobedient.

2. Psalm 37:23-24 - This passage reminds us to trust in the Lord and his plan for our lives, and that he will bring it to pass.

Genesis 36:16 Duke Korah, duke Gatam, and duke Amalek: these are the dukes that came of Eliphaz in the land of Edom; these were the sons of Adah.

Eliphaz, a man from Edom, had three sons - Korah, Gatam, and Amalek - who became dukes in the land of Edom.

1. The Power of Family - How the legacy of a father can influence generations.

2. The Faithful Endure - How Eliphaz's faithfulness was rewarded through his sons.

1. Genesis 28:3-4 - And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people; And give thee the blessing of Abraham, to thee, and to thy seed with thee; that thou mayest inherit the land wherein thou art a stranger, which God gave unto Abraham.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Genesis 36:17 And these are the sons of Reuel Esau's son; duke Nahath, duke Zerah, duke Shammah, duke Mizzah: these are the dukes that came of Reuel in the land of Edom; these are the sons of Bashemath Esau's wife.

Reuel, the son of Esau, had four sons who became dukes in Edom.

1. The Power of Family: What we can learn from the familial legacy of Reuel

2. The Power of God: How God used Reuel and his descendants to bring about his will

1. Genesis 36:17 - Reuel, the son of Esau, had four sons who became dukes in Edom

2. Ruth 4:18-22 - The power of family as demonstrated by the lineage of Ruth and Boaz

Genesis 36:18 And these are the sons of Aholibamah Esau's wife; duke Jeush, duke Jaalam, duke Korah: these were the dukes that came of Aholibamah the daughter of Anah, Esau's wife.

This passage describes the sons of Aholibamah, daughter of Anah and wife of Esau, who are dukes Jeush, Jaalam, and Korah.

1. God's Providence: How God Orchestrates Events to Accomplish His Purposes

2. The Blessing of Family: The Joys and Responsibilities of Being in a Family

1. Genesis 28:15, "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.

2. Psalm 128:3, Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

Genesis 36:19 These are the sons of Esau, who is Edom, and these are their dukes.

Esau, also known as Edom, had sons who were dukes.

1. "A Legacy of Love: Esau's Sons as Dukes"

2. "Esau: A Model of Faithful Fatherhood"

1. Romans 9:13, "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."

2. Luke 12:13-14, "Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' Jesus replied, 'Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?'"

Genesis 36:20 These are the sons of Seir the Horite, who inhabited the land; Lotan, and Shobal, and Zibeon, and Anah,

This passage describes the four sons of Seir the Horite who lived in the land of Edom.

1: We can learn from Seir the Horite how to live a life of faith and trust in God.

2: God calls us to be faithful and obedient, no matter who we are or where we live.

1: Romans 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2: Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household.

Genesis 36:21 And Dishon, and Ezer, and Dishan: these are the dukes of the Horites, the children of Seir in the land of Edom.

This passage of scripture tells us that Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan were the leaders of the Horites, who were descendants of Seir, and who lived in Edom.

1. God's Plan for Family: The Story of the Horites

2. What We Can Learn From the Horites in Genesis 36

1. Genesis 36:6-30

2. Deuteronomy 2:12, 22

Genesis 36:22 And the children of Lotan were Hori and Hemam; and Lotan's sister was Timna.

Lotan had two sons, Hori and Hemam, and a sister named Timna.

1. God can work in mysterious ways, using even the most unlikely people and circumstances to further His plan.

2. No family is too small to be part of God's plan and no person is too insignificant to be part of God's story.

1. Acts 4:27-28 - For truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 36:23 And the children of Shobal were these; Alvan, and Manahath, and Ebal, Shepho, and Onam.

This verse from Genesis 36 describes the names of the five children of Shobal.

1. The Blessing of Multigenerational Faith: Exploring the Legacy of Shobal

2. The Power of Names: Understanding the Significance of the Children of Shobal

1. Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

Genesis 36:24 And these are the children of Zibeon; both Ajah, and Anah: this was that Anah that found the mules in the wilderness, as he fed the asses of Zibeon his father.

Anah, the son of Zibeon, found mules while he was tending the asses of his father.

1. The importance of diligence in our work.

2. The rewards of obedience to our parents.

1. Proverbs 12:11 - He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.

2. Colossians 3:20-21 - Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

Genesis 36:25 And the children of Anah were these; Dishon, and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah.

Anah had two children named Dishon and Aholibamah, who was his daughter.

1. God's Plan for Families: Examining the Family of Anah

2. Honoring the Legacy of Anah and His Descendants

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Genesis 36:26 And these are the children of Dishon; Hemdan, and Eshban, and Ithran, and Cheran.

This verse from Genesis 36 mentions four sons of Dishon: Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran.

1) Letting Go of Dishonorable Habits

2) Honoring Our Fathers

1) Proverbs 20:7, "The righteous who walks in his integrity blessed are his children after him!"

2) Ephesians 6:1-3, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Genesis 36:27 The children of Ezer are these; Bilhan, and Zaavan, and Akan.

This passage from Genesis 36:27 describes three sons of Ezer, Bilhan, Zaavan, and Akan.

1. The Gift of Family: A Study on the Sons of Ezer

2. The Faithfulness of God: An Examination of the Meaning Behind the Names in Genesis 36:27

1. Psalm 68:6 - "God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land."

2. Colossians 3:12-13 - "Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Genesis 36:28 The children of Dishan are these; Uz, and Aran.

This passage describes the children of Dishan.

1. The importance of passing on our faith to future generations.

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors.

1. Psalm 78:5-7 - "For he established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments."

2. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 - "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Genesis 36:29 These are the dukes that came of the Horites; duke Lotan, duke Shobal, duke Zibeon, duke Anah,

The passage mentions five dukes that descended from the Horites.

1: We can trace our ancestry from God's chosen people.

2: God knows our past, present, and future.

1: Genesis 12:3 - "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

2: Romans 11:17-18 - "And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee."

Genesis 36:30 Duke Dishon, duke Ezer, duke Dishan: these are the dukes that came of Hori, among their dukes in the land of Seir.

Hori had three sons, Duke Dishon, Duke Ezer, and Duke Dishan, who were all dukes that inhabited the land of Seir.

1. Overcoming Challenges to Reach Your Potential - Genesis 36:30

2. Reaching Your Goals Through Self-Discipline - Genesis 36:30

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Genesis 36:31 And these are the kings that reigned in the land of Edom, before there reigned any king over the children of Israel.

This passage describes the kings who reigned in Edom before any king reigned over the people of Israel.

1. The Sovereignty of God: God's Plan for Kings

2. The Importance of Kingship: Biblical Examples

1. Romans 13:1-2, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

2. 1 Samuel 8:5-7, "They said to him, Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king to us to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed to the Lord."

Genesis 36:32 And Bela the son of Beor reigned in Edom: and the name of his city was Dinhabah.

Bela reigned in Edom and his city was Dinhabah.

1: God's sovereign hand is seen in His appointments of rulers.

2: Kings are appointed by God and will be held accountable for their actions.

1: Daniel 4:17- "The Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom He will."

2: Proverbs 21:1- "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes."

Genesis 36:33 And Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead.

Bela died and Jobab, son of Zerah of Bozrah, took his place as ruler.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Bela's Life Impacted Those Around Him

2. The Importance of Leadership: What We Can Learn From Jobab's Reign

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Genesis 36:34 And Jobab died, and Husham of the land of Temani reigned in his stead.

Jobab died and Husham from the land of Temani succeeded him.

1. God's Perfect Timing - Romans 8:28

2. The Wisdom of God - Proverbs 3:19-20

1. Job 34:14-15

2. Romans 13:1-2

Genesis 36:35 And Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who smote Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his stead: and the name of his city was Avith.

Husham died and Hadad, the son of Bedad, who had defeated Midian in the field of Moab, took his place as ruler of the city Avith.

1. The power of God's plan and how it can work through a single individual.

2. The importance of humbly following God's will in order to achieve success.

1. Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose."

2. Matthew 6:33, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

Genesis 36:36 And Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his stead.

Hadad died and Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place.

1. The Importance of Succession Planning

2. God's Sovereignty in Human Lives

1. Romans 13:1-2 "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

2. Matthew 20:25-26 "But Jesus called them to him and said, You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you."

Genesis 36:37 And Samlah died, and Saul of Rehoboth by the river reigned in his stead.

Samlah died and Saul reigned in his place.

1. The Sovereignty of God in the Life of a King

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Sovereignty

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - God's instructions regarding appointment of a king

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Our obligation to submit to governing authorities

Genesis 36:38 And Saul died, and Baalhanan the son of Achbor reigned in his stead.

Saul died and Baalhanan, the son of Achbor, became the new ruler.

1. The importance of succession planning in leadership

2. How to navigate change in life

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Genesis 36:39 And Baalhanan the son of Achbor died, and Hadar reigned in his stead: and the name of his city was Pau; and his wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab.

Baalhanan, the son of Achbor, died and Hadar became the new ruler of his city Pau. His wife was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred and Mezahab.

1. The Importance of Legacy: How We Can Impact Lives Long After We're Gone

2. Overcoming Adversity: How To Make The Best Out Of Difficult Situations

1. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - A good name is better than fine perfume, and the day of death better than the day of birth.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 36:40 And these are the names of the dukes that came of Esau, according to their families, after their places, by their names; duke Timnah, duke Alvah, duke Jetheth,

Esau had three sons, Timnah, Alvah, and Jetheth, each of whom had a dukedom.

1. God rewards faithfulness: the example of Esau

2. The power of family: the example of Esau's sons

1. Romans 9:13 - As it is written, Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Genesis 36:41 Duke Aholibamah, duke Elah, duke Pinon,

The passage mentions four dukes, Aholibamah, Elah, and Pinon.

1. The importance of honoring those in positions of power.

2. The strength of a unified people.

1. Proverbs 24:21 - My son, fear the Lord and the king, and do not join with those who do otherwise.

2. Acts 4:32-35 - And the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common among them. And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

Genesis 36:42 Duke Kenaz, duke Teman, duke Mibzar,

The passage mentions three dukes: Kenaz, Teman, and Mibzar.

1. The Power of Unity: Examining the Strength Gained from Working Together

2. The Worth of Wisdom: The Benefits of Listening and Learning

1. Proverbs 11:14 "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety"

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Genesis 36:43 Duke Magdiel, duke Iram: these be the dukes of Edom, according to their habitations in the land of their possession: he is Esau the father of the Edomites.

This verse describes the dukes of Edom and their leader, Esau, the father of the Edomites.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Family History

2. God's Provision for His People

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. Romans 9:13 - As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

Genesis 37 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 37:1-11, the chapter introduces Joseph, Jacob's favored son. Joseph is seventeen years old and tends to his father's flock alongside his brothers. Jacob gifts Joseph a special coat of many colors, further highlighting his favoritism towards him. Joseph has dreams in which he sees himself as a prominent figure while his brothers bow down to him. When he shares these dreams with his family, including his father and brothers, they become jealous and resentful towards him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 37:12-24, Jacob sends Joseph to check on his brothers who are pasturing the flock near Shechem. As Joseph approaches them from afar, they conspire against him due to their deep-seated envy. They plan to kill him and throw him into a pit but later decide to sell him as a slave instead when a caravan of Ishmaelites passes by. They strip Joseph of his special coat and deceive their father by presenting it covered in blood, leading Jacob to believe that wild animals have devoured Joseph.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 37:25-36, the brothers sell Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. The Ishmaelites take Joseph to Egypt where they sell him as a slave to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard. Meanwhile, back in Canaan, the brothers dip Joseph's coat in goat's blood once again and bring it before their father as evidence of Joseph's demise. Distraught over losing his beloved son, Jacob mourns deeply for many days.

In summary:

Genesis 37 presents:

The introduction of Joseph as Jacob's favored son;

Joseph having dreams that provoke jealousy among his brothers;

His journey to check on them at Shechem;

The conspiracy against him and the decision to sell him as a slave.

Joseph being sold to the Ishmaelites and taken to Egypt;

The brothers deceiving Jacob by presenting Joseph's coat covered in blood;

Jacob mourning deeply over the loss of his son.

This chapter lays the foundation for Joseph's journey from favored son to slavery in Egypt. It explores themes of sibling rivalry, jealousy, betrayal, and the consequences of favoritism within a family. The dreams that Joseph shares foreshadow his future rise to power in Egypt. Genesis 37 serves as a pivotal point in Joseph's story, setting the stage for subsequent events that will shape his life and ultimately lead him to a position of great influence.

Genesis 37:1 And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.

Jacob settled in the land of Canaan, the same land where his father had been a stranger.

1. God can use our difficult and unfamiliar circumstances to bring us to a place of blessing.

2. We can choose to dwell in the land of promise, despite any uncertainty or unfamiliarity.

1. Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Hebrews 11:9: "By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise."

Genesis 37:2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.

Joseph, the seventeen-year-old son of Jacob, tended the flock with his brothers and reported back to his father any wrongdoing that he observed.

1. The importance of speaking truthfully even when it may be difficult.

2. The need for caution when dealing with difficult relationships.

1. Proverbs 12:17 - Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Genesis 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.

Joseph was the son of his old age and was favored by his father, Israel, more than any of his other children.

1. God loves us unconditionally, no matter what.

2. We must strive to love our children equally.

1. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

2. Colossians 3:14 - "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

Genesis 37:4 And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

Jacob's sons were jealous of the preferential treatment he gave to Joseph.

1: We should not take it personally when others are jealous of us and treat us poorly.

2: We should be careful not to show favoritism to our children.

1: James 3:16 - For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

2: Proverbs 14:30 - A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body; jealousy is like cancer in the bones.

Genesis 37:5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

Joseph's brothers hated him for sharing his dream with them.

1. God's Plans Can Make Us Jealous: A Study of Joseph's Brothers in Genesis 37

2. Overcoming Envy: Learning to Love Others Even When We Feel Jealous

1. James 3:14-16 - "But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

2. Proverbs 14:30 - "A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot."

Genesis 37:6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and his dreams, so they plotted against him.

Joseph's brothers were envious of him due to his dreams, and they plotted to do him harm.

1. God's plan is bigger than our petty jealousies and disagreements.

2. We should put our trust in God's plan and reject the temptation of envy.

1. James 3:16 - For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

2. Proverbs 14:30 - A sound heart is life to the body, But envy is rottenness to the bones.

Genesis 37:7 For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

Joseph's brothers were working in the field and Joseph's sheaf of grain stood up while the other sheaves bowed to it.

1. God's Favor in Unexpected Places

2. Pride and Humility

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Luke 12:48 - For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.

Genesis 37:8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

Joseph's brothers are jealous of his dreams and words, and they hate him even more for them.

1. The Danger of Jealousy: A Study on Joseph's Brothers

2. The Power of Dreams: Lessons From Joseph's Story

1. Galatians 5:19-21: "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

2. Proverbs 14:30: "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones."

Genesis 37:9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

Joseph dreams of the sun, moon and 11 stars bowing down to him, which he then tells his brothers.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Meaning of Joseph's Dream (Genesis 37:9)

2. Living in Light of God's Plan: Learning from Joseph's Dream (Genesis 37:9)

1. Psalm 103:19 - "The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all."

2. Daniel 4:35 - "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"

Genesis 37:10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

Joseph tells his brothers and father about his dream in which his family bows down to him, but his father rebukes him for it.

1. The Dangers of Pride: Examining Joseph's Dream

2. The Power of Dreams: Learning from Joseph's Experience

1. Proverbs 16:18: Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 1:17: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Genesis 37:11 And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

Joseph's brothers were jealous of him but his father paid attention to the favorable report he had received about Joseph.

1. "The Power of Envy"

2. "God's Sovereignty in Times of Jealousy"

1. 2 Corinthians 12:20-21, "For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish that perhaps there may be quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder. I fear that when I come again my God may humble me before you, and I may have to mourn over many of those who sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual immorality, and sensuality that they have practiced."

2. James 4:5, "Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us ?"

Genesis 37:12 And his brethren went to feed their father's flock in Shechem.

Joseph's brothers travelled to Shechem to care for their father's sheep.

1. The Value of Obedience: The Story of Joseph and His Brothers

2. The Power of Faith and Responsibility: Joseph and His Brothers in Shechem

1. Genesis 37:12

2. Genesis 28:10-22, Jacob's vision at Bethel.

Genesis 37:13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.

Joseph is sent by his father, Israel, to Shechem to check on his brothers who are tending the flock.

1. The Faithfulness of Joseph: How He Demonstrated Obedience to His Father Despite Difficult Circumstances

2. The Power of Obedience: How Joseph's Commitment to His Father Led to Great Things

1. Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 37:14 And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.

He sent Joseph to check on his brothers and their flocks.

1. The Power of Faithful Service: How We Follow God's Leadings

2. The Call of Responsibility: How We Care for What We Are Given

1. John 15:16 - "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit fruit that will last and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."

2. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Genesis 37:15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou?

Joseph is lost in a field and a man asks him what he is looking for.

1. "Be Still and Know that I am God: Finding Peace in Uncertainty"

2. "Let not Your Heart be Troubled: Finding Comfort in Difficult Times"

1. Psalm 46:10, Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

2. John 14:1, Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Genesis 37:16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.

Joseph seeks his brothers, and asks a man for their whereabouts.

1. Believing in God s plan for our lives even when we don t understand it

2. Relying on God s guidance in times of hardship

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Genesis 37:17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.

Joseph heard his brothers talking about going to Dothan, so he followed them there and found them.

1. God will lead us to where we need to be if we trust in Him.

2. Follow in Joseph's footsteps and listen to the Lord's will.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

Genesis 37:18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.

Joseph's brothers conspired to kill him when they saw him from a distance.

1. The Power of Jealousy: How to Overcome Envy and Reclaim Joy

2. The Blessing of Forgiveness: How to Overcome Resentment and Find Peace

1. Genesis 45:4-5 - "And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life."

2. Romans 12:19-21 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Genesis 37:19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.

Joseph's brothers discussed his arrival and noted he was a dreamer.

1. The Power of Dreams - How Joseph's dream changed the course of history

2. The Value of Friendship - How Joseph's relationship with his brothers ultimately led to his success

1. Psalm 105:17-19 - He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant: Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron: Until the time that his word came: the word of the LORD tried him.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

Genesis 37:20 Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams.

Joseph's brothers plotted to kill him, but instead threw him into a pit and lied about what had happened to him.

1. "The Power of Compassion over Hatred"

2. "The Value of Dreams"

1. Romans 12:21 - "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

2. Psalm 37:23 - "The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way."

Genesis 37:21 And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.

Reuben rescues Joseph from his other brothers' plan to kill him.

1. Reuben's selfless act of kindness and grace towards his brother Joseph.

2. The power of forgiveness and grace even in the darkest of moments.

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

2. Luke 6:36 - "Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful."

Genesis 37:22 And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.

Reuben suggests to his brothers to spare Joseph's life and throw him in a pit in the wilderness instead.

1. The Power of Mercy: The Story of Joseph and Reuben

2. The Importance of Making Wise Decisions: Reuben's Example

1. Psalm 103:8 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

Genesis 37:23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him;

Joseph's brothers stripped him of his coat of many colors.

1. The Power of Jealousy: Examining Joseph's Story

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning from Joseph's Example

1. James 1:14-15 "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Luke 6:37-38 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

Genesis 37:24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

Joseph was thrown into an empty pit with no water.

1. God will use even the worst of situations for His glory.

2. The Lord will use us in ways we least expect.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 37:25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.

The Ishmeelites came from Gilead with goods to take to Egypt.

1. God's providence in the midst of difficulty - Genesis 37:25

2. The value of hard work and determination - Genesis 37:25

1. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

Genesis 37:26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

Judah questions his brothers about the value of killing their brother and hiding his death.

1. The Value of Life: Examining the cost of taking a life.

2. The Power of Words: How our words can shape our decisions.

1. Romans 12:17-21 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. Matthew 18:15-17 - "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Genesis 37:27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content.

The brothers of Joseph decided to sell him to the Ishmeelites rather than harm him themselves.

1. The importance of family unity and looking out for each other s best interests.

2. The power of contentment in difficult situations.

1. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

Genesis 37:28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

Joseph is sold by Midianites to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver and is taken to Egypt.

1. God uses difficult circumstances to bring about His will - Genesis 37:28

2. The power of our decisions - Genesis 37:28

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 37:29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.

Reuben discovers Joseph is not in the pit, so he tears his clothes in distress.

1. God can bring something good out of even the darkest of situations.

2. Even when we are faced with distress, we can have faith that God is still in control.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Genesis 37:30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?

Joseph's brothers had sold him into slavery and when he returned to them, he asked them where the child he was looking for was.

1. The Power of Forgiveness

2. The Value of Family

1. Genesis 50:20 - "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Genesis 37:31 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;

Joseph's coat was taken by his brothers and dipped in a goat's blood in a plan to deceive their father.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Betrayal

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Matthew 18:21-35 - The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

2. Genesis 45:4-8 - Joseph Reveals His Identity to His Brothers

Genesis 37:32 And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no.

Joseph's brothers sent a coat of many colors to their father in order to confirm if it was Joseph's coat.

1: We should all be willing to forgive like Joseph did when his brothers sent him to Egypt.

2: We should all show grace and mercy even when we are wronged.

1: Luke 6:37 - "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven".

2: Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses".

Genesis 37:33 And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.

Jacob mourns the loss of his son Joseph after being deceived by his brothers.

1: God can bring beauty from tragedy, even in the midst of our deepest sorrows.

2: Our faith in God can sustain us in times of great loss and pain.

1: Isaiah 43:1-3 ( Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. )

2: Romans 8:28 ( And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. )

Genesis 37:34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.

Jacob mourns the loss of his son, Joseph.

1. The Pain of Loss: How to Find Comfort in Times of Mourning

2. The Strength of Faith: How Jacob's Trust in God Got Him Through

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Genesis 37:35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.

Jacob refuses to be comforted after the death of his son, Joseph, and is filled with grief.

1. Learning to Accept Comfort in Times of Grief

2. Overcoming the Loss of a Loved One

1. Romans 12:15: Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

2. Psalm 34:18: The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Genesis 37:36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.

Joseph, one of Jacob's sons, was sold by the Midianites into Egypt, where he was purchased by Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's and captain of the guard.

1. The Sovereignty of God in Joseph's Life

2. The Power of Perseverance in the Midst of Adversity

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 38 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 38:1-11, the chapter focuses on Judah, one of Jacob's sons. Judah marries a Canaanite woman named Shua and has three sons: Er, Onan, and Shelah. Judah arranges for his firstborn son, Er, to marry a woman named Tamar. However, Er is wicked in the sight of the Lord and dies prematurely. According to the custom of levirate marriage, Onan is then instructed to fulfill his duty by marrying Tamar and providing offspring for his deceased brother. However, Onan selfishly refuses to fulfill this obligation and spills his seed on the ground instead.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 38:12-19, after the deaths of both Er and Onan, Judah promises Tamar that she will marry his youngest son Shelah when he grows older. However, years pass by without fulfilling this promise. Tamar realizes that she is being deceived by Judah's family and takes matters into her own hands to secure her future lineage. She disguises herself as a prostitute and waits for Judah on the road to Timnah.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 38:20-30, when Judah encounters Tamar disguised as a prostitute but does not recognize her due to her veil, he propositions her for sexual relations in exchange for payment. They engage in intercourse and Tamar conceives twins from their encounter. Later on when it becomes known that Tamar is pregnant outside of marriage (which was punishable), she presents evidence showing that it was actually Judah who fathered the children through items he had given her as collateral during their encounter.

In summary:

Genesis 38 presents:

Judah marrying a Canaanite woman;

The deaths of his sons Er and Onan;

Onan's refusal to fulfill the duty of levirate marriage;

Judah promising Tamar to marry his youngest son Shelah.

Tamar disguising herself as a prostitute and engaging with Judah;

Tamar conceiving twins from their encounter;

The revelation of Judah as the father of Tamar's children.

This chapter focuses on the events surrounding Judah and Tamar, highlighting themes such as family obligations, deceit, and personal responsibility. It reveals the consequences of disobedience and selfishness within relationships. The story also emphasizes Tamar's resourcefulness in securing her future lineage despite being mistreated by Judah's family. Genesis 38 serves as an interlude in Joseph's narrative but provides important context for understanding the subsequent events in Joseph's life.

Genesis 38:1 And it came to pass at that time, that Judah went down from his brethren, and turned in to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah.

Judah leaves his brothers and moves to Adullam with a man named Hirah.

1: Following God's will, even when it goes against our own desires, is important.

2: Doing what is right, even when it is not popular, is necessary to follow God's plan.

1: Matthew 6:33: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

2: John 14:15: "If you love me, keep my commandments."

Genesis 38:2 And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite, whose name was Shuah; and he took her, and went in unto her.

Judah met a Canaanite woman named Shuah and he married her.

1. Marriage is a covenant between God and the couple.

2. God's plan for marriage will always prevail, even in difficult situations.

1. Malachi 2:14-16 - "Yet you ask, Why? It is because the Lord is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant."

2. Matthew 19:3-6 - "Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason? Haven t you read, he replied, that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh ? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.

Genesis 38:3 And she conceived, and bare a son; and he called his name Er.

Tamar conceives a son and names him Er.

1. The importance of naming children for God's glory.

2. How God uses difficult circumstances to bring about life.

1. Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. John 1:12-13 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Genesis 38:4 And she conceived again, and bare a son; and she called his name Onan.

Tamar gave birth to a son named Onan.

1. The Meaning of Onan's Name: What Can We Learn from His Story?

2. The Power of a Child's Name: How We Name Our Children Matters.

1. Matthew 18:3-5 "And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me."

2. Proverbs 22:1 "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold."

Genesis 38:5 And she yet again conceived, and bare a son; and called his name Shelah: and he was at Chezib, when she bare him.

This passage tells the story of Tamar's third son, Shelah, born in Chezib.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises despite difficult circumstances

2. The importance of trusting in God's plan, even when it does not make sense to us

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Genesis 38:6 And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, whose name was Tamar.

Judah married his firstborn son, Er, to Tamar.

1. Making Mistakes and Learning from Them (Genesis 38:6)

2. The Blessings of Marriage (Genesis 38:6)

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Genesis 38:7 And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD slew him.

Er, Judah's firstborn son, was considered wicked in the eyes of the Lord and was consequently killed.

1. God's justice and mercy - Romans 3:23-25

2. The consequences of sin - Romans 6:23

1. Proverbs 11:21 - Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished, but the descendants of the righteous will escape.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Genesis 38:8 And Judah said unto Onan, Go in unto thy brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up seed to thy brother.

Judah instructs Onan to marry his late brother's wife and provide an heir.

1. The Importance of Honor and Family: A Study of Genesis 38:8

2. Jacob and Judah: A Reflection on Fulfilling Obligations

1. Ruth 4:10 - "Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day."

2. Deuteronomy 25:5-10 - "If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her. And it shall be, that the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, that his name be not put out of Israel."

Genesis 38:9 And Onan knew that the seed should not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest that he should give seed to his brother.

Onan refused to fulfill his duty to give seed to his brother's wife, so he spilled it on the ground instead.

1. The Power of Integrity: Following Through on Our Commitments

2. The Sin of Selfishness: Refusing to Live for Others

1. Galatians 6:5-7 "For each will have to bear their own load. And let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will they also reap."

2. Proverbs 3:27-28 "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it when you have it with you.

Genesis 38:10 And the thing which he did displeased the LORD: wherefore he slew him also.

Judah's son, Er, did something displeasing to the Lord, so the Lord killed him.

1. Living a Life Pleasing to the Lord.

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God.

1. Ephesians 5:10 - "trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death..."

Genesis 38:11 Then said Judah to Tamar his daughter in law, Remain a widow at thy father's house, till Shelah my son be grown: for he said, Lest peradventure he die also, as his brethren did. And Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house.

Judah told his daughter-in-law Tamar to wait at her father's house until his son Shelah was grown, because he feared his son might die like his other brothers. Tamar obeyed and stayed at her father's house.

1. Trust in God's Timing - Waiting for God's promises to be fulfilled

2. Faithfulness in Obedience - Following God's will even when it's difficult

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Genesis 38:12 And in process of time the daughter of Shuah Judah's wife died; and Judah was comforted, and went up unto his sheepshearers to Timnath, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite.

Judah was comforted after the death of his wife's daughter and went to Timnath with his friend Hirah.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Mourning

2. The Strength of Friendship

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

Genesis 38:13 And it was told Tamar, saying, Behold thy father in law goeth up to Timnath to shear his sheep.

Tamar learns that her father-in-law is headed to Timnath to shear his sheep.

1. God's plan for our lives is revealed in unexpected ways.

2. Humility is essential for recognizing God's plans.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 38:14 And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a vail, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife.

Tamar took off her widow's clothing, covered herself with a veil, and sat in a public place in the way to Timnath, as she had seen that Shelah was grown and she had not been given to him in marriage.

1. God's timing is always perfect - Genesis 38:14

2. The power of faith in difficult times - Genesis 38:14

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Esther 4:14 - For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Genesis 38:15 When Judah saw her, he thought her to be an harlot; because she had covered her face.

Judah mistook Tamar for a prostitute due to her covering her face.

1. The Danger of Making Assumptions: A Study on the Life of Judah

2. God's Redemption: A Study on the Life of Tamar

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

2. Matthew 7:1-5 - "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

Genesis 38:16 And he turned unto her by the way, and said, Go to, I pray thee, let me come in unto thee; (for he knew not that she was his daughter in law.) And she said, What wilt thou give me, that thou mayest come in unto me?

Judah encountered a woman on the road and proposed to her, not realizing she was his daughter-in-law. She asked for payment in exchange for her consent.

1. The Value of Relationships: A Study of Genesis 38

2. The Power of Discernment: Learning from Judah's Mistake in Genesis 38

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Genesis 38:17 And he said, I will send thee a kid from the flock. And she said, Wilt thou give me a pledge, till thou send it?

Judah promised to send Tamar a kid from the flock and she asked for a pledge in return.

1. God calls us to be faithful to our promises.

2. We must have faith that God will fulfill His promises.

1. 1 John 5:14-15 "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."

2. Psalm 37:5 "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Genesis 38:18 And he said, What pledge shall I give thee? And she said, Thy signet, and thy bracelets, and thy staff that is in thine hand. And he gave it her, and came in unto her, and she conceived by him.

Judah promised to give Tamar a signet, bracelets and staff as a pledge and then slept with her, resulting in her pregnancy.

1. God's faithfulness, even through difficult circumstances (Genesis 38:18)

2. The importance of keeping our promises (Genesis 38:18)

1. Ecclesiastes 5:5 - "Better not to vow than to vow and not fulfill it."

2. Romans 13:7 - "Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor."

Genesis 38:19 And she arose, and went away, and laid by her vail from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood.

Tamar removed her veil and put on her widow's clothing.

1. The Power of Choice: Understanding the decisions of Tamar.

2. A Faithful Widow: Examining Tamar's commitment to God's will.

1. Ruth 1:16-17 - Ruth's commitment to Naomi despite her difficult circumstances.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - The newness of life in Christ.

Genesis 38:20 And Judah sent the kid by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive his pledge from the woman's hand: but he found her not.

Judah sends a friend to receive his pledge from a woman, but she was not found.

1. The Importance of Keeping Your Promises

2. The Disappointments of Life

1. Matthew 5:33 37 - "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:8 10 - One person who is alone labors diligently and acquires a great wealth. Two people together can help one another, but how can one person succeed? Even with a rope of three cords, it is not easily broken. A poor person who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain that leaves no food.

Genesis 38:21 Then he asked the men of that place, saying, Where is the harlot, that was openly by the way side? And they said, There was no harlot in this place.

Judah had gone to a certain place to find a harlot, but the people there told him that there was no harlot present.

1. God's providence is evident in the most unlikely of places.

2. God will protect us from harm even when we have made wrong decisions.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

2. Psalm 121:7-8 - "The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore."

Genesis 38:22 And he returned to Judah, and said, I cannot find her; and also the men of the place said, that there was no harlot in this place.

Judah searched for a harlot but was unable to find one. The people of the place also confirmed that there was no harlot in the area.

1. The importance of living an upright life, free from temptation.

2. God's mercy in protecting us from sinful lifestyles.

1. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2. Proverbs 27:12 - The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.

Genesis 38:23 And Judah said, Let her take it to her, lest we be shamed: behold, I sent this kid, and thou hast not found her.

Judah reluctantly allows Tamar to keep the kid goat he had promised her, out of fear of being shamed.

1. God's faithfulness in restoring our reputation.

2. The importance of honoring our commitments.

1. Psalm 51:7-12

2. Matthew 5:33-37

Genesis 38:24 And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying, Tamar thy daughter in law hath played the harlot; and also, behold, she is with child by whoredom. And Judah said, Bring her forth, and let her be burnt.

Judah found out that Tamar, his daughter-in-law, had been unfaithful and demanded that she be burned.

1. The Mercy of God in the Midst of Human Sin - Gen. 38:24

2. The Perils of Unfaithfulness - Gen. 38:24

1. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

2. Romans 5:20 - "Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

Genesis 38:25 When she was brought forth, she sent to her father in law, saying, By the man, whose these are, am I with child: and she said, Discern, I pray thee, whose are these, the signet, and bracelets, and staff.

Tamar disguises herself as a prostitute and reveals to her father-in-law Judah that she is pregnant with his child.

1. The Power of Restoration: How God Redeems Our Mistakes

2. The Obedience of Faith: How God Rewards Our Submission

1. Ruth 3:11 - "And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Genesis 38:26 And Judah acknowledged them, and said, She hath been more righteous than I; because that I gave her not to Shelah my son. And he knew her again no more.

Judah admits his wrong and acknowledges that Tamar was more righteous than him.

1. God's righteousness is greater than our own.

2. Repentance brings redemption.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Psalm 25:11 - "For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great."

Genesis 38:27 And it came to pass in the time of her travail, that, behold, twins were in her womb.

The birth of twins is a remarkable event.

1. God's Miracles: The Birth of Twins

2. The Beauty of Becoming a Parent

1. Luke 1:41-44 - And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Genesis 38:28 And it came to pass, when she travailed, that the one put out his hand: and the midwife took and bound upon his hand a scarlet thread, saying, This came out first.

This passage reveals the midwife's use of a scarlet thread to distinguish the firstborn twin in a difficult childbirth.

1. The Scarlet Thread of Redemption: How God Redeems Us

2. The Power of a Simple Thread: How Small Actions Can Have Big Results

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

2. Numbers 15:38-41 - "Speak to the people of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring."

Genesis 38:29 And it came to pass, as he drew back his hand, that, behold, his brother came out: and she said, How hast thou broken forth? this breach be upon thee: therefore his name was called Pharez.

God's mercy is always greater than our mistakes.

1: God's Mercy Endures Forever

2: Overcoming Obstacles Through God's Mercy

1. Romans 5:20 - Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.

2. Psalm 136:15-16 - But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him which divided the Red sea into parts: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Genesis 38:30 And afterward came out his brother, that had the scarlet thread upon his hand: and his name was called Zarah.

The birth of Zarah, who was identified by a scarlet thread on his hand, was the second son of Judah and Tamar.

1. The Power of Identity: Recognizing one's true identity in the midst of uncertainty.

2. Faithfulness Rewarded: God's faithfulness in preserving the lineage of Jesus Christ.

1. Romans 8: 28-29 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

2. Matthew 1:3 - And Judas begat Phares and Zarah of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram.

Genesis 39 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 39:1-6, the chapter focuses on Joseph's life in Egypt. He is sold as a slave to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard. Despite his circumstances, Joseph finds favor in Potiphar's eyes, and he is entrusted with various responsibilities in his household. God blesses everything that Joseph does, and Potiphar recognizes this. As a result, Joseph rises to a position of authority within Potiphar's house.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 39:7-18, the narrative takes a turn when Potiphar's wife becomes infatuated with Joseph and tries to seduce him. However, Joseph remains faithful to God and refuses her advances. Despite his rejection, she falsely accuses him of attempted rape out of anger and revenge. Her false accusation leads to Joseph being unjustly thrown into prison.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 39:19-23, while imprisoned, God continues to show favor towards Joseph. The warden puts him in charge of other prisoners because he sees that everything Joseph does prospers under his care. Even in prison, God grants him success and wisdom. Throughout this time, the Lord is with Joseph and shows steadfast love towards him.

In summary:

Genesis 39 presents:

Joseph being sold as a slave to Potiphar;

Finding favor in Potiphar's eyes;

Rising to a position of authority within his household.

Potiphar's wife attempting to seduce Joseph;

Joseph remaining faithful but being falsely accused;

Being unjustly thrown into prison.

Joseph finding favor even while imprisoned;

Being put in charge by the warden due to his success;

God showing steadfast love towards him throughout these trials.

This chapter highlights the faithfulness and integrity of Joseph despite facing difficult circumstances such as slavery and false accusations. It emphasizes God's presence and favor in Joseph's life, even in the midst of adversity. The story underscores the importance of remaining steadfast in one's faith and moral principles, even when faced with temptation or unjust treatment. Genesis 39 serves as a pivotal point in Joseph's journey, setting the stage for future events that will ultimately lead him to a position of great influence in Egypt.

Genesis 39:1 And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither.

Joseph is sold into slavery in Egypt by the Ishmaelites and purchased by Potiphar, a captain of Pharaoh's guard.

1. God uses all circumstances to bring about His will and fulfill His plans.

2. Even in difficult times, God can bring good out of evil.

1. Genesis 50:20 - You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 39:2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

Joseph was blessed by the Lord and prospered in his work for an Egyptian master.

1. God's favor and blessing can come in unexpected places.

2. Faithfulness in our mundane tasks can lead to great success.

1. Proverbs 22:29 - Do you see a man diligent in his work? He will stand before kings.

2. Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Genesis 39:3 And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

Joseph was blessed by the Lord, and everything he did prospered.

1. The Power of God in our Lives - How relying on God and His provision can bring success and blessing.

2. The Faithfulness of God - How God will honor and reward those who remain faithful to Him.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Exodus 23:25 - "Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you."

Genesis 39:4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

Joseph's hard work and faithfulness led him to find favor with his master, Potiphar, and he was given a position of authority in his house.

1. God's faithfulness to us will lead to favor and promotion in life.

2. Through hard work and dedication, God will bless us with opportunities and authority.

1. Genesis 39:4 - And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

2. James 2:17 - Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Genesis 39:5 And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

Joseph's faithfulness brought the Lord's blessing to the Egyptian's house.

1. Faithful Actions Bring Blessings

2. God Rewards Faithfulness

1. Proverbs 10:22 - "The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, without painful toil for it."

2. Matthew 25:21 - "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"

Genesis 39:6 And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not ought he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favoured.

Joseph was a trustworthy and favored person, who was put in charge of all of Potiphar's matters.

1: We can learn from Joseph's example of faithfulness and trustworthiness.

2: Even when put in difficult positions, we can trust in God's plan.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2: Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Genesis 39:7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.

Joseph resisted temptation and remained faithful to God.

1. The Value of Integrity: Standing Firm in the Face of Temptation

2. Resisting Temptation: Lessons from Joseph

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Genesis 39:8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

Joseph resisted the advances of Potiphar's wife by placing his faith in God.

1: We must always resist temptation and trust in the Lord, for He is the one who holds our future in His hands.

2: God will always provide a way of escape when we are tempted. We should remain faithful to Him and trust in His guidance.

1: 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Genesis 39:9 There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

Joseph refused to sin against God by committing adultery with Potiphar's wife.

1. God's grace enables us to resist temptation.

2. We can remain faithful to God even in difficult circumstances.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

2. James 1:12-15 - "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

Genesis 39:10 And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her.

Joseph resisted temptation and remained faithful to God.

1: Joseph's faithfulness in the face of temptation is an example for us all.

2: God is faithful and will help us overcome temptation.

1: 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2: James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Genesis 39:11 And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within.

Joseph went into the house to do his business but no one else was there.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Genesis 39:11

2. Doing the Right Thing at the Right Time - Genesis 39:11

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Genesis 39:12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

Potiphar's wife attempted to seduce Joseph, but he fled from her and left his garment behind.

1. The Power of Faith: Standing Firm in Temptation - Joseph's example of standing strong in the face of temptation.

2. Practical Holiness: The Cost of Serving God - Joseph's willingness to suffer personal loss in order to remain faithful to God.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

2. James 1:12 - "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."

Genesis 39:13 And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth,

Joseph resisted temptation and chose to flee from Potiphar's wife.

1. God will give us strength to resist temptation and make the right choices.

2. We must not allow ourselves to give in to the wrong desires of our hearts.

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Genesis 39:14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice:

Joseph was falsely accused of attempting to seduce Potiphar's wife.

1. Standing firm in the face of false accusations

2. The importance of maintaining a blameless reputation

1. Proverbs 18:17 - The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him

2. Psalm 15:1-2 - O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart.

Genesis 39:15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

Joseph was falsely accused and his master's wife tried to seduce him, so he ran away.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Situations - Joseph's story in Genesis 39:15 shows us that even when we are falsely accused and faced with difficult situations, we can trust God and flee from temptations.

2. The Power of Faith - Joseph's courage and faith in the midst of adversity is an example for us to follow today.

1. Genesis 39:15 - And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Genesis 39:16 And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home.

Potiphar's wife kept Joseph's garment until her husband returned home.

1. The Faithfulness of Joseph: A Model for Our Lives

2. The Power of Temptation: A Warning for Us All

1. Job 31:1 - "I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a young woman?"

2. Proverbs 5:3-5 - "For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol."

Genesis 39:17 And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me:

Joseph's integrity was tested by Potiphar's wife.

1: We are all tested in some way or another. It is how we respond to those tests that reveals our true character.

2: God has a plan for each of us, even in the midst of difficult and challenging circumstances.

1: James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2: Romans 5:3-4 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Genesis 39:18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out.

Joseph was falsely accused and left his garment behind as he fled.

1: The power of a righteous man's prayer, and the consequences of false accusations.

2: The importance of maintaining your integrity despite adversity.

1: James 5:16 - The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2: Proverbs 19:5 - A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape.

Genesis 39:19 And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.

Joseph's master was angered at the words of his wife after Joseph had done something for her.

1. Learning to Handle Conflict Peacefully

2. The Power of Words

1. Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Genesis 39:20 And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison.

Joseph is unjustly thrown into prison, where he is bound with the other prisoners of the king.

1. The Unjust Suffering of Joseph - Using Joseph's story to explore the mystery of God's will in suffering.

2. The Power of Faith in Times of Trouble - Examining Joseph's faithfulness in the midst of trial and difficulty.

1. Isaiah 53:7 - "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."

2. Hebrews 11:23 - "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment."

Genesis 39:21 But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Joseph's faithfulness to God was rewarded by God showing him mercy and favor.

1: God will reward faithfulness

2: God's mercy and favor is available to all

1: Matthew 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

2: Romans 5:20-21 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Genesis 39:22 And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

Joseph was trusted with great responsibility by the keeper of the prison.

1. God rewards faithfulness with increased levels of responsibility.

2. God can use us to accomplish his purposes even in difficult circumstances.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Matthew 25:21 - "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'"

Genesis 39:23 The keeper of the prison looked not to any thing that was under his hand; because the LORD was with him, and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

The Lord was with Joseph, and whatever he did prospered.

1. God's presence and blessing is available for all of us.

2. Allow God to direct your actions and He will provide prosperity.

1. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Joshua 1:8 "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Genesis 40 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 40:1-8, the chapter begins with Joseph being imprisoned in Egypt. While in prison, Pharaoh's chief cupbearer and chief baker are also incarcerated. One night, both of them have troubling dreams, and Joseph notices their distress. When he asks about their troubled faces, they reveal their dreams to him. The cupbearer dreams of a vine with three branches that bud and produce grapes, which he squeezes into Pharaoh's cup. The baker dreams of three baskets on his head filled with baked goods that are eaten by birds.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 40:9-19, Joseph interprets the dreams for the cupbearer and the baker. He tells the cupbearer that within three days he will be restored to his position as Pharaoh's cupbearer. Encouraged by this interpretation, Joseph requests the cupbearer to remember him and mention his case to Pharaoh when he is reinstated. Unfortunately for the baker, Joseph predicts that within three days he will be hanged by Pharaoh.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 40:20-23, exactly as Joseph interpreted it, on the third day Pharaoh's birthday Pharaoh holds a feast for his officials and restores the chief cupbearer to his former position. However, as predicted by Joseph's interpretation of his dream, the chief baker is hanged just as Pharaoh celebrates his birthday feast. Despite accurately interpreting their dreams and requesting assistance from the restored cupbearer to secure his release from prison, Joseph is forgotten by him.

In summary:

Genesis 40 presents:

Joseph being imprisoned alongside Pharaoh's chief cupbearer and chief baker;

The troubled dreams of both prisoners;

Joseph interpreting their respective dreams accurately.

Joseph predicting that within three days:

The cupbearer will be restored to his position;

The baker will be hanged by Pharaoh;

The fulfillment of Joseph's interpretations.

Joseph's request to the cupbearer to remember him, which is forgotten;

Pharaoh restoring the cupbearer but executing the baker;

Joseph remaining in prison, awaiting further events that will shape his destiny.

This chapter highlights Joseph's ability to interpret dreams and the accuracy of his interpretations. It showcases his character and willingness to help others even while in prison. The story emphasizes the theme of divine providence and how God uses dreams as a means of communication. Genesis 40 serves as a stepping stone in Joseph's journey, leading him closer to fulfilling his destiny as a significant figure in Egypt.

Genesis 40:1 And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker had offended their lord the king of Egypt.

The chief cup-bearer and chief baker of the King of Egypt had offended him.

1: Doing the right thing even when no one is watching is the path to true greatness. Proverbs 11:3

2: We can all find hope in God's provision, even in difficult times. Philippians 4:6-7

1: Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.

2: Proverbs 24:16 - For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

Genesis 40:2 And Pharaoh was wroth against two of his officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers.

Pharaoh was angry with two of his officials.

1: When we are entrusted with positions of authority, we must always remember to use it wisely and with humility.

2: We should strive to honor God in every decision we make and be respectful of those around us.

1: Proverbs 16:32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

2: Matthew 5:5 Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Genesis 40:3 And he put them in ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound.

Joseph's imprisonment in the house of the captain of the guard is described in Genesis 40:3.

1. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times - Exodus 14:13-14

2. The Tribulations of Joseph - Genesis 37:19-20

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 40:4 And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them: and they continued a season in ward.

Joseph is appointed by the captain of the guard to serve two men in prison.

1. We can trust God to use our difficult circumstances for good.

2. God can use us in any situation.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Genesis 40:5 And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, which were bound in the prison.

Two men, the butler and the baker of the King of Egypt, were imprisoned and both of them dreamed a dream in one night.

1. The Power of Dreams: How God Uses Dreams to Speak to Us

2. Faith in the Midst of Adversity: Finding Hope in the Prisons of Life

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Psalm 16:8 - I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Genesis 40:6 And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and, behold, they were sad.

Joseph noticed that the cupbearer and baker of Pharaoh were sad and he asked them why.

1. The Power of Compassion: How Joseph's Openness to Others Led to His Success

2. The Value of Serving Others: Joseph's Example of Serving Pharaoh

1. Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Genesis 40:7 And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his lord's house, saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly to day?

Joseph asked Pharaoh's officers why they were so sad.

1. God cares about our feelings - even during difficult times.

2. Let us seek God's comfort in times of sadness.

1. Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Genesis 40:8 And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me them, I pray you.

Joseph explains to two prisoners that God is the one who interprets dreams.

1. God is the Ultimate Interpreter - Genesis 40:8

2. The Power of Dreams - Genesis 40:8

1. Matthew 28:20 - And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 40:9 And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, In my dream, behold, a vine was before me;

Joseph interprets the dreams of the chief cupbearer and the chief baker.

1: We can trust God to interpret our dreams and guide us in our decisions.

2: God provides us with hope and understanding in the midst of difficulty.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2: Isaiah 65:24 "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear."

Genesis 40:10 And in the vine were three branches: and it was as though it budded, and her blossoms shot forth; and the clusters thereof brought forth ripe grapes:

The Lord provided a fruitful vine for Joseph to find hope in.

1: We can find hope in God's provision.

2: Let us look to the Lord for our needs.

1: Psalm 84:11 - "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly."

2: Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Genesis 40:11 And Pharaoh's cup was in my hand: and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand.

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream and gives him a cup of pressed grapes.

1: God will provide a way for you even in your darkest times.

2: God will show you His plan through unexpected people.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2: Philippians 4:19 - But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Genesis 40:12 And Joseph said unto him, This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days:

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream, telling him it means there will be three days of abundance followed by three days of famine.

1. The Fickleness of Fortune: God's Sovereignty in Times of Abundance and Famine

2. God's Faithfulness in Times of Difficulty: Finding Strength Through Trials

1. Psalm 34:10 - "The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 40:13 Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thine head, and restore thee unto thy place: and thou shalt deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when thou wast his butler.

Pharaoh promises to restore Joseph to his former position as his cup bearer within three days.

1. God can restore us from any situation, no matter how desperate.

2. God always keeps His promises.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Genesis 40:14 But think on me when it shall be well with thee, and shew kindness, I pray thee, unto me, and make mention of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house:

Joseph interpreted Pharaoh s dreams and was given a step up in life; however, he remembered his brothers and asked the Pharaoh to show kindness and bring him out of prison.

1. Do not forget where you come from - no matter how far you have come, never forget those who have helped you get to where you are.

2. Remember to show kindness to those who are less fortunate than you.

1. Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

2. Matthew 25:40 - Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Genesis 40:15 For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews: and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon.

Joseph was falsely accused and imprisoned, yet he remained faithful and trusting in God.

1: God will never leave us, even in times of suffering and injustice.

2: We must remain faithful and trusting to God, despite the hardships of life.

1: Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2: Hebrews 10:35-36 - "Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised."

Genesis 40:16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said unto Joseph, I also was in my dream, and, behold, I had three white baskets on my head:

In the story of Genesis 40, the chief baker has a dream which Joseph interprets as being prophetic of his impending doom.

1. God's Word is True: Learning from the Story of Joseph and the Chief Baker

2. The Power of Dreams: Exploring the Significance of Joseph's Interpretation

1. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:7 - For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but fear thou God.

Genesis 40:17 And in the uppermost basket there was of all manner of bakemeats for Pharaoh; and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head.

The Pharaoh's baker found birds eating the baked goods out of the basket on his head.

1. God Provides: The Pharaoh's baker found an unusual way to provide a meal for the King.

2. Trust in God: Even in difficult times, God has a plan for our lives.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 Do not worry about your daily needs; God will provide.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord and do good; He will provide for your needs.

Genesis 40:18 And Joseph answered and said, This is the interpretation thereof: The three baskets are three days:

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream of three baskets of bread as three days.

1: We all have dreams, but it is only through the interpretation of God that we understand their true meaning.

2: Just as Joseph was able to interpret Pharaoh's dream, so too can we seek God's guidance to understand our own dreams.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2: James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

Genesis 40:19 Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head from off thee, and shall hang thee on a tree; and the birds shall eat thy flesh from off thee.

Pharaoh promised to restore Joseph to his position of authority within three days, but he would be killed by being hung on a tree and his flesh would be eaten by birds.

1: God works in mysterious ways. Joseph s story is a reminder to us that even in the midst of suffering and difficulty, God has a plan.

2: We must remain faithful and trust God even when we don t understand the hardships we are going through.

1: Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 40:20 And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast unto all his servants: and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants.

Pharaoh's generosity is demonstrated through his celebration and promotion of his servants.

1. The Lord's Generosity: How We Can Show Gratitude and Give Thanks.

2. The Power of Celebration: How We Can Lift Up and Support One Another.

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Genesis 40:21 And he restored the chief butler unto his butlership again; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand:

The chief butler was restored to his position and given the cup back to Pharaoh.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How God Restores Us After We Fail

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God Keeps His Promises

1. Isaiah 43:25 I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Genesis 40:22 But he hanged the chief baker: as Joseph had interpreted to them.

The chief baker was hanged according to Joseph's interpretation.

1: God's justice is served, even through difficult times.

2: Joseph's wisdom and faithfulness to God was rewarded.

1: Proverbs 19:20-21 - "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2: James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Genesis 40:23 Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgat him.

Joseph was forgotten by the chief butler.

1. God Remembers Us Even When Others Forget

2. The Power of a Good Deed

1. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

2. Proverbs 19:17 - "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done."

Genesis 41 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 41:1-13, the chapter begins with Pharaoh having two significant dreams that deeply trouble him. In his dreams, he sees seven fat cows being devoured by seven lean cows and seven plump ears of grain being consumed by seven thin and scorched ears. Pharaoh seeks an interpretation for his dreams but finds none among his wise men who can provide an explanation. At this point, the chief cupbearer remembers Joseph's ability to interpret dreams from his time in prison and informs Pharaoh about him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 41:14-36, Joseph is summoned from the prison to appear before Pharaoh. Before interpreting the dreams, Joseph acknowledges that it is God who gives interpretations and not himself. He explains that both dreams have a unified meaning - Egypt will experience seven years of abundance followed by severe famine lasting for another seven years. Joseph advises Pharaoh to appoint a wise and discerning man to oversee the collection and management of food during the years of plenty so that Egypt may be prepared for the upcoming famine.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 41:37-57, impressed by Joseph's wisdom and understanding, Pharaoh appoints him as second-in-command over all of Egypt. He bestows upon Joseph a signet ring, fine garments, a gold chain around his neck, and authority over all the land except for Pharaoh himself. As predicted by Joseph's interpretation of the dream, Egypt experiences seven prosperous years where abundant harvests occur throughout the land under his administration. During this time, Joseph marries Asenath and they have two sons together.

In summary:

Genesis 41 presents:

Pharaoh having troubling dreams;

Joseph being summoned to interpret these dreams;

The prediction of seven years of abundance followed by severe famine.

Joseph acknowledging God as the source of interpretation;

Advising Pharaoh to appoint a wise man to manage food storage;

Joseph being appointed as second-in-command over Egypt.

Joseph's rise to power and authority;

The fulfillment of the dream's predictions during the years of abundance;

Joseph marrying Asenath and having two sons.

This chapter showcases Joseph's pivotal role in interpreting dreams and his subsequent elevation to a position of great influence. It highlights God's guidance and wisdom through Joseph, enabling him to provide crucial advice for Egypt's survival during the impending famine. The story underscores themes of divine providence, preparation, and the consequences of heeding or ignoring prophetic warnings. Genesis 41 marks a turning point in Joseph's life as he transitions from a prisoner to becoming a significant figure in Egyptian society.

Genesis 41:1 And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river.

Pharaoh's dream foreshadows the coming famine in Egypt.

1. God's plans are often revealed through dreams and visions.

2. God's providence can be seen in the events of our lives.

1. Daniel 2:28-29 - Then there was a revelation to Daniel in a night vision. He blessed the God of heaven and said, Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might.

2. Matthew 2:13-14 - Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.

Genesis 41:2 And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well favoured kine and fatfleshed; and they fed in a meadow.

The Pharaoh of Egypt saw seven healthy cows come up from the river.

1: God's provision for Pharaoh despite his physical difficulties.

2: How God can provide for us in unexpected ways.

1: 2 Corinthians 9:8-9 - And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 41:3 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favoured and leanfleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river.

Pharaoh's chief butler sees seven cows come out of the river, ill-favored and thin.

1. The Power of God: The Miracle of the Seven Lean Cows (Genesis 41:3)

2. Overcoming Adversity: The Strength of Faith (Genesis 41:3)

1. Genesis 41:3 - "And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favoured and leanfleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river."

2. Matthew 17:20 - "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Genesis 41:4 And the ill favoured and leanfleshed kine did eat up the seven well favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke.

Pharaoh's dream of seven fat cows being devoured by seven lean cows came true, jolting him awake.

1. God's will is sometimes difficult to comprehend, but it will always be fulfilled.

2. God will use both the pleasant and unpleasant to accomplish His purposes.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 41:5 And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good.

Pharaoh had a dream where seven ears of corn came up on one stalk, which were both rank and good.

1. The Power of Dreams: How God Speaks to Us Through Our Dreams

2. The Provision of God: How God Supplies Our Needs

1. Acts 2:17-21 - The Gift of Dreams and Their Interpretations

2. Psalm 37:25 - God's Faithfulness to Meet Our Needs

Genesis 41:6 And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

Pharaoh had a dream of seven thin ears of grain growing after seven healthy ones.

1. God can turn any situation for the better.

2. Recognizing God's sovereignty in our lives.

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Genesis 41:7 And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

Pharaoh's dream of thin ears consuming full ears is a reminder that God is sovereign and He can use even our worst circumstances to bring about His good plans.

1: God's Sovereignty: Knowing that God is in Control

2: Seeing the Blessing in Our Struggles

1: Romans 8:28-29 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2: Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Genesis 41:8 And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.

Pharaoh's spirit was troubled when he couldn't interpret his own dream.

1. "Trust in the Lord: Finding Strength in Difficult Times"

2. "The Wisdom of the Lord: Knowing What We Cannot"

1. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Genesis 41:9 Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

Pharaoh's chief butler remembers his faults.

1. The Power of Remembering Our Faults

2. Making Amends and Learning from Our Mistakes

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 41:10 Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker:

Pharaoh's anger leads to Joseph and the chief baker being placed in the captain of the guard's house.

1. The Power of Anger: How Rage Can Lead to Good and Bad Outcomes

2. Joseph: An Example of Patience and Faith in God

1. Proverbs 29:11 - "A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

Genesis 41:11 And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

Joseph interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh and his servants and gave them advice.

1. Dreams can reveal God's will and can be used to navigate difficult times.

2. We must listen to the interpretations of others and be open to advice.

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Genesis 41:12 And there was there with us a young man, an Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

Joseph successfully interpreted Pharaoh's dreams.

1: God has blessed us with the gift of interpretation, allowing us to understand the meaning behind our experiences.

2: God can use unlikely people to fulfill His purpose and reveal His plans.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Daniel 2:27-28, "Daniel answered the king and said, 'No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.'"

Genesis 41:13 And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

Joseph's accurate interpretation of Pharaoh's dream brought him back to his position of power and the baker was put to death.

1. Don't take your position of power for granted and use it with responsibility and humility.

2. God's will is ultimately what will be done, so be mindful of His guidance and direction.

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Isaiah 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord."

Genesis 41:14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

Joseph was brought out of the dungeon and presented himself to Pharaoh.

1: God works in mysterious ways and He can turn even difficult and trying situations around for our good.

2: We can trust in God's timing, even when we are in the dungeon, for He will bring us out in His own time and way.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Psalm 40:1-3 - I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

Genesis 41:15 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.

Pharaoh's dream was interpreted by Joseph.

1: God is always with us in times of trouble, and He can provide us with the solutions we need.

2: God can use anyone to do great things, even in the face of adversity.

1: James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2: 2 Corinthians 12:9 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Genesis 41:16 And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream and announces that God will provide an answer of peace.

1. God is the Ultimate Provider of Peace

2. Trust God to Give You the Answers You Seek

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in You.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 41:17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river:

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream to mean that seven years of plenty will be followed by seven years of famine.

Pharaoh has a dream in which he stands by a river, and Joseph interprets the dream to signify seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.

1. God's Provision Through Dreams - How God can use dreams as a means to provide guidance and comfort.

2. Facing the Famine - How to prepare for and handle a season of famine with faith and trust in God's promises.

1. Genesis 41:17 - And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river:

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Genesis 41:18 And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fatfleshed and well favoured; and they fed in a meadow:

Seven fat and attractive cows emerged from the river and began to graze in a meadow.

1. The Power of God: How God is Able to Bring Abundance in Unexpected Ways

2. Seeing the Abundance of God: Recognizing God's Provision in Unexpected Places

1. Psalm 34:10 - The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.

2. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Genesis 41:19 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill favoured and leanfleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness:

Pharaoh had a dream about seven fat cows being eaten by seven thin and poor cows.

1. God's plans are sometimes not immediately apparent, but He always works in mysterious ways.

2. When faced with challenges, trust in the Lord and He will lead you out of difficulties.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Genesis 41:20 And the lean and the ill favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine:

Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream reveals that seven years of plenty will be followed by seven years of famine.

1. God's Providence: Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream reveals that God has a plan and guides our lives even in times of plenty and famine.

2. Faithful Perseverance: Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream encourages us to remain faithful and persevere through both good times and bad.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Genesis 41:21 And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill favoured, as at the beginning. So I awoke.

Pharaoh has a dream in which seven fat cows and seven thin cows are eaten by seven thin cows, but the seven thin cows remain thin.

1. God's ways are mysterious but He knows our needs.

2. We should trust God to provide for us even when things appear impossible.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to not worry and trust in God.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - God will not abandon us and will strengthen us.

Genesis 41:22 And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good:

Joseph's dream of seven ears of corn coming up in one stalk symbolizes the abundance of Egypt during the coming years.

1. God is our provider, and He will supply our needs even when times are hard.

2. Our dreams can be used by God to tell us something greater than ourselves.

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.

Genesis 41:23 And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them:

God used Pharaoh's dream of seven thin and withered ears of grain to foreshadow seven years of famine.

1. The Sovereignty of God in our Lives - recognizing God's hand in times of prosperity and scarcity

2. Faithfulness in Adversity - trusting in God even in difficult times

1. Genesis 41:25-28 - Joseph's explanation to Pharaoh of the meaning of his dream

2. James 1:2-4 - Counting it all joy when faced with trials and tribulations

Genesis 41:24 And the thin ears devoured the seven good ears: and I told this unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.

Pharaoh's dream of seven good ears of corn being devoured by seven thin ears of corn was told to the magicians, but none of them could explain its meaning.

1. Put Your Trust in God, Not Man - God alone can interpret our dreams and provide us with clarity and direction.

2. Seek God's Wisdom - When we encounter problems or issues that we don't understand, God is the source of true wisdom and understanding.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Genesis 41:25 And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do.

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream to mean that God will bring about a period of prosperity followed by a period of famine.

1: God can use any situation to bring about good.

2: God's plan for our lives is good even when it doesn't seem like it.

1: Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Genesis 41:26 The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one.

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream to mean that there will be seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.

1. The Power of Dreams: How God Uses Dreams to Guide Us

2. The Faithfulness of Joseph: How His Trust in God Rewarded Him

1. Genesis 50:20 - "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps."

Genesis 41:27 And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine.

The seven years of abundance that Pharaoh experienced were followed by seven years of famine.

1. God s sovereignty in times of abundance and scarcity

2. Preparing for the future in times of plenty

1. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Genesis 41:28 This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh.

God reveals his plans to Pharaoh through Joseph.

1. God's Plans for Us: How God Reveals His Will in Our Lives

2. Listening to God's Voice: Responding to God's Call

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."

Genesis 41:29 Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:

Seven years of abundance are coming to Egypt.

1: God's provision is a blessing, and we should be thankful for it.

2: Our lives should reflect the abundance of God's blessings, and we should share this abundance with others.

1: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

2: 2 Corinthians 9:8-10 - And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever. He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

Genesis 41:30 And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

Pharaoh has a dream warning of seven years of famine, and the plenty of Egypt will be forgotten.

1. God's Warning: Heed the Signs of Famine

2. Learning to Trust in God in Times of Famine

1. Genesis 41:30-32

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

Genesis 41:31 And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous.

The Pharaoh in Egypt experienced a famine, which was so severe that it could not be measured.

1. God's provision is sufficient in times of need

2. God's power is greater than any trial or tribulation

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Genesis 41:32 And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

God's plans are always established and will come to fruition.

1. God's Plans Will Always Prevail - Genesis 41:32

2. The Certainty of God's Will - Genesis 41:32

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Genesis 41:33 Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.

Pharaoh needs to find a wise and prudent man to rule over Egypt.

1. God's Wisdom in Leadership - Proverbs 11:14

2. God's Provision in Times of Need - Psalm 46:1-2

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Genesis 41:34 Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years.

Pharaoh was instructed by God to appoint officers over the land and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt during the seven plentiful years.

1. God has a plan for us in times of plenty and in times of need.

2. Trusting in God's plan and provision in times of abundance will lead to long-term security and blessings.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today."

Genesis 41:35 And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

Pharaoh instructs his people to gather all the food from the good years and store it in the cities for future use.

1. God Provides: The Story of Joseph and Pharaoh

2. Trusting in God's Provision

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on not worrying about provision

2. Psalm 37:25 - God provides for those who trust in Him

Genesis 41:36 And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.

The Pharaoh of Egypt appointed Joseph to organize the country's resources during a time of famine.

1: God's divine plan for Joseph to provide for the people of Egypt during a time of famine.

2: God's provision for us during difficult times.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about tomorrow.

2: Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask and it will be given to you.

Genesis 41:37 And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

Pharaoh and his servants were pleased with the plan that Joseph proposed.

1. God's plans are best and often look different than our own.

2. We should be open to God's guidance in our lives.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 41:38 And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?

Pharaoh asked his servants if they could find someone as wise as Joseph, who had the Spirit of God in him.

1. The Power of the Spirit of God: How Joseph's Faithful Obedience Changed His Life

2. Fulfilling God's Plan: How to Trust in God's Guidance

1. Romans 8:26-27: Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Genesis 41:39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

God rewarded Joseph for his wisdom and discretion with a high position of authority.

1. God rewards those who serve Him with wisdom and discretion.

2. Seek to be wise and discerning in the eyes of the Lord.

1. Proverbs 2:6-7 For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright.

2. Proverbs 3:13-14 Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

Genesis 41:40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

Joseph was appointed by Pharaoh to be a ruler of Egypt.

1. God can use anyone to accomplish His plans.

2. The importance of humility and obedience.

1. Daniel 4:17 - "The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

2. Romans 13:1 - "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

Genesis 41:41 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

Pharaoh appoints Joseph to be ruler over all of Egypt.

1. God uses our gifts to bless others - Gen. 41:41

2. God's plans are always greater than our own - Gen. 41:41

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Genesis 41:42 And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

Pharaoh gave Joseph an honorable position in recognition of his dream interpretation ability.

1: God rewards those who trust in Him and obey Him.

2: Even in the midst of difficulty, God can provide great opportunities.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 41:43 And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Pharaoh made Joseph ruler of Egypt and gave him a great honor.

1. God's Plan for Joseph: Trusting God Through Adversity

2. God is at Work in Unexpected Ways

1. Genesis 37:1-36 - Joseph's story of adversity and faith

2. Romans 8:28 - God works all things for good for those who love Him

Genesis 41:44 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.

Joseph was given the authority to rule over all of Egypt.

1. The importance of trusting God's plan

2. The power of God's sovereignty

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Genesis 41:45 And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnathpaaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.

Pharaoh gave Joseph a new name, Zaphnathpaaneah, and gave him his daughter, Asenath, as a wife. Joseph then went out over all of Egypt.

1. The power of a new name - how a name can reflect our purpose and identity

2. Joseph's example of faithfulness and obedience in all circumstances

1. Isaiah 62:2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Genesis 41:46 And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

Joseph was appointed to lead Egypt due to his God-given wisdom.

1. God's plans are bigger than our own, and He uses us for His glory.

2. God's favor and provision will sustain us even in difficult times.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. 2 Corinthians 4:7-9 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Genesis 41:47 And in the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth by handfuls.

During seven years of plenty, the earth produced an abundance of crops.

1. God is Faithful: Trusting in God's Abundance in Times of Plenty

2. The Power of Provision: Learning to Appreciate God's Blessings

1. Deuteronomy 28:11-12 - The Lord shall make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, and in the fruit of your cattle, and in the fruit of your land, for good: for the Lord will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers.

2. Psalm 65:9-13 - Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof.

Genesis 41:48 And he gathered up all the food of the seven years, which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities: the food of the field, which was round about every city, laid he up in the same.

Joseph stores food during the seven years of plenty in order to prepare for the seven years of famine.

1. God always provides, even in the midst of famine.

2. Joseph's faithfulness and obedience provides an example of how to trust God in times of difficulty.

1. Psalm 37:25 "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

2. James 1:2-4 "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Genesis 41:49 And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for it was without number.

Joseph's dreams came true and he became a great provider for the entire nation of Egypt.

1: God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2: The importance of trusting in God's plans for our lives.

1: Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Hebrews 11:6, "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Genesis 41:50 And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him.

Joseph's wife Asenath bore him two sons before the years of famine came.

1. Facing Famine With Faith - How Joseph's trust in God helped him prepare for the years of famine.

2. God's Provision - How God provided for Joseph and his family before the years of famine.

1. Genesis 41:14-36 - Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream and his rise to power in Egypt.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Genesis 41:51 And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house.

Joseph gave his firstborn son the name Manasseh, praising God for helping him forget his troubles and his father's house.

1. The power of God's grace to help us forget our troubles.

2. The importance of giving thanks to God for all of His blessings.

1. Isaiah 43:18-19: "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

2. Philippians 4:6-7: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Genesis 41:52 And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.

Pharaoh gave Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, Egyptian names to signify the blessings of God in Joseph's life despite his affliction.

1. God's Blessings in the Midst of Affliction

2. How to Find Fruitfulness in Difficult Times

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we[a] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Genesis 41:53 And the seven years of plenteousness, that was in the land of Egypt, were ended.

Seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end.

1. God's Provision in Times of Need - Genesis 41:53

2. The Faithfulness of God in the Ups and Downs of Life - Genesis 41:53

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."

Genesis 41:54 And the seven years of dearth began to come, according as Joseph had said: and the dearth was in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread.

Joseph predicted a seven year famine in Egypt and it came to pass, and all the land of Egypt had bread to eat.

1. The Power of God's Word: Learning to Trust and Obey

2. Faithfulness in the Midst of Famine: How God Cares for His People

1. Matthew 4:4 (But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.)

2. Psalm 33:18-19 (Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.)

Genesis 41:55 And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread: and Pharaoh said unto all the Egyptians, Go unto Joseph; what he saith to you, do.

When a severe famine hit Egypt, Pharaoh told the people to go to Joseph for help.

1. Trusting God's Plan - How Joseph's Story Encourages Us to Rely on God

2. Overcoming Adversity - How Joseph's Faith Enabled Him to Prosper Despite Hardship

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 41:56 And the famine was over all the face of the earth: And Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold unto the Egyptians; and the famine waxed sore in the land of Egypt.

The famine was widespread and Joseph opened the storehouses to provide for the people of Egypt.

1: God provides for his people in times of need.

2: Joseph's example of selflessness and giving to those in need.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches about not worrying and trusting in God.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious but bring your requests to God in prayer.

Genesis 41:57 And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands.

The famine was so severe that all the countries had to come to Egypt to purchase grain from Joseph.

1. The Power of God's Provision in Times of Need

2. The Importance of Taking Care of the Poor and Needy

1. Psalm 33:18-19 - "Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine."

2. Psalm 145:15-16 - "The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing."

Genesis 42 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 42:1-17, the chapter begins with Jacob sending his ten sons to Egypt to buy grain due to the severe famine in Canaan. However, Joseph, who is now in a position of authority and responsible for distributing food, recognizes his brothers when they come before him. He accuses them of being spies and puts them under custody for three days. On the third day, Joseph proposes a test to prove their innocence: he agrees to release one brother while keeping the rest as prisoners until they bring their youngest brother Benjamin back with them.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 42:18-28, Joseph's brothers discuss among themselves about their guilt regarding what they did to Joseph years ago when they sold him into slavery. They attribute their current troubles as a consequence of their actions towards him. Unbeknownst to them, Joseph understands their conversation even though he speaks through an interpreter. Overwhelmed by emotions upon hearing this revelation, Joseph turns away from his brothers and weeps.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 42:29-38, after gathering themselves together again and realizing that they need to return home with Benjamin as instructed by Joseph, the brothers discover that all the money used for purchasing grain has been returned into their sacks. This causes anxiety among them as it appears that someone is playing tricks on them or accusing them of theft. When they relay this information to Jacob upon returning home and explain what happened in Egypt regarding Simeon's imprisonment and the demand for Benjamin's presence during future visits, Jacob becomes distressed at the thought of losing another beloved son.

In summary:

Genesis 42 presents:

Jacob sending his sons to Egypt for grain during famine;

Joseph recognizing his brothers but accusing them of being spies;

Joseph proposing a test involving bringing Benjamin back.

The brothers discussing guilt over what happened to Joseph;

Joseph overhearing their conversation and weeping;

Emotional turmoil within the family resurfacing.

The discovery of returned money in the sacks causing anxiety among the brothers;

Jacob becoming distressed at the idea of losing another son;

The stage set for future events revolving around Benjamin's involvement.

This chapter delves into themes such as guilt, remorse, familial relationships strained by past actions, and divine providence working through difficult circumstances. It showcases how past sins continue to impact individuals' lives even years later while also hinting at potential opportunities for reconciliation and redemption. Genesis 42 marks a crucial turning point where unresolved issues from the past resurface amidst new challenges faced by Jacob's family during times of famine.

Genesis 42:1 Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another?

Jacob realizes that there is grain in Egypt and questions his sons on why they are looking at each other.

1. Learning to trust God in times of uncertainty

2. Taking initiative in difficult times

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Matthew 4:1-4 "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread. Jesus answered, It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Genesis 42:2 And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt: get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die.

Joseph's brothers were instructed to go to Egypt to purchase grain so they and their families would not die of starvation.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Will

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Luke 17:7-10 - Jesus instructs his disciples to have faith and obey God's will.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - God will provide in times of need when we are faithful to Him.

Genesis 42:3 And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt.

Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt to purchase grain.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Joseph's Brothers' Journey to Egypt"

2. "The Power of Provision: God's Faithfulness in Providing for Joseph's Brothers"

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promise of provision for obedience

2. Philippians 4:19 - God's promise to meet our needs

Genesis 42:4 But Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob sent not with his brethren; for he said, Lest peradventure mischief befall him.

Jacob feared for Benjamin's safety and sent him away.

1: We should be mindful of our family's safety and provide protection when needed.

2: We should trust God to protect us and our loved ones even in the face of danger.

1: Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

2: Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Genesis 42:5 And the sons of Israel came to buy corn among those that came: for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

The famine in the land of Canaan caused the sons of Israel to buy corn.

1: God uses difficulties and trials to bring us closer to Him.

2: Overcoming adversity requires patience, faith, and courage.

1: James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2: Philippians 4:11-13 - I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Genesis 42:6 And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.

Joseph was appointed governor of the land and sold grain to the people. His brothers came and bowed down before him.

1. God's Plan: Joseph's Rise to Power

2. Living in Humility: Joseph's Brothers Bowing Down

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts, humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Psalm 62:11-12 - Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.

Genesis 42:7 And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food.

Joseph disguised himself and questioned his brothers when they arrived in Egypt to buy food.

1. God's plan for our lives may require us to disguise ourselves and take on a new identity.

2. We must never forget that God's plan is greater than our own.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 42:8 And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him.

Joseph's brothers did not recognize him when they encountered him in Egypt.

1. Recognizing God's Hand in Unfamiliar Situations

2. God's Plan for Our Lives

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:22 - By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

Genesis 42:9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.

Joseph accused his brothers of being spies in order to see the nakedness of the land.

1: We should remember the dreams God has given us and use them to guide our actions.

2: We should take heed to the warning signs God gives us and respond faithfully.

1: Psalm 37:5-6 "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Genesis 42:10 And they said unto him, Nay, my lord, but to buy food are thy servants come.

Ten of Joseph's brothers come to Egypt to buy food during a famine.

1: We all need help from others at times, and it is important to remember that God will provide.

2: We must be willing to accept help from others, no matter who they are or how we may have wronged them in the past.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Genesis 42:11 We are all one man's sons; we are true men, thy servants are no spies.

Joseph's brothers plead with him not to accuse them of being spies.

1. Living with integrity: The importance of telling the truth.

2. Trusting in God's plan: Joseph's brothers' faith in the midst of difficulty.

1. Proverbs 12:22: "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

2. Romans 8:28: "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 42:12 And he said unto them, Nay, but to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.

Joseph's brothers travel to Egypt to buy grain and Joseph accuses them of coming to spy out the land.

1. God's Providence - Joseph's brothers were sent to Egypt according to God's plan for his people (Genesis 45:5-8).

2. The Need for Humility - Even in difficult moments, we should remain humble and seek God's guidance (James 4:6-10).

1. Genesis 45:5-8

2. James 4:6-10

Genesis 42:13 And they said, Thy servants are twelve brethren, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not.

The twelve sons of Jacob were in Egypt to buy grain and told the ruler that their youngest brother was still in Canaan with their father.

1. The Power of Family Unity

2. The Impact of Our Words

1. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue

2. Genesis 12:1-4 Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father s house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

Genesis 42:14 And Joseph said unto them, That is it that I spake unto you, saying, Ye are spies:

Joseph accuses his brothers of being spies.

1. God is sovereign and works all things together for good.

2. The importance of honesty, even when it is difficult.

1. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Proverbs 12:22 "The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy."

Genesis 42:15 Hereby ye shall be proved: By the life of Pharaoh ye shall not go forth hence, except your youngest brother come hither.

The brothers of Joseph were not allowed to leave without their youngest brother.

1 - Joseph's brothers were unable to leave until they brought Benjamin, demonstrating the importance of family and unity.

2 - Joseph's brothers were reminded of the power of God and Pharaoh when they were not allowed to leave without Benjamin.

1 - Matthew 18:20 (For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.)

2 - Proverbs 18:24 (A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.)

Genesis 42:16 Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother, and ye shall be kept in prison, that your words may be proved, whether there be any truth in you: or else by the life of Pharaoh surely ye are spies.

The brothers of Joseph were accused of being spies and were put in prison until one of them could bring back their brother.

1. God's faithfulness can be seen in the midst of difficult situations.

2. The Lord can use our circumstances for His good and for our growth.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 42:17 And he put them all together into ward three days.

The brothers of Joseph were imprisoned for three days.

1. The Power of Patience: Learning to Wait on God's Timing.

2. Trials and Tribulations: How God Uses Difficult Situations to Draw Us Closer.

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Genesis 42:18 And Joseph said unto them the third day, This do, and live; for I fear God:

Joseph warns his brothers to do what is right or face the consequences of God's judgment.

1: We must always strive to do what is right in God's eyes or we will face His judgment.

2: We should always live a life that is pleasing to God, for He is a just and righteous judge.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Genesis 42:19 If ye be true men, let one of your brethren be bound in the house of your prison: go ye, carry corn for the famine of your houses:

Joseph's brothers come to Egypt to buy grain and Joseph tests them by asking them to leave one of their brothers as a prisoner.

1. The Power of Testing: How God Tests Our Faith in Unexpected Ways

2. The Importance of Truth: Living Righteously in Difficult Times

1. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Proverbs 16:3 Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Genesis 42:20 But bring your youngest brother unto me; so shall your words be verified, and ye shall not die. And they did so.

Joseph demanded that the brothers bring their youngest brother to Egypt to verify their story.

1: We must always be willing to put our trust in God.

2: We must always be willing to take risks and have faith that God will provide.

1: Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Genesis 42:21 And they said one to another, We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.

The brothers of Joseph felt guilty for not heeding his pleas and were now facing a consequence for their actions.

1: Even when we think we are doing the right thing, we should always consider how our actions will affect others.

2: We should never ignore the feelings of others or disregard their pleas.

1: James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2: Proverbs 21:13 - Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.

Genesis 42:22 And Reuben answered them, saying, Spake I not unto you, saying, Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required.

Reuben implores his brothers to not sin against Joseph, warning them that their actions will have consequences.

1: We reap what we sow. Galatians 6:7-8

2: We must take responsibility for our actions. Luke 6:37-38

1: Proverbs 12:14 - A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth.

2: James 3:10 - Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing.

Genesis 42:23 And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for he spake unto them by an interpreter.

Joseph's brothers unknowingly spoke with him in Egypt, unaware that he understood them through an interpreter.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Joseph's Example

2. God's Will Unfolds: Joseph's Journey

1. Colossians 3:13 - Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 42:24 And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes.

Joseph, upon seeing his brothers in Egypt, wept and then communicated with them before taking Simeon and binding him before their eyes.

1. God's grace and mercy allow us to reconcile with our enemies and forgive them.

2. Joseph's example of humility and mercy teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters.

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Genesis 42:25 Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way: and thus did he unto them.

Joseph showed mercy and kindness to his brothers by providing them with food and restoring their money.

1. The Power of Mercy and Kindness: How Joseph's Actions Can Teach Us to be More Compassionate

2. Forgiveness and Restoration: How Joseph's Example Can Lead Us to Renewal

1. Luke 6:35-36 - "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil."

2. Romans 12:17-21 - "Repay no one evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord. Therefore If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Genesis 42:26 And they laded their asses with the corn, and departed thence.

Joseph's brothers loaded their donkeys with grain and left Egypt.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will provide all your needs.

2. Joseph's brothers found a way to provide for their family despite their circumstances.

1. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Genesis 42:27 And as one of them opened his sack to give his ass provender in the inn, he espied his money; for, behold, it was in his sack's mouth.

Joseph's brothers find their money in their sacks when they stop for the night at an inn.

1. The Lord's Provision - How God provides for our needs

2. God's Sovereignty - How God is always in control

1. Ephesians 3:20-21 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Genesis 42:28 And he said unto his brethren, My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack: and their heart failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, What is this that God hath done unto us?

Joseph's brothers were afraid when they discovered Joseph's money was returned to him and they wondered what God had done.

1. God Is In Control - Understanding the Sovereignty of God in Our Lives

2. Fear Not - Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 42:29 And they came unto Jacob their father unto the land of Canaan, and told him all that befell unto them; saying,

The brothers of Joseph recount to Jacob all that has happened to them in Egypt.

1. The Power of Testimony: How Joseph's Brothers Proved Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity

2. The Value of Encouragement: How Jacob Supported His Sons in Troubling Times

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Romans 12:14-15 - "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

Genesis 42:30 The man, who is the lord of the land, spake roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country.

Joseph's brothers are accused of being spies of the country by the lord of the land.

1. The importance of truthfulness in our lives.

2. God's sovereign hand in our lives.

1. Colossians 3:9 - "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices"

2. Genesis 50:20 - "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."

Genesis 42:31 And we said unto him, We are true men; we are no spies:

Joseph's brothers prove their innocence to Joseph by claiming to be true men and not spies.

1. The importance of truth-telling in our lives.

2. The power of honesty in restoring relationships.

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. 1 John 1:6-7 - If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Genesis 42:32 We be twelve brethren, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.

The twelve sons of Jacob were together, with their youngest brother in Canaan.

1. The importance of unity among family and loved ones

2. The strength of faith in times of adversity

1. Philippians 2:2-4 - "Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Genesis 42:33 And the man, the lord of the country, said unto us, Hereby shall I know that ye are true men; leave one of your brethren here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone:

Joseph tests his brothers by leaving one of them behind in Egypt while the others go home to bring food for their families.

1. The Importance of Trust - Genesis 42:33

2. The Power of Testing - Genesis 42:33

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 42:34 And bring your youngest brother unto me: then shall I know that ye are no spies, but that ye are true men: so will I deliver you your brother, and ye shall traffick in the land.

Jacob sends his sons to Egypt to buy grain, but the ruler of Egypt suspects they are spies. He requires them to bring their youngest brother before he will allow them to purchase the grain.

1. The Power of Testing: How God Tests Us and What We Can Learn From It

2. Trusting in God's Plan: How to Recognize God's Guidance During Difficult Times

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 42:35 And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack: and when both they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid.

The brothers found money in their sacks when they returned to Egypt.

1: Confess Your Sins and Receive Blessings

2: Accepting Our Mistakes and God's Provision

1: Proverbs 28:13 -Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

2: Psalm 32:1-2 -Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

Genesis 42:36 And Jacob their father said unto them, Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away: all these things are against me.

Jacob expresses his despair at the thought of losing his beloved son Benjamin.

1: In moments of despair, God will never leave us.

2: Even in the darkest moments, God has plans to use us for his glory.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Genesis 42:37 And Reuben spake unto his father, saying, Slay my two sons, if I bring him not to thee: deliver him into my hand, and I will bring him to thee again.

Reuben offers to sacrifice his two sons if he is unable to bring back his youngest brother from Egypt.

1. The Sacrifice of Reuben: A Study in Unconditional Love

2. Reuben s Unselfish Act: An Example of Biblical Kindness

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Genesis 42:38 And he said, My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he is left alone: if mischief befall him by the way in the which ye go, then shall ye bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

Jacob refuses to let his son Benjamin accompany his brothers to Egypt, fearing for his safety since his brother Joseph is already dead.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times - The story of Jacob's refusal to send Benjamin to Egypt demonstrates how God can protect us even when we are in the midst of difficult times.

2. The Power of Family - Jacob's deep love and concern for his son Benjamin is a reminder of the importance of strong familial bonds.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Genesis 43 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 43:1-14, the chapter begins with the ongoing famine in Canaan. Jacob instructs his sons to return to Egypt to buy more grain, but this time he insists that Benjamin accompanies them. However, Jacob is reluctant to send Benjamin due to the loss of Joseph and fears harm may befall his youngest son. Judah assures Jacob that he will take personal responsibility for Benjamin's safety and offers himself as a pledge for Benjamin's return. Reluctantly, Jacob agrees and instructs his sons to take gifts along with double the money from their previous journey.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 43:15-25, Joseph's brothers arrive in Egypt and are brought before him. When Joseph sees Benjamin among them, he instructs his steward to prepare a feast at his house and orders that they be treated hospitably. Fearing that they might be accused of stealing again like their previous encounter, the brothers explain their situation to Joseph's steward who reassures them and returns their money from the previous trip.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 43:26-34, Joseph arrives at his house where the brothers present him with gifts from their father. Overwhelmed by emotions upon seeing Benjamin once again after many years apart, Joseph cannot contain himself any longer and leaves the room to weep privately. After composing himself, he returns and joins them for dinner. To maintain secrecy about his true identity as their brother Joseph, he arranges for seating according to birth order and provides Benjamin with a portion five times larger than that of his other brothers.

In summary:

Genesis 43 presents:

Jacob reluctantly allowing Benjamin to accompany his brothers;

Judah taking responsibility for Benjamin's safety;

The journey back to Egypt with double money and gifts.

Joseph arranging a feast for his brothers upon seeing Benjamin;

The steward returning their money;

Anxiety surrounding potential accusations resurfacing but being alleviated.

Joseph privately weeping upon reuniting with Benjamin;

Joining them for dinner while concealing his identity;

Seating arrangement according to birth order and favor shown towards Benjamin.

This chapter explores themes of family loyalty, trust-building exercises after past betrayals or mistakes, emotional reunions after long separations, and concealed identities playing significant roles in shaping events. It showcases both Jacob's reluctance in parting with beloved family members due to fear of loss as well as Judah stepping up as a responsible figure within the family dynamic. Genesis 43 sets the stage for further interactions between Joseph and his brothers while maintaining suspense regarding whether they will discover Joseph's true identity.

Genesis 43:1 And the famine was sore in the land.

The famine in the land was severe.

1. God's Provision in Times of Need

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Faith

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Genesis 43:2 And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the corn which they had brought out of Egypt, their father said unto them, Go again, buy us a little food.

The sons of Jacob had eaten all of the food they had brought from Egypt and their father asked them to go again and buy more food.

1: God provides for us in times of need, even in the midst of our own mistakes.

2: No matter how much we have, we should always remember to be thankful and generous.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Matthew 6:25-34 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Genesis 43:3 And Judah spake unto him, saying, The man did solemnly protest unto us, saying, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.

Judah speaks to his father, Jacob, telling him that the man they met on their previous visit to Egypt had insisted that they could not see him unless their brother, Benjamin, were present.

1. The Power of Obedience: Living Faithfully in the Midst of Uncertainty

2. The Cost of Disobedience: The Consequences of Ignoring God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 43:4 If thou wilt send our brother with us, we will go down and buy thee food:

The brothers of Joseph inquire if they may bring Benjamin along with them in order to bring food for their family.

1: We can learn from the brothers of Joseph that it is important to look out for our family and have courage when faced with difficult situations.

2: We must act with humility and faith as the brothers of Joseph did, knowing that God will take care of us in our times of need.

1: 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 43:5 But if thou wilt not send him, we will not go down: for the man said unto us, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.

The brothers were unwilling to go to Egypt unless their brother Benjamin was with them.

1. The Power of Unity - How working together can bring about great success.

2. The Importance of Family - How the family unit is crucial for the successful functioning of society.

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Genesis 43:6 And Israel said, Wherefore dealt ye so ill with me, as to tell the man whether ye had yet a brother?

Israel asked his sons why they told the man they had another brother.

1. The importance of truthfulness and honesty in our relationships

2. Trusting God in difficult situations

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 43:7 And they said, The man asked us straitly of our state, and of our kindred, saying, Is your father yet alive? have ye another brother? and we told him according to the tenor of these words: could we certainly know that he would say, Bring your brother down?

Joseph's brothers were asked by him about their father and brother, and they told him about them. They didn't anticipate that he would ask them to bring their brother down to Egypt.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Plans - Romans 8:28

2. Patience and Faith in the Lord's Timing - Ecclesiastes 3:11

1. Gen 37:14 - Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and sold him into slavery.

2. Rom 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 43:8 And Judah said unto Israel his father, Send the lad with me, and we will arise and go; that we may live, and not die, both we, and thou, and also our little ones.

Judah encourages his father, Israel, to send Benjamin with them to Egypt, so that they can buy food and save their lives.

1. The Power of Encouragement: How Judah's Urging Saved a Family

2. Learning to Overcome Fear: How Jacob Heeded Judah's Words

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Genesis 43:9 I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him: if I bring him not unto thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever:

Jacob sends Benjamin to Egypt with his brothers to buy food and promises to take full responsibility if Benjamin is not returned to him.

1. The Power of a Promise - How making a promise can be a powerful show of faith and trust.

2. Taking Responsibility - Understanding when and how we are called to take responsibility for our actions and those of others.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord. But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God s throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. But let your Yes be Yes, and your No, No. For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Genesis 43:10 For except we had lingered, surely now we had returned this second time.

The group decided to stay in the foreign land longer than they had initially planned, as they feared that otherwise they would have had to return for a second time.

1. God's Plans May Require Taking Action and Making Sacrifices

2. Trusting God Even When Circumstances Seem Difficult

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 43:11 And their father Israel said unto them, If it must be so now, do this; take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and almonds:

Israel instructs his sons to take the best fruits of the land in their vessels and bring a present to the man. The present consists of balm, honey, spices, myrrh, nuts, and almonds.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Transform Lives

2. Preparing for the Unexpected: Readiness for Whatever Life Throws at Us

1. Philippians 4:12-13 - I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Genesis 43:12 And take double money in your hand; and the money that was brought again in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hand; peradventure it was an oversight:

Joseph instructs his brothers to bring double the amount of money when they go back to Egypt to buy grain.

1. God's Providence in Unexpected Places - how Joseph's instruction was part of God's providence in providing for His people.

2. The Power of Obedience - how Joseph's brothers obeyed his instructions even though they did not know why.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.

18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

19 Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 43:13 Take also your brother, and arise, go again unto the man:

The passage encourages one to take his brother and go back to the man.

1. The importance of family: How the bonds of family can lead to success.

2. The power of perseverance: Reaching success through adversity.

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Colossians 3:13 - "bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

Genesis 43:14 And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother, and Benjamin. If I be bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.

Jacob sends his sons to Egypt to buy food, but he insists that Benjamin remain at home. He prays that God will have mercy on them and allow them to purchase the food and to bring Benjamin home.

1. God's Mercy in Times of Need

2. The Power of Prayer

1. Psalm 86:5 - "For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee."

2. James 5:16 - "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Genesis 43:15 And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.

The men took a present, money and Benjamin to Egypt to present to Joseph.

1. God's providence guides us in our lives, even when it may be difficult to understand why.

2. God equips us for the tasks that He calls us to do, even when it requires us to go beyond our comfort zone.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Genesis 43:16 And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, Bring these men home, and slay, and make ready; for these men shall dine with me at noon.

Joseph invites his brothers to a meal.

1: We can learn from Joseph's example of hospitality and kindness by welcoming people into our lives and taking the time to show love and care for them.

2: God can take difficult situations and turn them into good, as seen by Joseph's transformation from a young slave to a powerful ruler.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Luke 6:27-28 - But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

Genesis 43:17 And the man did as Joseph bade; and the man brought the men into Joseph's house.

The man followed Joseph's instructions and brought the men to Joseph's house.

1. The importance of following instructions.

2. The provision and protection of God.

1. Genesis 22:3-4 - And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

4. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Genesis 43:18 And the men were afraid, because they were brought into Joseph's house; and they said, Because of the money that was returned in our sacks at the first time are we brought in; that he may seek occasion against us, and fall upon us, and take us for bondmen, and our asses.

The men were afraid they had been brought into Joseph's house because of the money that had been returned in their sacks.

1: In times of fear, we can trust in God for protection and guidance.

2: We can be reassured in knowing that God has a plan even in the midst of our fear and uncertainty.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Genesis 43:19 And they came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they communed with him at the door of the house,

Joseph's brothers come to speak with Joseph's steward.

1. The Power of Relationship: How Joseph's Brothers Reconnected with Him

2. Making Connections: The Importance of Good Communication

1. Genesis 45:1-14, Joseph reveals himself to his brothers

2. Proverbs 18:24, A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Genesis 43:20 And said, O sir, we came indeed down at the first time to buy food:

Joseph's brothers travel to Egypt to buy food.

1. The importance of brotherly love and care, as demonstrated by Joseph's brothers in Genesis 43:20.

2. The power of faith and trust in God in times of need, as exemplified by Joseph's brothers in Genesis 43:20.

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Genesis 43:21 And it came to pass, when we came to the inn, that we opened our sacks, and, behold, every man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight: and we have brought it again in our hand.

The travelers opened their sacks and found that their money was still in it, and in full weight.

1. God will provide when you trust in Him.

2. Put your faith in God and He will provide for you.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about what you will eat or drink or wear, but seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.

Genesis 43:22 And other money have we brought down in our hands to buy food: we cannot tell who put our money in our sacks.

The brothers of Joseph have come to Egypt with money to buy food, but they do not know who put the money in their sacks.

1. Trust in God even when you don't know the answer.

2. Everything happens for a reason, even when we can't see it.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 43:23 And he said, Peace be to you, fear not: your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks: I had your money. And he brought Simeon out unto them.

Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and shows them kindness by giving them the treasure they had brought with them.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Joseph's Example

2. God's Provision in Times of Need

1. Romans 12:19-21 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Genesis 43:24 And the man brought the men into Joseph's house, and gave them water, and they washed their feet; and he gave their asses provender.

Joseph welcomed his brothers and their families to his house, providing them with water to wash their feet and feed for their animals.

1. The Power of Hospitality: Welcoming Strangers with Open Arms

2. The Value of Graciousness: Practicing Generosity in the Little Things

1. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2. Luke 10:25-37 - The Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Genesis 43:25 And they made ready the present against Joseph came at noon: for they heard that they should eat bread there.

Joseph's brothers prepared a present for him when they arrived for lunch.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the reconciliation of Joseph and his brothers.

2: The importance of family and the love we should have for one another.

1: Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2: Colossians 3:13 - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Genesis 43:26 And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed themselves to him to the earth.

Joseph's brothers bring a present to him and bow down in reverence.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - how Joseph was able to forgive his brothers and accept their gift despite their past wrongs.

2. The Importance of Respect - the demonstration of respect shown to Joseph by his brothers.

1. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

2. Proverbs 3:3 - Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

Genesis 43:27 And he asked them of their welfare, and said, Is your father well, the old man of whom ye spake? Is he yet alive?

Joseph asked his brothers about the wellbeing of their father, Jacob.

1. The Power of Asking Questions: How Joseph's Curiosity Changed the Course of History

2. How Jacob's Faithfulness Rewarded His Children: A Study in Obedience

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Psalm 37:25-26 - I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging for bread. They are ever giving liberally and their children become a blessing.

Genesis 43:28 And they answered, Thy servant our father is in good health, he is yet alive. And they bowed down their heads, and made obeisance.

Jacob's sons reassured Joseph that their father was still alive and bowed down in reverence before him.

1. Reaffirming the Faith: Reassuring God's Presence in our Lives

2. Reverent Respect: Showing Honor to Those Whom God has Blessed

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Him [Jesus] then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.

Genesis 43:29 And he lifted up his eyes, and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, Is this your younger brother, of whom ye spake unto me? And he said, God be gracious unto thee, my son.

Joseph sees Benjamin, his younger brother, and is filled with emotion and blesses him.

1. The Power of Sibling Love - Exploring how Joseph's reunion with Benjamin reflects God's grace and mercy.

2. The Power of Recognition - Exploring how Joseph's recognition of Benjamin reflects God's divine plan.

1. Luke 15:20-24 - Parable of the Lost Son.

2. Romans 8:28 - God works all things for good.

Genesis 43:30 And Joseph made haste; for his bowels did yearn upon his brother: and he sought where to weep; and he entered into his chamber, and wept there.

Joseph was overcome with emotion and love for his brother and could not contain his feelings.

1: Love for our brothers should be strong and passionate, like Joseph's.

2: We should not be ashamed of our emotions but let them out, like Joseph did.

1: 1 John 3:14-18 - We should love one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

2: Romans 12:9-13 - We should show genuine love and affection for one another.

Genesis 43:31 And he washed his face, and went out, and refrained himself, and said, Set on bread.

Joseph reveals his true identity to his brothers and invites them to a meal.

1. God uses our trials to reveal his power and love.

2. We must remain humble and trusting in God's plan.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ s power may rest on me.

Genesis 43:32 And they set on for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, which did eat with him, by themselves: because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

The Egyptians and Hebrews ate separately because the Egyptians considered it an abomination to eat with the Hebrews.

1. God's People: Distinct, Yet United

2. The Power of Unification Through Diversity

1. Galatians 3:28: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. Acts 10:28: "And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean."

Genesis 43:33 And they sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth: and the men marvelled one at another.

The brothers of Joseph sat according to their birthright and age, and the men were amazed.

1. God can use our differences to bring about His will.

2. We can trust in God's plan for our lives.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 46:10 - "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."

Genesis 43:34 And he took and sent messes unto them from before him: but Benjamin's mess was five times so much as any of theirs. And they drank, and were merry with him.

Jacob's family was welcomed and provided for generously by Joseph.

1. Generosity is a sign of true love and faithfulness, as seen through Joseph's example in Genesis 43:34.

2. We should follow Joseph's example of hospitality and generosity to those around us.

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

2. 1 John 3:17 - If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

Genesis 44 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 44:1-13, Joseph devises a plan to test his brothers' character and determine if they have truly changed. He orders his steward to secretly place Joseph's silver cup in Benjamin's sack. The next morning, as the brothers set out on their journey back to Canaan, Joseph sends his steward after them to accuse them of stealing the cup. The brothers are shocked and vehemently deny the accusation, offering severe consequences if found guilty.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 44:14-34, the steward proceeds to search each brother's sack starting with the eldest and eventually finding the silver cup in Benjamin's sack. Overwhelmed with distress at this discovery, the brothers tear their clothes and return to Joseph's house. They fall before him and plead for mercy while expressing their willingness to become slaves rather than see harm come upon Benjamin.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 44:35-34, Judah delivers a heartfelt plea on behalf of himself and his brothers before Joseph. He recounts how Jacob deeply loves Benjamin due to losing Joseph years ago and how their father would not be able to bear losing another son. Judah offers himself as a substitute for Benjamin, willing to remain as a slave instead so that Benjamin may return safely home.

In summary:

Genesis 44 presents:

Joseph testing his brothers' character by planting his silver cup in Benjamin's sack;

The accusation of theft against Benjamin;

The distress of the brothers upon discovering the cup.

The search for evidence starting from the eldest brother;

The tearful plea for mercy before Joseph;

Judah offering himself as a substitute for Benjamin.

Judah recounting Jacob's love for Benjamin;

Expressing concern over their father losing another son;

Offering himself as a slave instead of Benjamin.

This chapter delves into themes of repentance, forgiveness, loyalty within family relationships, and sacrificial love. It showcases Joseph's intricate plan designed to assess whether his brothers have truly changed or if they would betray one another again when faced with adversity. The story highlights Judah's transformation from being involved in selling Joseph into slavery years ago into someone willing to sacrifice himself for his brother's well-being. Genesis 44 builds suspense regarding how Joseph will respond upon witnessing this display of genuine remorse from his brothers.

Genesis 44:1 And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth.

Joseph tests his brothers' faithfulness by hiding his silver cup in Benjamin's sack of grain.

1. The Power of Testing in Faith: Examining Our Resolve in the Face of Adversity.

2. Joseph's Journey of Redemption: Following God's Plan Despite Unexpected Challenges.

1. Proverbs 17:3 - "The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the heart."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Genesis 44:2 And put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his corn money. And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

Joseph had his brothers put his silver cup in the sack of the youngest, Benjamin, and also his corn money.

1. God's Ways Are Unfathomable: Exploring the Mystery of Joseph's Plan in Genesis 44

2. Obedience: Joseph's Brothers Obey Despite Uncertainty in Genesis 44

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:22 - By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

Genesis 44:3 As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their asses.

In the morning, the men were given permission to leave with their donkeys.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following instructions can bring great blessings

2. The Value of Time - How utilizing time wisely can bring great rewards

1. Psalm 19:7-11 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

2. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

Genesis 44:4 And when they were gone out of the city, and not yet far off, Joseph said unto his steward, Up, follow after the men; and when thou dost overtake them, say unto them, Wherefore have ye rewarded evil for good?

Joseph sends a steward to follow the men and ask why they have rewarded evil for good.

1. God's justice is more powerful than human evil.

2. Do not repay evil with evil, but with good.

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

20 If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head. 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. 1 Peter 3:9 - Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Genesis 44:5 Is not this it in which my lord drinketh, and whereby indeed he divineth? ye have done evil in so doing.

Joseph's brothers are confronted for stealing his cup.

Joseph's brothers are rebuked for stealing his cup and using it to divine.

1. We must not be tempted to use God's gifts for our own selfish purposes.

2. Our decisions and actions have consequences that can be far-reaching.

1. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2. Matthew 7:12 - Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Genesis 44:6 And he overtook them, and he spake unto them these same words.

Joseph's brothers were travelling, and Joseph caught up to them and said the same words he had said before.

1. The Power of Words: How Joseph's Words Changed His Brothers' Perspective

2. What We Can Learn From Joseph's Brothers: How to Respond to Unpleasant Circumstances

1. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 44:7 And they said unto him, Wherefore saith my lord these words? God forbid that thy servants should do according to this thing:

The brothers deny Joseph's accusation of theft.

1: We should deny wrong accusations and stand firm in our faith in God.

2: We should respond to accusations with respect and dignity.

1: Matthew 5:11-12 - Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven.

2: Proverbs 29:25 - The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

Genesis 44:8 Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths, we brought again unto thee out of the land of Canaan: how then should we steal out of thy lord's house silver or gold?

Joseph's brothers asked him how they could have stolen silver or gold from his house if they had already brought back the money they found in their sacks.

1) The Power of Integrity: Withholding from Doing Wrong

2) God's Faithfulness: His Protection of His People

1) Proverbs 10:9 - He who walks in integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will be found out.

2) Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Genesis 44:9 With whomsoever of thy servants it be found, both let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen.

Judah offers to take full blame for his brother's actions and take on the punishment of death for himself and his brothers if the cup is found with one of them.

1. Taking responsibility for your actions

2. The power of true brotherly love

1. Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

2. Romans 14:12 - So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Genesis 44:10 And he said, Now also let it be according unto your words: he with whom it is found shall be my servant; and ye shall be blameless.

Joseph uses mercy and justice to deal with his brothers' wrongdoing.

1. The Power of Mercy: How Joseph Forgave His Brothers

2. The Standards of Justice: How Joseph Resolved His Brothers' Wrongdoing

1. Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

2. Proverbs 24:12 - "If you say, Behold, we did not know this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?"

Genesis 44:11 Then they speedily took down every man his sack to the ground, and opened every man his sack.

The men in the passage quickly set down their sacks and opened them.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following instructions leads to blessings.

2. Finding Strength in Trials - How trusting in God can help us overcome difficulty.

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders.

2. 1 Peter 1:6-7 - The testing of faith producing perseverance and hope.

Genesis 44:12 And he searched, and began at the eldest, and left at the youngest: and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.

Joseph's brothers had stolen his cup, and upon searching their bags, he found it in Benjamin's sack.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - How Joseph's Act of Mercy Transformed His Brothers

2. The Power of Integrity - How Joseph's Faithfulness to God Brought Blessing to His Family

1. Matthew 18:21-35 - Jesus' Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

2. Romans 12:17-21 - The Believer's Obligation to Love Others in Forgiveness and Kindness.

Genesis 44:13 Then they rent their clothes, and laded every man his ass, and returned to the city.

The brothers of Joseph, upon hearing his words, rent their clothes in grief and loaded their donkeys before returning to the city.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Transformative

2. The Impact of Grief

1. James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Genesis 44:14 And Judah and his brethren came to Joseph's house; for he was yet there: and they fell before him on the ground.

Judah and his brothers went to Joseph's house and bowed down to him.

1. The importance of humility before God.

2. The power of repentance and forgiveness.

1. Luke 17:3-4 - "Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

2. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Genesis 44:15 And Joseph said unto them, What deed is this that ye have done? wot ye not that such a man as I can certainly divine?

Joseph was surprised and questioned the brothers for their actions, pointing out that he had the ability to divine the truth.

1. God knows all our secrets and nothing is hidden from Him.

2. We cannot deceive God and must be truthful in all our dealings.

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

2. Proverbs 5:21 - For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his paths.

Genesis 44:16 And Judah said, What shall we say unto my lord? what shall we speak? or how shall we clear ourselves? God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants: behold, we are my lord's servants, both we, and he also with whom the cup is found.

Judah and his brothers admit their guilt to Joseph and fall on their knees in submission.

1: We can find strength in admitting our guilt and trusting God's judgement.

2: Our humbling ourselves before God can bring us closer to Him.

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2: Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Genesis 44:17 And he said, God forbid that I should do so: but the man in whose hand the cup is found, he shall be my servant; and as for you, get you up in peace unto your father.

Joseph tests his brothers by planting a silver cup in Benjamin s bag to determine their true character.

1. The Power of a Test: Learning to Navigate Life s Difficulties

2. The Virtue of Forgiveness: Unconditionally Releasing Offenses

1. Philippians 4:12-13 - I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

2. Matthew 18:21-22 - Then Peter came up and said to him, Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times? Jesus said to him, I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Genesis 44:18 Then Judah came near unto him, and said, Oh my lord, let thy servant, I pray thee, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not thine anger burn against thy servant: for thou art even as Pharaoh.

Judah approaches Joseph in an attempt to plead for Benjamin's release.

1. God works in mysterious ways, and we must accept His will even when it is hard.

2. To reach a peaceful resolution, we must approach conflicts with humility and respect.

1. James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Genesis 44:19 My lord asked his servants, saying, Have ye a father, or a brother?

Joseph is testing his brothers' love by asking if they have a father or a brother.

1: We must always be ready to prove our love to those closest to us, no matter the cost.

2: We must be willing to show our love and devotion to those we care about, even if it requires sacrifice.

1: Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2: 1 John 4:20-21 If anyone says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Genesis 44:20 And we said unto my lord, We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loveth him.

Joseph's brothers explain to him that their father loves his youngest brother, who is the only child left of his mother.

1. The Power of Love: Exploring the Fatherly Love of Jacob for Joseph

2. Moving Forward: Overcoming Loss and Finding Strength in Ourselves

1. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

2. "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." 1 John 4:8

Genesis 44:21 And thou saidst unto thy servants, Bring him down unto me, that I may set mine eyes upon him.

Joseph's brothers bring Benjamin to him so that he can see him with his own eyes.

1. We can always trust in God's plan, even when it is difficult to understand.

2. Being honest and open with our family members is always the right choice.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 4:25-26 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger.

Genesis 44:22 And we said unto my lord, The lad cannot leave his father: for if he should leave his father, his father would die.

The brothers had to explain to Joseph why Benjamin could not leave his father.

1: God is a loving Father who desires the best for his children.

2: God's love is strong enough to endure any hardship.

1: Romans 8:38-39, For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 1 John 3:16, This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Genesis 44:23 And thou saidst unto thy servants, Except your youngest brother come down with you, ye shall see my face no more.

Joseph demanded that Benjamin join his brothers in Egypt before Joseph would allow them to see his face again.

1. The Importance of Family: Learning to Love and Care for One Another

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Even in the Midst of Difficult Circumstances

1. Luke 15:11-32 - Parable of the Prodigal Son

2. Romans 8:28 - God works all things for the good of those who love Him.

Genesis 44:24 And it came to pass when we came up unto thy servant my father, we told him the words of my lord.

Two brothers, Joseph and Judah, have come to their father to report the words of their lord.

1. The Importance of Reporting: How Keeping Others Informed Can Strengthen Ties

2. Making the Right Choices: Using Discernment and Wisdom to Do What is Right

1. Proverbs 1:5 - "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance."

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Genesis 44:25 And our father said, Go again, and buy us a little food.

Joseph's brothers were asked by their father to buy food for them.

1. Learning how to trust God with faith even in the midst of a crisis.

2. Understanding the importance of family in times of need.

1. Luke 12:22-24 - "And he said to his disciples, Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

Genesis 44:26 And we said, We cannot go down: if our youngest brother be with us, then will we go down: for we may not see the man's face, except our youngest brother be with us.

The brothers of Joseph explained to him that they could not go down to Egypt without their youngest brother Benjamin.

1. God's plans may not be the easiest path, but they are the path that leads to the best outcome.

2. God often uses difficult circumstances to bring us closer to Him.

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Genesis 44:27 And thy servant my father said unto us, Ye know that my wife bare me two sons:

Joseph's brothers had to face the consequences of their actions when Joseph revealed himself to them.

1: We must always take responsibility for our actions.

2: God brings justice and rewards the righteous.

1: Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Matthew 7:2 - For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.

Genesis 44:28 And the one went out from me, and I said, Surely he is torn in pieces; and I saw him not since:

Joseph's brother, Benjamin, had gone out from him and he thought he was lost or hurt, but had not seen him since.

1. The Power of Faith in Uncertainty - How trusting in God can help us through life's toughest moments.

2. The Courage to Persevere - Finding strength to keep going even when faced with difficult circumstances.

1. Romans 5:3-5 - "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Genesis 44:29 And if ye take this also from me, and mischief befall him, ye shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

Judah pleads for the release of Benjamin, warning that if he is taken away, it will result in his father's death from sorrow.

1. The Heartfelt Plea of Judah - Living a Life of Compassion

2. The Responsibility of Being a Good Steward - Protecting Those Closest to Us

1. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

2. Matthew 10:29-31 - Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father.

Genesis 44:30 Now therefore when I come to thy servant my father, and the lad be not with us; seeing that his life is bound up in the lad's life;

Joseph's family is deeply anxious and worried for the safety of Benjamin.

1: Trust in God's faithfulness, even when all else seems lost.

2: God is in control of every situation, no matter how dire.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 44:31 It shall come to pass, when he seeth that the lad is not with us, that he will die: and thy servants shall bring down the gray hairs of thy servant our father with sorrow to the grave.

Joseph's brothers fear that their father, Jacob, will die of grief if they return home without Joseph's young brother, Benjamin.

1. "The Power of Grief"

2. "The Importance of Family"

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep."

2. Psalm 37:25 - "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

Genesis 44:32 For thy servant became surety for the lad unto my father, saying, If I bring him not unto thee, then I shall bear the blame to my father for ever.

Joseph was willing to take responsibility for his brother's safety and promised his father that he would be returned safely or bear the burden of responsibility for his brother's safety.

1. Making sure our commitments are kept.

2. The responsibility of taking care of our brothers.

1. Proverbs 27:3 - A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool s wrath is heavier than them both.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

Genesis 44:33 Now therefore, I pray thee, let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren.

Judah pleads with Joseph to let Benjamin remain a bondman in Egypt instead of being taken with his brothers back to Canaan.

1. The Power of Love: Judah's Sacrifice for His Brother

2. Seeking God's Will in Difficult Situations

1. Romans 5:7-8 For scarcely for a righteous person will one die; yet perhaps for a good person someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. James 1:5-6 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

Genesis 44:34 For how shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me? lest peradventure I see the evil that shall come on my father.

Joseph's brothers are afraid that their father will be grief-stricken when they return without their brother Benjamin.

1. The Power of Grief - How to deal with the pain of loss.

2. The Strength of Family - Why family ties should never be broken.

1. 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too."

2. Proverbs 17:17 - "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Genesis 45 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 45:1-15, Joseph can no longer contain his emotions and reveals his true identity to his brothers. Overwhelmed with tears, he orders everyone except his brothers to leave the room. Joseph reassures them that it was God's plan for him to be sold into slavery and rise to a position of authority in Egypt. He tells them not to be distressed or angry with themselves for their actions, as it was all part of God's larger purpose. Joseph instructs his brothers to go back to Canaan and bring their father Jacob and their households down to Egypt, where they will live in the land of Goshen.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 45:16-24, the news of Joseph's reunion with his brothers reaches Pharaoh's palace, and Pharaoh is pleased with this development. He encourages Joseph's family to settle in Egypt and offers them the best of the land for their livestock and possessions. Joseph provides his brothers with wagons filled with provisions for their journey back home and gifts them new clothes. He also gives Benjamin five times more gifts than he gives the other brothers.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 45:25-28, as instructed by Joseph, the brothers return home to Canaan and deliver the astonishing news that Joseph is alive and holds a position of power in Egypt. Jacob initially finds it hard to believe but when he sees the wagons filled with provisions sent by Joseph along with Benjamin still being alive, he is convinced that his beloved son is indeed alive. The spirit of Jacob revives within him upon hearing this incredible news.

In summary:

Genesis 45 presents:

Joseph revealing himself as their long-lost brother;

Assuring them that God orchestrated everything for a greater purpose;

Instructing them to bring Jacob and their families down to Egypt.

Pharaoh learning about Joseph's reunion;

Offering land in Egypt for settlement;

Joseph providing provisions, new clothes, and special gifts.

The astonished news reaching Jacob;

Initial disbelief turning into conviction upon seeing evidence;

Jacob's spirit reviving at the realization that his son is alive.

This chapter explores themes of forgiveness, reconciliation within family relationships after years of separation and deceitfulness being transformed into acts of kindness by showing generosity towards one another. It demonstrates how God works through difficult circumstances ultimately leading towards restoration and fulfillment of His plans. Genesis 45 marks a significant turning point where healing begins within Jacob's family as they prepare for relocation from Canaan to Egypt under Joseph's care.

Genesis 45:1 Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.

Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and is overwhelmed with emotion.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning from Joseph

2. The Benefits of Doing the Right Thing: Joseph s Example

1. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

2. Colossians 3:13 - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Genesis 45:2 And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.

Joseph wept loudly in the presence of the Egyptians and Pharaoh's household.

1. The Power of Emotion: Exploring How Joseph's Tears Changed History.

2. Overcoming the Betrayal of Family: Joseph's Story of Resilience and Redemption.

1. Job 42:6 - "Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

2. Colossians 3:12-13 - "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

Genesis 45:3 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.

Joseph's brothers were so shocked to see him alive that they were unable to respond to his question.

1. The Power of Redemption: Joseph was able to reunite with his brothers after a tumultuous past, showing the power of forgiveness and redemption.

2. The Miracle of Reconciliation: Joseph's brothers were filled with emotion upon seeing him alive, reminding us that miracles can happen if we keep our faith.

1. Colossians 3:13 - bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Matthew 18:21-22 - Then Peter came up and said to him, Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times? Jesus said to him, I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Genesis 45:4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and forgives them for their betrayal.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Exploring Joseph's example in Genesis 45:4

2. Reuniting with Family - How Joseph brings his estranged brothers back together

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Colossians 3:13 - bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Genesis 45:5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

Joseph forgave his brothers for selling him into slavery, recognizing that God had a plan to use the situation for good.

1. God is always in control and has a plan for our lives.

2. We must forgive others even when they have wronged us.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Genesis 45:6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

Joseph reveals to his brothers that the famine in the land will last for seven years.

1. God's Provision in Times of Famine - How to Trust God When Circumstances Seem Hopeless

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Overcoming Resentment and Animosity

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven."

Genesis 45:7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

God has saved us and preserved us by a great deliverance.

1. God is our provider and protector; rely on Him in all things.

2. God's faithfulness and mercy is a source of hope and comfort.

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 45:8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

God sent Joseph to Egypt to become a father to Pharaoh, lord of all his house, and ruler of all the land of Egypt.

1. God's Plan for Joseph: Trusting in God's Plans for Our Lives

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God is in Control of All Things

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 45:9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:

Joseph tells his brothers to go and tell his father that God has made Joseph the ruler of all Egypt, and to come down to Joseph without delay.

1. God's Hand in Our Lives: Trusting God's Plan

2. Faith in the Midst of Trials: Taking Comfort in God's Providence

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Genesis 45:10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:

Joseph encourages his family to move to Goshen and promises them security and provision under his protection.

1. God's faithfulness shines through in difficult times

2. When God leads, trust Him and follow

1. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 45:11 And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

Joseph reveals to his brothers that he is alive, and promises to provide for them during the coming years of famine.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Joseph's Journey from Betrayal to Blessing

2. God's Faithfulness in the Midst of Adversity

1. Romans 12:17-19 - "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Genesis 45:12 And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers and confirms their well-being.

1: Joseph teaches us that we should remain faithful and trusting in God, even in our darkest moments.

2: We should always remain humble and generous, even in our moments of triumph.

1: James 1:2-3 - Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 45:13 And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.

Joseph tells his brothers to tell his father about the glory he has achieved in Egypt and to bring him to Egypt.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Joseph's Story

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Joseph's Brothers

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Genesis 45:14 And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

Joseph and Benjamin's reunion was filled with emotion.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Joseph and Benjamin's reunion shows us that forgiveness can bring us joy and peace.

2. The Redemptive Nature of Love: Joseph and Benjamin's reunion shows us that love can heal wounds and bring us together.

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

2. Romans 12:14-18 - "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Genesis 45:15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

Joseph reunites with his brothers and shows them his love by kissing and weeping on them.

1: God can use even our worst moments to bring about good, as seen in the redemption of Joseph through his reunion with his brothers.

2: God works all things together for good, even when it doesn't seem like it at first.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Genesis 45:16 And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.

Joseph's brothers travel to Egypt and Pharaoh approves of their arrival.

1. God's perfect timing - trusting in the Lord's plan instead of our own.

2. The power of forgiveness - Joseph's merciful attitude towards his brothers.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2. Ephesians 4:32 - "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Genesis 45:17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;

Joseph's brothers are commanded to return to the land of Canaan with their livestock.

1. Joseph's Forgiveness: How to Overcome a Past Transgression

2. Finding Purpose in a Difficult Situation: The Story of Joseph

1. Luke 6:37-38: "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven."

2. Hebrews 11:22: "By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones."

Genesis 45:18 And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.

Joseph encourages his brothers to bring their father and families to Egypt to enjoy the good of the land.

1: God provides for our needs in unexpected ways.

2: Joseph's faithfulness and forgiveness is an example for us.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Colossians 3:13 Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Genesis 45:19 Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

Joseph commands his brothers to return to Canaan with their families, in order to bring their father Jacob back to Egypt.

1: We should follow the example of Joseph and his brothers and always show commitment and loyalty to our family.

2: In times of difficulty, God provides a way for us to be reunited with our family.

1: Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

2: Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Genesis 45:20 Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.

Joseph tells his brothers not to worry about their possessions since the best of Egypt belongs to them.

1. "The Blessing of Generosity: A Study on Joseph and His Brothers"

2. "The Power of Faith: How Joseph's Trust in God Changed His Life and That of His Brothers"

1. Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Hebrews 11:22, "By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones."

Genesis 45:21 And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.

Joseph provided wagons and supplies to the children of Israel in accordance with Pharaoh's instructions.

1. God's Perfect Timing - Joseph was in the right place at the right time to provide for God's people.

2. Provisions for the Journey - God gives us all we need for the journey of life.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Genesis 45:22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.

Jacob shows favoritism to Benjamin by giving him three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of raiment while only giving the others one change of raiment.

1. God's grace often extends beyond the boundaries of fairness and equality.

2. Jacob's favoritism towards Benjamin is a reminder of God's immeasurable love and grace.

1. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Genesis 45:23 And to his father he sent after this manner; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.

Joseph sent his father, Jacob, presents of ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn, bread, and meat for his journey.

1. God's provision for us in times of need.

2. The importance of showing love and kindness to others.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Ephesians 5:2 - And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Genesis 45:24 So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.

Joseph sends his brothers away with a warning to not quarrel on the way.

1. The importance of unity in our relationships.

2. Overcoming bitterness and strife in our lives.

1. Psalm 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Genesis 45:25 And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father,

The sons of Jacob return to Canaan after living in Egypt.

1: We can learn from the sons of Jacob to never forget where we come from, no matter how far we may travel.

2: The sons of Jacob serve as an example of faithfulness and loyalty to our family and our roots.

1: Joshua 24:2-3 And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.

2: Hebrews 11:22 By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

Genesis 45:26 And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.

Jacob does not believe his sons when they tell him that Joseph is alive and is the governor of Egypt.

1. Trust in God s plan even when it doesn t make sense.

2. The power of faith and believing even when you don t understand.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 45:27 And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:

Jacob's spirits were revived when he saw the wagons Joseph had sent for him.

1. How to Renew Your Strength and Hope in Difficult Times

2. The Power of God's Favor in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 5:12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Genesis 45:28 And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.

Israel's faith was affirmed when he was reunited with his son Joseph.

1. God rewards those who remain faithful in difficult times.

2. Rejoice in the Lord when reunions are made possible.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 126:3 - The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

Genesis 46 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 46:1-7, God speaks to Jacob in a vision during the night and reassures him not to fear going down to Egypt. God promises to make him a great nation there and assures Jacob that He will bring his descendants back to the land of Canaan. Encouraged by this divine message, Jacob gathers his entire family and sets out for Egypt. The chapter lists the names of Jacob's sons and their families who accompany him on this journey.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 46:8-27, the chapter provides a detailed account of Jacob's descendants who migrate to Egypt. It includes information about his sons, grandsons, daughters-in-law, and their children. The total number of individuals who come with Jacob is seventy in all. Among them are Joseph and his two sons Manasseh and Ephraim.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 46:28-34, Joseph prepares himself for the arrival of his father and brothers in Egypt. He harnesses his chariot and goes out to meet them at Goshen. When he sees his father, Joseph embraces him tightly after years of separation, weeping on his neck for a long time. Joseph then introduces Pharaoh's officials to his family members so they may settle in the land of Goshen where they can shepherd their flocks.

In summary:

Genesis 46 presents:

God assuring Jacob through a vision about going down to Egypt;

Jacob gathering all his family members for the journey;

The listing of names among those accompanying him.

A detailed account of Jacob's descendants migrating;

The total number being seventy individuals;

Joseph being present along with Pharaoh's officials.

Joseph preparing himself for their arrival;

Embracing Jacob tightly after years apart;

Introducing Pharaoh's officials and arranging settlement in Goshen.

This chapter emphasizes God's guidance over Jacob as he ventures into Egypt while fulfilling His promise made earlier regarding making him into a great nation there. It highlights the importance of family unity as they journey together towards a new land where they will establish themselves under Joseph's protection. Genesis 46 showcases emotional reunions between Joseph and his father as well as sets the stage for future events that will unfold within the context of their settlement in Egypt.

Genesis 46:1 And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac.

Israel traveled to Beersheba and offered sacrifices to God.

1. The importance of honoring our fathers

2. Sacrifice: an act of devotion

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honoring our parents

2. Leviticus 1:2-9 - God's instructions for sacrifices

Genesis 46:2 And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.

God spoke to Jacob in a vision during the night, calling his name twice and Jacob responded, "Here am I."

1. God is Calling: Responding to His Voice.

2. When God Speaks: Hearing and Obeying His Word.

1. Isaiah 6:8, "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. John 10:27, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Genesis 46:3 And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation:

God tells Jacob not to fear going down to Egypt, as he will make him a great nation there.

1. Knowing God's Promises: God's Assurance in Difficult Times

2. Trust in God's Plan: Embracing Uncertainty with Faith

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Genesis 46:4 I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.

God promised to be with Jacob on his journey to Egypt and to bring him back home.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in His promise to be with us no matter the circumstances.

2: We can trust in the Lord to keep His promises.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Genesis 46:5 And Jacob rose up from Beersheba: and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

Jacob and his family are moving to Egypt to reunite with Joseph.

1: God is always faithful and will provide for his people.

2: Trust in God no matter the circumstances.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 33:20 - Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Genesis 46:6 And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed with him:

The entire family of Jacob travels to Egypt with their cattle and goods.

1. The Faithful Journey - Trusting God for the Next Step

2. The Blessing of Family - The Strength of Unity

1. Genesis 46:3-7

2. Psalm 37:23-24 - "The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

Genesis 46:7 His sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and all his seed brought he with him into Egypt.

The Lord brought Jacob and his entire family into Egypt.

1: We can always trust that the Lord will provide for us, no matter the circumstances.

2: We are called to be obedient to God, even when it's difficult.

1: Exodus 3:7-8, "And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

2: Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Genesis 46:8 And these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob's firstborn.

Jacob and his sons, including Reuben his firstborn, came to Egypt.

1. Jacob's Faithful Journey: A Study of Jacob's Resolve in the Face of Uncertainty.

2. Reuben's Renewed Purpose: A Study of God's Provision in Unexpected Circumstances.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Genesis 46:9 And the sons of Reuben; Hanoch, and Phallu, and Hezron, and Carmi.

This passage lists the four sons of Reuben: Hanoch, Phallu, Hezron, and Carmi.

1. The importance of family and remembering our ancestors

2. The significance of the lineage of Reuben

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Matthew 5:16 - In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Genesis 46:10 And the sons of Simeon; Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman.

This passage from Genesis 46:10 lists the sons of Simeon, which include Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanitish woman.

1. God's Perfect Plan: How the Sovereign Lord Uses Unusual Circumstances to Accomplish His Will

2. The Faithfulness of God: How the Lord Fulfills His Promises Even Through Unexpected People

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 1:3-6 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Genesis 46:11 And the sons of Levi; Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

This verse from the book of Genesis mentions the three sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

1. "The Legacy of Levi: A Study of the Three Sons"

2. "The Faithfulness of Fathers: Lessons from the Life of Levi"

1. Hebrews 11:21 - By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.

2. Deuteronomy 10:8 - At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today.

Genesis 46:12 And the sons of Judah; Er, and Onan, and Shelah, and Pharez, and Zarah: but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Pharez were Hezron and Hamul.

This passage from Genesis 46:12 recounts the sons of Judah, including Er, Onan, Shelah, Pharez, and Zarah. Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan, and Pharez was the father of Hezron and Hamul.

1. The importance of faithfulness and remembrance in the face of death in the book of Genesis.

2. The importance of lineage and legacy in the book of Genesis.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9; Knowing that the Lord thy God he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

2. Psalm 112:1-2; Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Genesis 46:13 And the sons of Issachar; Tola, and Phuvah, and Job, and Shimron.

The sons of Issachar were Tola, Phuvah, Job and Shimron.

1. The Blessing of Family: Recognizing the Value of Family Ties

2. Living with Purpose: Finding Strength in Community

1. Psalms 68:6 - "God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land."

2. Proverbs 18:1 - "Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment."

Genesis 46:14 And the sons of Zebulun; Sered, and Elon, and Jahleel.

This passage lists the sons of Zebulun, which were Sered, Elon, and Jahleel.

1. God's Plan for Every Family: The Sons of Zebulun

2. The Blessing of Family: A Study of the Sons of Zebulun

1. Deuteronomy 33:18-19, Of Zebulun he said, Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, and Issachar, in your tents. They shall summon peoples to the mountain and there offer the sacrifices of righteousness; for they shall draw from the abundance of the seas and the hidden treasures of the sand.

2. Matthew 4:13-15, Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

Genesis 46:15 These be the sons of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob in Padanaram, with his daughter Dinah: all the souls of his sons and his daughters were thirty and three.

The passage mentions the thirty-three sons and daughters of Jacob and Leah, born in Padanaram.

1: God faithfully provides. Genesis 22:14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

2: The family of God. Ephesians 3:14-15 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.

1: Numbers 26:33-34 And those that were numbered of them, according to the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, even those that were numbered of them were twenty and two thousand and two hundred and threescore and four. These are the families of the Simeonites, twenty and two thousand and two hundred.

2: Genesis 29:31-30 And when the LORD saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb: but Rachel was barren. And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the LORD hath looked upon my affliction; now therefore my husband will love me.

Genesis 46:16 And the sons of Gad; Ziphion, and Haggi, Shuni, and Ezbon, Eri, and Arodi, and Areli.

This passage from Genesis 46:16 lists the sons of Gad, which include Ziphion, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, and Areli.

1. "The Meaning of Family: Reflections on the Sons of Gad"

2. "The Power of Legacy: Lessons from the Sons of Gad"

1. Matthew 12:46-50 Jesus' teaching on the importance of family

2. Psalm 68:6 - God's faithfulness and protection to families and generations

Genesis 46:17 And the sons of Asher; Jimnah, and Ishuah, and Isui, and Beriah, and Serah their sister: and the sons of Beriah; Heber, and Malchiel.

1: God always has a plan for us, even when life throws us a curveball.

2: We should strive to be like Asher and his family, who trusted in the Lord and He provided for them.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Genesis 46:18 These are the sons of Zilpah, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter, and these she bare unto Jacob, even sixteen souls.

Leah, daughter of Laban, gave birth to sixteen children through Jacob, with Zilpah as the mother.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: A Study of the Life of Jacob

2. The Power of Unconditional Love: A Study of the Relationship between Laban and Leah

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Genesis 30:22 - And God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her, and opened her womb.

Genesis 46:19 The sons of Rachel Jacob's wife; Joseph, and Benjamin.

Jacob's wife Rachel had two sons, Joseph and Benjamin.

1. The Power of Family - Genesis 46:19

2. God's Faithfulness - Jacob's two sons from Rachel

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2. Psalm 91:14-15 - Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.

Genesis 46:20 And unto Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him.

Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, were born to him in Egypt by his wife, Asenath, daughter of Potipherah, a priest of On.

1. The faith of Joseph: trusting God in the midst of adversity.

2. The power of family: how God works through generations.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him.

Genesis 46:21 And the sons of Benjamin were Belah, and Becher, and Ashbel, Gera, and Naaman, Ehi, and Rosh, Muppim, and Huppim, and Ard.

This passage lists the sons of Benjamin.

1. The Value of Family: A Look at the Sons of Benjamin

2. A Faithful Father: The Legacy of Benjamin

1. Genesis 35:18-19 "And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin. And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem."

2. Psalm 68:25-26 "The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels. Bless ye God in the congregations, even the Lord, from the fountain of Israel."

Genesis 46:22 These are the sons of Rachel, which were born to Jacob: all the souls were fourteen.

Jacob's sons through Rachel totaled fourteen in number.

1. God's faithfulness through the generations.

2. The importance of family.

1. Psalm 78:5-6 "For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children."

2. Ephesians 6:4 "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Genesis 46:23 And the sons of Dan; Hushim.

The sons of Dan are Hushim.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Roots

2. Recognizing God's Blessing in Our Heritage

1. Deuteronomy 32:7-9

2. Psalm 78:2-4

Genesis 46:24 And the sons of Naphtali; Jahzeel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem.

A list of the sons of Naphtali is given.

1: It is important to remember our ancestors and the blessings God has bestowed upon them.

2: Knowing our heritage and the faith of our ancestors is essential in understanding our own faith.

1: Psalm 127:3-5 "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."

2: Luke 16:19-31 "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side."

Genesis 46:25 These are the sons of Bilhah, which Laban gave unto Rachel his daughter, and she bare these unto Jacob: all the souls were seven.

Laban gave Bilhah, Rachel's maidservant, to Rachel as a gift, and she bore seven sons to Jacob.

1. The Power of a Generous Gift - Genesis 46:25

2. The Importance of Family - Genesis 46:25

1. Matthew 10:29-31 - Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

2. Proverbs 19:17 - He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

Genesis 46:26 All the souls that came with Jacob into Egypt, which came out of his loins, besides Jacob's sons' wives, all the souls were threescore and six;

66 people from the family of Jacob accompanied him to Egypt.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: Jacob and his family were blessed by God's provision when they moved to Egypt.

2. The Strength in Unity: Even in difficult times, God calls us to stay united as a family.

1. Genesis 46:26

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Genesis 46:27 And the sons of Joseph, which were born him in Egypt, were two souls: all the souls of the house of Jacob, which came into Egypt, were threescore and ten.

Jacob's descendants, including Joseph's two sons born in Egypt, totaled seventy in number.

1. The Faithfulness of God in His Provisions

2. The Power of Blessing and Fulfillment of His Promises

1. Romans 8:28-29 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

2. Ephesians 3:20-21 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Genesis 46:28 And he sent Judah before him unto Joseph, to direct his face unto Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen.

Jacob's family traveled to Goshen, guided by Judah.

1: We can find guidance in the example of Judah, who was willing to lead his family to a better place.

2: We should trust God to bring us to a better place, no matter the obstacles.

1: Psalm 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

2: Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Genesis 46:29 And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen, and presented himself unto him; and he fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.

Joseph met his father in Goshen and embraced him in a tearful reunion.

1. The Joy of Reconciliation - A lesson from the reunion of Joseph and Israel.

2. The Power of Emotional Expression - Exploring the significance of Joseph's tears.

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Genesis 46:30 And Israel said unto Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive.

Israel rejoiced greatly to see Joseph alive.

1: Rejoice in the Lord Always

2: Overcome Adversity with Faith

1: Psalm 28:7 - The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

2: 1 Peter 1:3-5 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Genesis 46:31 And Joseph said unto his brethren, and unto his father's house, I will go up, and shew Pharaoh, and say unto him, My brethren, and my father's house, which were in the land of Canaan, are come unto me;

Joseph shows his faith in God by trusting in the promise He made to Abraham and heading to Egypt to reunite with his family.

1. God's faithfulness: How Joseph trusted in God's promise.

2. God's protection: How Joseph was kept safe on his journey to Egypt.

1. Genesis 15:13-14 - God's promise to Abraham.

2. Psalm 91:4 - God's protection of His people.

Genesis 46:32 And the men are shepherds, for their trade hath been to feed cattle; and they have brought their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have.

Jacob and his family journeyed to Egypt with their livestock.

1. God provides for His people, even in difficult times.

2. God can use the gifts and talents of His people to sustain them.

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

2. Matthew 6:31-33 - "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Genesis 46:33 And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, What is your occupation?

When Joseph's family moved to Egypt, Pharaoh asked them to tell him their occupation.

1: Our life's purpose should not be determined by those around us but by God.

2: We should be ready to answer the call of God even if it takes us to strange places.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Genesis 46:34 That ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and also our fathers: that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

The servants of Israel asked to live in the land of Goshen, as shepherds were an abomination to the Egyptians.

1. Living according to God's will despite the cultural norms

2. The importance of humility before God and man

1. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness

2. Ephesians 4:1-2 - Walk worthy of the calling with all humility and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love.

Genesis 47 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 47:1-12, Joseph brings his father Jacob before Pharaoh to introduce him. Jacob blesses Pharaoh, and Pharaoh grants them the land of Goshen for their settlement. Due to the severity of the famine, Joseph continues to manage the distribution of food throughout Egypt. As the famine worsens, people run out of money to buy grain from Joseph. To ensure their survival, Joseph proposes a plan where they exchange their livestock and land for food. The people willingly agree and become servants to Pharaoh in exchange for sustenance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 47:13-26, the famine persists, and Joseph collects all the money and livestock from the people in Egypt as part of his plan. However, he does not take away land belonging to priests since they receive a regular allotment from Pharaoh. With time passing by and desperation growing among the population due to lack of food, Joseph implements a system where he provides seed for sowing but requires them to give one-fifth of their harvests back to Pharaoh.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 47:27-31, Jacob's family settles in Egypt's land of Goshen where they prosper and multiply. Jacob lives there for seventeen years until reaching a total age of 147 years. As his life draws near its end, Jacob calls his son Joseph and requests him not to bury him in Egypt but rather with his ancestors in Canaan's burial site at Machpelah cave. Joseph agrees with this request.

In summary:

Genesis 47 presents:

Jacob being introduced to Pharaoh;

The granting of land in Goshen for their settlement;

Joseph managing food distribution during severe famine.

Joseph proposing an exchange system involving livestock and land;

People becoming servants to Pharaoh for sustenance;

Joseph implementing a plan where one-fifth of harvests go back to Pharaoh.

Jacob's family settling in Goshen and prospering;

Jacob living there until old age;

His request for burial with ancestors instead of Egypt.

This chapter explores themes such as provision during times of scarcity, power dynamics between rulers and subjects during crises, familial settlements outside ancestral lands leading towards prosperity or potential challenges arising from dependence on foreign powers. It showcases how God's providence works through individuals like Joseph who are placed strategically within positions that enable them to save lives during times of crisis. Genesis 47 marks an important phase where Jacob's family finds refuge under Egyptian rule while maintaining their distinct identity within the land provided by Pharaoh.

Genesis 47:1 Then Joseph came and told Pharaoh, and said, My father and my brethren, and their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have, are come out of the land of Canaan; and, behold, they are in the land of Goshen.

Joseph informs Pharaoh that his family and their possessions have arrived in Goshen from Canaan.

1. God's provision: Joseph's family is provided a place to stay and thrive in Goshen.

2. God's faithfulness: Joseph's faith in God leads to his family being reunited in Goshen.

1. Psalm 37:25 "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

2. Psalm 121:2 "My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

Genesis 47:2 And he took some of his brethren, even five men, and presented them unto Pharaoh.

Pharaoh welcomed Joseph's brothers to Egypt.

1. We are all welcomed by God, no matter where we come from.

2. God's power transcends the boundaries of nations and tribes.

1. Romans 8:38-39: For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 139:1-4: O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

Genesis 47:3 And Pharaoh said unto his brethren, What is your occupation? And they said unto Pharaoh, Thy servants are shepherds, both we, and also our fathers.

Pharaoh asked his brethren about their occupation, to which they responded that they were shepherds, as were their fathers.

1. The importance of knowing our ancestry and the impact it has on our identity.

2. How the Lord blesses us in the different occupations He has chosen for us.

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents.

2. Genesis 45:5-8 - Joseph reveals himself to his brothers.

Genesis 47:4 They said moreover unto Pharaoh, For to sojourn in the land are we come; for thy servants have no pasture for their flocks; for the famine is sore in the land of Canaan: now therefore, we pray thee, let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen.

The people of Israel pleaded with Pharaoh for permission to live in the land of Goshen, due to the famine in the land of Canaan.

1. How God Sustains in Times of Famine

2. The Faithfulness of God Through Difficult Times

1. Psalm 33:18-19 "Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?..."

Genesis 47:5 And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph, saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee:

The Pharaoh speaks to Joseph, inviting his father and brothers to come to him.

1: God's providence is always at work, even in difficult circumstances.

2: We can trust God to provide for us, even in the most trying times.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 47:6 The land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest any men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

Joseph commands his brothers to settle in the best parts of Egypt and to appoint the most capable among them to be leaders of his livestock.

1. When God places us in a new environment, we must strive to make the best of the situation and use our skills and abilities to lead and serve.

2. We should seek out and recognize the talents and abilities of others and use them to accomplish God's will.

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Genesis 47:7 And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

Joseph brought his father Jacob to Pharaoh, and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

1. The importance of honoring your elders.

2. God's protection over His people.

1. Proverbs 17:6 - "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers."

2. Genesis 26:24 - "And the Lord appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake."

Genesis 47:8 And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou?

Jacob answered Pharaoh that he was a hundred and thirty years old.

Jacob told Pharaoh that he was 130 years old when asked about his age.

1. The importance of age and wisdom: Drawing on the example of Jacob, we can see the value of age and experience in life.

2. The power of faith: Despite the great age of Jacob, he continued to trust in the Lord and follow his will.

1. Proverbs 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.

2. Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Genesis 47:9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

Jacob tells Pharaoh that his life has been short and difficult compared to his ancestors, who had longer and better lives.

1. Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. Living with Joy and Contentment in Adversity

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Genesis 47:10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.

Jacob blessed Pharaoh and then left his presence.

1. Our Obedience to Those in Authority (Genesis 47:10)

2. Blessing Those in Authority (Genesis 47:10)

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

2. Proverbs 24:26 - Whoever gives an honest answer kisses the lips.

Genesis 47:11 And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.

Joseph obeyed Pharaoh's command and gave his family a possession in the best part of Egypt, specifically the land of Rameses.

1. God commands us to be obedient; Joseph is an example of this obedience.

2. Joseph's faith in God enabled him to follow Pharaoh's command and provide for his family.

1. Genesis 22:18 - And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

Genesis 47:12 And Joseph nourished his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household, with bread, according to their families.

Joseph provided food and sustenance for his family, according to the size of each family.

1. God Cares for Our Needs - Philippians 4:19

2. The Power of Generosity - Luke 6:38

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 - Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

Genesis 47:13 And there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very sore, so that the land of Egypt and all the land of Canaan fainted by reason of the famine.

The land of Egypt and Canaan experienced a great famine.

1: God's Provision: How God Provides for Us in Times of Need

2: Faith in the Face of Adversity: Overcoming Difficulties with Trust in God

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Genesis 47:14 And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the corn which they bought: and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.

Joseph gathers all the wealth from Egypt and Canaan to bring to Pharaoh's house.

1. Living with Generosity - How Joseph's example shows us to use our wealth to bless others.

2. The Blessings of Obedience - The rewards of following God's commands in our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 15:7-11 - The command to lend to the poor and not to take interest.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Jesus' teaching to lay up treasures in Heaven, not on Earth.

Genesis 47:15 And when money failed in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came unto Joseph, and said, Give us bread: for why should we die in thy presence? for the money faileth.

Joseph provided the Egyptians with bread in exchange for their livestock during a time of famine.

1. God provides in times of trouble - Genesis 47:15

2. The importance of being prepared for unexpected situations - Genesis 47:15

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 6:6-8 - Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

Genesis 47:16 And Joseph said, Give your cattle; and I will give you for your cattle, if money fail.

Joseph offered to trade cattle for goods if the people had no money.

1. "God Provides: How Joseph's Faithful Stewardship Points Us to God's Provision"

2. "The Faithfulness of Joseph: How His Loyalty and Commitment to God Lead to Blessing"

1. 2 Corinthians 9:8-10 - "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Genesis 47:17 And they brought their cattle unto Joseph: and Joseph gave them bread in exchange for horses, and for the flocks, and for the cattle of the herds, and for the asses: and he fed them with bread for all their cattle for that year.

Joseph gave bread to the people in exchange for their livestock.

1. God will provide for us even in times of scarcity.

2. The power of mutual exchange and the importance of sharing.

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Acts 20:35 - "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. "

Genesis 47:18 When that year was ended, they came unto him the second year, and said unto him, We will not hide it from my lord, how that our money is spent; my lord also hath our herds of cattle; there is not ought left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies, and our lands:

The people of Egypt inform Joseph that their money and herds of cattle have been spent and all that is left to give is their bodies and lands.

1. We must remember to trust in God's provision no matter how dire our circumstances appear

2. We must be willing to use our resources to benefit those around us

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Genesis 47:19 Wherefore shall we die before thine eyes, both we and our land? buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants unto Pharaoh: and give us seed, that we may live, and not die, that the land be not desolate.

The Israelites plead with Pharaoh to buy their land, offering to become servants in exchange for food and seed, so they can continue living and not die of starvation.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times: Lessons from the Israelites in Genesis 47:19

2. The Power of Persistence: How the Israelites Demonstrated Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Genesis 47:20 And Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh; for the Egyptians sold every man his field, because the famine prevailed over them: so the land became Pharaoh's.

Joseph bought all the land of Egypt to save the people from famine.

1. God can use us to provide for others in times of need.

2. We can trust God to provide for us in all seasons.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Genesis 47:21 And as for the people, he removed them to cities from one end of the borders of Egypt even to the other end thereof.

Joseph moved the people of Egypt to different cities throughout the country.

1. God's plans are bigger than our own.

2. We can trust God to provide for us, even in times of great need.

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"

2. Philippians 4:19 - "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Genesis 47:22 Only the land of the priests bought he not; for the priests had a portion assigned them of Pharaoh, and did eat their portion which Pharaoh gave them: wherefore they sold not their lands.

Pharaoh gave the priests a portion of his land, so they did not need to sell their lands.

1. God will provide for our needs.

2. We must be content with what we have.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

Genesis 47:23 Then Joseph said unto the people, Behold, I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh: lo, here is seed for you, and ye shall sow the land.

Joseph reassured the people of Egypt that Pharaoh had purchased their land, giving them seed to sow for the coming year.

1. The Power of Provision: Learning to Trust God for Our Needs

2. The Blessing of Generosity: Practicing Gratitude in Times of Abundance

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Genesis 47:24 And it shall come to pass in the increase, that ye shall give the fifth part unto Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own, for seed of the field, and for your food, and for them of your households, and for food for your little ones.

God's provision for our needs.

1: God provides for us in abundance, so that we can share our blessings with others.

2: We can trust God to provide for us in all circumstances.

1: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2: Psalm 37:25 - "I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread."

Genesis 47:25 And they said, Thou hast saved our lives: let us find grace in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants.

Joseph's kindness and mercy towards his brothers allowed them to find favor in Pharaoh's sight.

1: We must be merciful and kind to those around us, just as Joseph showed mercy towards his brothers.

2: God's grace and mercy can overcome any obstacle, just as Joseph's mercy towards his brothers allowed them to find favor in Pharaoh's sight.

1: Matthew 5:7, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2: Luke 6:36, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Genesis 47:26 And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt unto this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth part; except the land of the priests only, which became not Pharaoh's.

Joseph established a law in Egypt that Pharaoh would receive the fifth part of the land, except for the land of the priests.

1. God's Plan for Provision: Joseph's Example in Egypt

2. Submitting to Authority: Joseph's Obedience to Pharaoh

1. Genesis 47:26

2. Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the Talents)

Genesis 47:27 And Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen; and they had possessions therein, and grew, and multiplied exceedingly.

Israel settled in the land of Egypt, specifically the land of Goshen, where they prospered and multiplied greatly.

1. The blessings of obedience: God rewards those who obey Him by providing them with a place to live and prosper.

2. God's faithfulness: Despite difficult circumstances, God faithfully provides for His people.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - Blessings of obedience and curses of disobedience.

2. Psalm 33:18-22 - God's faithfulness and providence.

Genesis 47:28 And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years: so the whole age of Jacob was an hundred forty and seven years.

Jacob lived in Egypt for 17 years and died at the age of 147.

1. The brevity of life and how to make the most of it.

2. The importance of honoring the elderly and their wisdom.

1. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. Leviticus 19:32 - Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD.

Genesis 47:29 And the time drew nigh that Israel must die: and he called his son Joseph, and said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray thee, in Egypt:

Israel asked Joseph to promise to bury him in his homeland and not in Egypt before his death.

1. The Power of Legacy: A Story of Israel and Joseph

2. The Importance of Keeping Promises: A Reflection on Joseph s Covenant with Israel

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 ( Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. )

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 ( When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it. )

Genesis 47:30 But I will lie with my fathers, and thou shalt carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their buryingplace. And he said, I will do as thou hast said.

Jacob tells Joseph that he will be buried in the land of Canaan, and Joseph agrees.

1. Remembering Jacob's Legacy - How Jacob's faith in God's promises of a land transformed the people of Israel.

2. Joseph's Loyalty - Joseph's commitment to God's will and promise to his father.

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

Genesis 47:31 And he said, Swear unto me. And he sware unto him. And Israel bowed himself upon the bed's head.

Israel made a vow to Pharaoh to serve him in exchange for a place to live in Egypt.

1. The importance of Commitment: A lesson from Israel

2. Keeping Your Promises: An example from Israel

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

Genesis 48 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 48:1-7, Joseph receives news that his father Jacob is ill and goes to visit him with his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. Jacob recounts the covenant God made with him and promises Joseph that his descendants will become a multitude of nations. As Jacob sees Joseph's sons, he adopts them as his own and declares that they will have an inheritance equal to Reuben and Simeon. However, any future children born to Joseph will be considered part of their respective tribes.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 48:8-16, Jacob blesses Joseph's sons by placing his right hand on Ephraim, the younger son, and his left hand on Manasseh, the firstborn. This reversal surprises Joseph since he expects the blessing to follow birthright order. However, Jacob explains that it is intentional because God has chosen Ephraim to be greater than Manasseh in terms of future blessings and prosperity.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 48:17-22, Joseph expresses concern when he sees his father crossing his hands during the blessing ceremony. He tries to correct it by switching Jacob's hands but is told that it was done deliberately according to God's plan. Jacob concludes by reiterating God's promise of land inheritance for Joseph's descendants and gives him an additional portion of land beyond what was given to his brothers.

In summary:

Genesis 48 presents:

Joseph visiting his ailing father with his two sons;

Jacob adopting Manasseh and Ephraim as his own;

The declaration of their future inheritance.

Jacob blessing Ephraim over Manasseh contrary to birthright order;

Explaining that it is part of God's plan for greater blessings on Ephraim;

Joseph expressing concern but being reassured about divine intention.

Jacob reiterating God's promise regarding land inheritance for Joseph's descendants;

Granting him an additional portion beyond what was given to other brothers;

This chapter highlights the passing down of blessings from one generation to another within the context of family dynamics while emphasizing divine sovereignty over birthright traditions. It showcases how Jacob adopts Joseph's sons into the family line as full-fledged tribes alongside their uncles' lineages. Genesis 48 signifies a significant moment where ancestral blessings are bestowed upon Ephraim and Manasseh according to God's purpose rather than conventional expectations based solely on birth order.

Genesis 48:1 And it came to pass after these things, that one told Joseph, Behold, thy father is sick: and he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

Joseph is told that his father is sick and he takes his two sons Manasseh and Ephraim with him.

1. The importance of bringing your children along during difficult times

2. The power of faith in the face of adversity

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Genesis 48:2 And one told Jacob, and said, Behold, thy son Joseph cometh unto thee: and Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed.

Jacob is told Joseph is coming to see him, so he strengthens himself and sits up in bed.

1. The importance of faith and trust in God s plan.

2. When we seek strength from God, we can do more than we think.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Genesis 48:3 And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me,

Jacob shares his testimony of how God Almighty appeared to him at Luz and blessed him.

1. Learning to Trust God's Timing

2. The Power of God's Blessing

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 48:4 And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.

God promised Jacob a future of abundance and land for his descendants.

1: God will honor His promises to us if we trust in Him.

2: God is faithful to provide for His people no matter what their circumstances.

1: Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2: Hebrews 10:23, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)."

Genesis 48:5 And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine.

Jacob adopted Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph, as his own and gave them each a blessing.

1. The Power of Adoption: How Jacob Embraced Ephraim and Manasseh

2. The Blessing of Jacob: How God Changed the Course of History

1. Romans 8:15-17 - For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father!

2. Ephesians 1:3-5 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love

Genesis 48:6 And thy issue, which thou begettest after them, shall be thine, and shall be called after the name of their brethren in their inheritance.

The Lord promised to give Jacob's descendants an inheritance after their brethren.

1. God's Faithful Promise: How God's Covenant with Abraham's Descendants is Fully Fulfilled

2. Living in the Blessing: How to Experience the Inheritance of God's Promise

1. Romans 4:13, 16-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.

2. Hebrews 6:13-15 - For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, Surely I will bless you and multiply you. And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation.

Genesis 48:7 And as for me, when I came from Padan, Rachel died by me in the land of Canaan in the way, when yet there was but a little way to come unto Ephrath: and I buried her there in the way of Ephrath; the same is Bethlehem.

Jacob remembers Rachel and the importance of the place of her burial.

1. God remembers our struggles and gives us the strength to carry on.

2. Love transcends death and will always be remembered.

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. John 11:25-26 - "Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

Genesis 48:8 And Israel beheld Joseph's sons, and said, Who are these?

Israel saw Joseph's sons and asked who they were.

1. God's Providence in Unforeseen Circumstances - Genesis 48:8

2. The Power of a Father's Blessing - Genesis 48:8

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Chronicles 22:11 - Now, my son, the Lord be with you, so that you may succeed in building the house of the Lord your God, as he has spoken concerning you.

Genesis 48:9 And Joseph said unto his father, They are my sons, whom God hath given me in this place. And he said, Bring them, I pray thee, unto me, and I will bless them.

Joseph declares that his sons are a gift from God and asks his father to bless them.

1. The Gift of God How We Receive and Share His Blessings

2. Recognizing God's Providential Care in Our Own Lives

1. Matthew 7:11 - If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

2. Psalm 145:8-9 - The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

Genesis 48:10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near unto him; and he kissed them, and embraced them.

Israel showed love and affection to his sons regardless of his aging eyes.

1: Let us not forget to show love and affection to our loved ones, no matter our age or physical limitation.

2: We can learn from Israel and show our love and affection to all, even if we are not able to physically express it.

1: Romans 13:8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

2: 1 John 4:7-8 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Genesis 48:11 And Israel said unto Joseph, I had not thought to see thy face: and, lo, God hath shewed me also thy seed.

God revealed to Israel that Joseph had descendants.

1. God's Plans Are Greater Than Our Expectations

2. God's Blessing Is Unconditional

1. Genesis 48:11

2. Romans 8:28-29 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Genesis 48:12 And Joseph brought them out from between his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth.

Joseph blessed his grandsons by bringing them out from between his knees and bowing down to the earth.

1. The gift of blessing: How Joseph blessed his grandsons in Genesis 48:12.

2. Showing reverential respect: How Joseph bowed down to the earth in Genesis 48:12.

1. Genesis 27:27-29 - Isaac blesses Jacob as he blesses Esau.

2. Matthew 5:44 - Jesus commands us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us.

Genesis 48:13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near unto him.

Jacob blesses his grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh and places his right hand on Ephraim and his left hand on Manasseh.

1) The Blessing of Family: Recognizing and Appreciating God's Gift

2) The Power of Intentional Parenting: Passing on a Legacy

1) Proverbs 17:6: "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers."

2) Psalm 127:3-5: "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."

Genesis 48:14 And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the firstborn.

Israel blessed his two grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh, by placing his right hand on Ephraim's head and his left hand on Manasseh's head.

1. The Power of Blessing: How a Grandfather's Love Changed the Nation

2. God's Unconditional Love: How to Receive and Extend Blessing

1. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2. Ephesians 1:3-5: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will.

Genesis 48:15 And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day,

God's faithfulness in providing for His people over time.

1. Faithfulness in Every Season: Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. Enduring Faithfulness: God's Provision Throughout History

1. Psalm 34:10 - The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 48:16 The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

The Angel of the Lord blessed the lads of Jacob and established the legacy of Abraham and Isaac.

1: The Lord is faithful and will bless us for our faithfulness.

2: God is sovereign over our lives and will bless us in His own way.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Genesis 48:17 And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head.

Joseph was displeased when his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, so he held up his father's hand and moved it to Manasseh's head.

1. A lesson in humility: Joseph's example of humbly accepting God's will.

2. The blessing of both Ephraim and Manasseh: God's blessing on all of his children.

1. Philippians 2:3-5: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

2. Genesis 48:20: He blessed them that day, saying, "In you will Israel pronounce blessings, saying, 'God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.'"

Genesis 48:18 And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father: for this is the firstborn; put thy right hand upon his head.

Joseph instructs his father to place his right hand on the head of his firstborn son.

1. The importance of honoring our children.

2. Knowing when to grant our children authority and recognition.

1. Proverbs 17:6 - "Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children."

2. Colossians 3:20 - "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord."

Genesis 48:19 And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.

Jacob blesses his grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh, as they stand before him and he gives the younger, Ephraim, the greater blessing.

1. The power of blessing: how our words can shape our future.

2. The importance of humility: learning to recognize when someone else is more deserving.

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

2. Matthew 5:3-5 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Genesis 48:20 And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.

Jacob blessed his grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh, bestowing upon them a greater blessing than he had given to their father Joseph.

1. The Blessing of God - How our blessings from God can shape our lives and the lives of others.

2. Priorities in Life - Examining the importance of putting God first when making decisions.

1. Psalm 115:15 - "May you be blessed by the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Genesis 48:21 And Israel said unto Joseph, Behold, I die: but God shall be with you, and bring you again unto the land of your fathers.

Israel showed his faith in God's provision for Joseph even in death.

1. Trusting in God's Provision: A Lesson from Israel

2. Remembering God's Faithfulness in Every Season of Life

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Genesis 48:22 Moreover I have given to thee one portion above thy brethren, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow.

Joseph was given a portion above his brethren, taken by God with sword and bow.

1. God rewards faithfulness with increased blessings.

2. Even in difficult circumstances, God will provide for those who trust in Him.

1. Genesis 22:17 - And I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Genesis 49 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 49:1-12, Jacob gathers his sons together and pronounces individual blessings upon each of them before his death. He begins by addressing Reuben, his firstborn, and rebukes him for his impulsive behavior and loss of birthright privileges. Jacob then proceeds to bless Simeon and Levi but also condemns their violent actions. He praises Judah as the leader among his brothers, declaring that the scepter will not depart from Judah's descendants until the coming of Shiloh (a reference to the Messiah). The remaining brothers receive blessings specific to their character traits and future roles.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 49:13-21, Jacob blesses Zebulun for dwelling by the seashore and predicts their involvement in maritime trade. Issachar is blessed for being a strong laborer but is foretold to become a servant due to choosing comfort over freedom. Dan is described as a judge who will bring justice to his people while Gad is predicted to be attacked by raiders but ultimately overcome them. Asher receives blessings related to agricultural abundance and provision.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 49:22-33, Jacob blesses Joseph with numerous blessings encompassing fertility, prosperity, strength, and divine favor. Benjamin is described as a ravenous wolf who will produce warriors. As Jacob concludes his blessings upon all his sons, he instructs them regarding his burial place at Machpelah cave in Canaan alongside Abraham and Isaac. After delivering these final instructions, Jacob breathes his last breath and dies.

In summary:

Genesis 49 presents:

Jacob pronouncing individual blessings on each of his sons;

Rebuking Reuben for impulsive behavior;

Blessing Judah with leadership prominence until the coming of Shiloh (Messiah).

Blessings specific to character traits given to other brothers;

Predictions about future roles and destinies;

Jacob blessing Joseph with fertility, prosperity, strength.

Benjamin described as producing warriors;

Jacob instructing regarding burial place at Machpelah cave;

Jacob's death after delivering final instructions.

This chapter focuses on the prophetic nature of Jacob's blessings upon each son before he passes away. It reveals insights into their future roles within Israelite history while also addressing their individual strengths or weaknesses. The blessing bestowed upon Judah carries significant Messianic implications regarding the lineage through which Jesus Christ would descend. Genesis 49 marks an important moment where ancestral prophecies are spoken into existence before Jacob's deathbed while setting expectations for each tribe's contribution within Israelite society.

Genesis 49:1 And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.

Jacob calls his sons together to share prophetic words about their future.

1: God has a plan for our lives, and we can trust Him to carry it out.

2: We should seek wisdom from our elders and value their insight.

1: Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2: Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Genesis 49:2 Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.

Jacob gathers his sons and addresses them, urging them to listen to his advice.

1. The importance of listening to wise counsel from our elders.

2. The value of family unity.

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. Philippians 2:2-4 - Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Genesis 49:3 Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power:

Reuben was praised for his strength and dignity.

1. The Power of Dignity

2. Reuben's Strength and Excellence

1. Proverbs 20:29 - The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the gray head.

2. 1 Peter 5:5 - Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

Genesis 49:4 Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

Jacob warned his sons, especially Reuben, not to be unstable or prideful because of their father's authority.

1: Pride leads to destruction - Proverbs 16:18

2: Humility brings honor - 1 Peter 5:6

1: 2 Corinthians 10:12 - Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.

2: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Genesis 49:5 Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.

The verse from Genesis 49:5 warns of the danger of Simeon and Levi's violent behavior and reveals that instruments of cruelty are found in their dwellings.

1. The Dangers of Uncontrolled Anger

2. The Need for Self-Control

1. Ecclesiastes 7:9 - "Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools."

2. Proverbs 16:32 - "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city."

Genesis 49:6 O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall.

Jacob warns his soul to not be united with those who are driven by anger and self-will, as it can lead to serious consequences.

1. Understanding the Dangers of Anger and Self-Will

2. The Power of Wisdom and Discernment

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 17:14 - The beginning of strife is like releasing water; therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.

Genesis 49:7 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

Jacob curses his sons for their fierce and cruel anger, and promises to divide them among the tribes of Israel.

1. The Power of Anger: Learning to Control Our Emotions

2. The Blessing of Discipline: Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

1. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Genesis 49:8 Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee.

Judah is praised by his brethren and will be victorious over his enemies. His father's children will bow down to him.

1. The Praise of Judah and His Victories

2. The Blessing of Bow Down Before the Righteous

1. Psalm 149:6-9 - Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;

2. Philippians 2:5-11 - Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.

Genesis 49:9 Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?

Judah is a powerful leader and protector, like a lion, who cannot be stirred.

1. The Strength of Judah: The Power of A Leader

2. The Courage of Judah: An Unstoppable Force

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Genesis 49:10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

The Lord promised that Judah's family would be blessed and would rule until the coming of Shiloh, to whom the people would be gathered.

1. God's Promise of a King: A Study of Genesis 49:10

2. The Coming of Shiloh: The Unfulfilled Promise of Genesis 49:10

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-13 - And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

2. Romans 15:12 - And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

Genesis 49:11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

Jacob blesses his sons before his death, praising the qualities of each.

1. God's Blessing: A Gift to Cherish

2. The Power of Jacob's Blessing

1. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2. Ephesians 1:3-6 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

Genesis 49:12 His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

He will be strong and powerful like a lion.

Jacob blesses his son Judah, saying that he will be strong and powerful like a lion, with eyes red from wine and teeth white from milk.

1. The Strength of Judah: Finding Power in God s Blessing

2. The Significance of Milk and Wine: The Symbolic Meaning of Jacob s Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 33:22 - Joseph is a fruitful bough, A fruitful bough by a spring; His branches run over the wall.

2. Psalm 103:20 - Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.

Genesis 49:13 Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon.

Zebulun was blessed with a seaside home and a prosperous trading port.

1. God's blessing comes in many forms, including geographical location and material wealth.

2. Let us strive to use our gifts to bring glory to God.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 - As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Genesis 49:14 Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens:

Issachar is described as a strong ass that is able to carry two heavy burdens at once.

1. The Strength of Issachar: A Study in the Power of Faith

2. The Burdens of Life: Finding Strength in Adversity

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Genesis 49:15 And he saw that rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute.

Rest brings contentment and joy.

1: Finding Rest in Christ

2: The Beauty of Serving Others

1: Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2: Philippians 2:5-8 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Genesis 49:16 Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel.

Dan will be a leader among the tribes of Israel.

1. "God's Plan for Leadership: The Role of Dan in the Tribes of Israel"

2. "The Call to Leadership: Dan's Example in Genesis 49:16"

1. Isaiah 9:6-7, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

2. Proverbs 11:14, "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Genesis 49:17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.

Dan will be a source of trouble and harm to his enemies.

1: Beware of the dangers of envy and ill-will, for it can cause one to fall into great peril.

2: Tread carefully when it comes to those who oppose you, for you may be bitten and suffer the consequences.

1: Proverbs 24:17-18 "Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles, do not let your heart rejoice, or the LORD will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from him."

2: Romans 12:17-19 "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

Genesis 49:18 I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.

Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes of Israel, expresses his confidence in the salvation God will bring.

1. Waiting on the Lord: Patience and Faith in the Face of Uncertainty

2. Overcoming Adversity with Trust in the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Genesis 49:19 Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.

Jacob blesses his son Gad, prophesying that although he will face difficulty, he will ultimately prevail.

1. Overcoming Adversity: A Study of Jacob's Blessing to Gad

2. Perseverance in the Face of Difficulty: How to Find Strength from Jacob's Prophecy

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Genesis 49:20 Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.

Asher is blessed with abundance of food, with royal delicacies.

1. Abundance in God's Provision

2. God's Blessings of Royal Delicacies

1. Psalm 65:11 - You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

2. Isaiah 25:6 - On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wines well refined.

Genesis 49:21 Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words.

Naphtali is praised for his speech and words.

1: Words are powerful tools for good, and should be used wisely.

2: We should always strive to speak with grace and kindness.

1: Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

2: Proverbs 15:4 - A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Genesis 49:22 Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:

Joseph is described as a fruitful bough by a well whose branches extend beyond its limits.

1. The Blessings of Joseph: A Model of Faithful Abundance

2. God's Favour on Joseph: A Fulfillment of God's Promises

1. Psalm 1:3 - "He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Genesis 49:23 The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him:

The archers had caused Jacob intense pain and suffering.

1: We should never inflict suffering on others, but show kindness and compassion instead.

2: We should focus our attention on God's grace and mercy rather than on the pain of this world.

1: Matthew 5:44-45 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."

2: Romans 12:14-15 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Genesis 49:24 But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel:)

Jacob blesses his son, Judah, and acknowledges the strength given to him by the mighty God of Jacob.

1. Strength in the Lord: How the mighty God of Jacob Empowers Us

2. Resting in the Shepherd: Finding Comfort in the Stone of Israel

1. Psalm 18:32 34 - It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Genesis 49:25 Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb:

The blessings of God upon Jacob come from both the God of his father and the Almighty.

1. The Blessing of God: Experiencing the Abundance of Heaven

2. Drawing Near to God: Receiving His Blessing and Favor

1. Romans 8:32 - And he that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

Genesis 49:26 The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

This passage speaks of the blessings of Joseph, which are greater than the blessings of his ancestors, extending even to the everlasting hills.

1. The Importance of Faith: How the Blessings of Joseph Show the Power of Faith

2. The Blessing of Joseph: How to Receive God's Blessing for Our Lives

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Genesis 49:27 Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

Benjamin is described as a strong and brave warrior, ready to fight and claim victory.

1. Be strong and brave in the face of adversity.

2. The blessings of being faithful to God will be rewarded with victory.

1. Genesis 22:14 - "So Abraham called the name of that place, The Lord will provide ; as it is said to this day, On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Genesis 49:28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.

This verse speaks of how Jacob blessed his twelve sons, each according to his own blessing.

1. God's Blessings: An Examination of Jacob's Blessings to His Twelve Sons

2. The Power of Blessing: How to Receive and Give Blessings to Others

1. Galatians 3:7-9 - Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, In you shall all the nations be blessed. So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

2. Ephesians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Genesis 49:29 And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people: bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite,

Jacob charges his sons to bury him in the cave of Ephron the Hittite with his fathers.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and their legacy.

2. The power of making a last request and our responsibility to carry it out.

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Deuteronomy 5:16 - Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Genesis 49:30 In the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a buryingplace.

Abraham purchased the field of Machpelah from Ephron the Hittite in order to provide a burial place for himself and his family.

1. The Importance of Burial and Memorial - Genesis 49:30

2. Abraham's Obedience to God - Genesis 49:30

1. James 2:23 - And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, and he was called God s friend.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

Genesis 49:31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah.

This passage tells of Jacob burying his family in the land of Canaan.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and the legacy they left behind.

2. The faithfulness of God in providing a home and a place for his people to rest.

1. Psalm 16:5-6 "The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance."

2. Hebrews 11:13-16 "These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city."

Genesis 49:32 The purchase of the field and of the cave that is therein was from the children of Heth.

The field and cave that Jacob purchased was from the children of Heth.

1. The Power of Purchase: What Can We Buy with Our Resources?

2. Jacob's Legacy: The Impact of His Decisions on Future Generations

1. Ephesians 5:15-16 - "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."

2. Proverbs 31:16 - "She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard."

Genesis 49:33 And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people.

Jacob's final words to his sons before passing away.

1. The Power of a Final Word: Remembering the Legacy of Jacob

2. Cherishing the Last Moments: What We Can Learn From Jacob

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:1 - Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years draw near of which you will say, I have no pleasure in them.

Genesis 50 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Genesis 50:1-14, Joseph mourns the death of his father Jacob and observes a period of mourning along with his family and the Egyptians. After the mourning period, Joseph seeks permission from Pharaoh to bury Jacob in Canaan according to his father's wishes. Pharaoh grants Joseph's request, and a large procession consisting of Joseph's family members, Egyptian officials, and chariots accompanies Jacob's body to the burial site at Machpelah cave. Upon returning from the burial, Joseph's brothers express fear that he may seek revenge for their past mistreatment. However, Joseph reassures them that he will not harm them because God had used their actions to bring about good.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Genesis 50:15-21, after their father's death, Joseph's brothers approach him directly and confess their guilt for selling him into slavery years ago. They plead for forgiveness from Joseph. Deeply moved by their remorseful confession, Joseph weeps and reassures them once again that he holds no grudge against them. He emphasizes that what they intended for evil, God turned into good by placing him in a position of authority to save many lives during the famine.

Paragraph 3: In Genesis 50:22-26, Joseph lives out the rest of his days in Egypt along with his brothers' families. He witnesses multiple generations being born among his descendants. Before his death at the age of 110 years old, Joseph prophesies about God fulfilling His promise to bring Israel out of Egypt and return them to the land given to Abraham as an inheritance. He instructs his descendants to carry his bones with them when they eventually leave Egypt.

In summary:

Genesis 50 presents:

Joseph mourning Jacob's death;

Seeking permission from Pharaoh for burial in Canaan;

A large procession accompanying Jacob's body.

Joseph reassuring his brothers after their confession;

Expressing forgiveness for past mistreatment;

Emphasizing God's providential plan through their actions.

Joseph living out remaining years in Egypt with family;

Witnessing multiple generations being born among descendants;

Prophesying about Israel leaving Egypt and carrying his bones.

This chapter explores themes such as forgiveness and reconciliation within families despite past grievances or wrongdoings. It demonstrates how God can work through difficult circumstances to bring about redemption and fulfillment of His promises. Genesis 50 marks a significant conclusion where Jacob is laid to rest according to his wishes while highlighting how divine providence guided events throughout Joseph's life leading up to this point.

Genesis 50:1 And Joseph fell upon his father's face, and wept upon him, and kissed him.

Joseph showed his deep love and respect for his father by falling on his face, weeping and kissing him.

1) The Power of Love: How Joseph's Deep Respect for His Father Demonstrates God's Love for Us

2) Living a Life of Respect: Lessons We Can Learn from Joseph's Example

1) 1 John 4:10-11 - "In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

2) Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Genesis 50:2 And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father: and the physicians embalmed Israel.

Joseph commanded the physicians to embalm his father, and they did so.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people, even in death.

2. The importance of honoring our parents, even in death.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2. Exodus 20:12 - "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you."

Genesis 50:3 And forty days were fulfilled for him; for so are fulfilled the days of those which are embalmed: and the Egyptians mourned for him threescore and ten days.

Joseph's father Jacob was embalmed and mourned for 70 days, according to Egyptian custom.

1. The Comfort of Mourning: Learning to Walk With God Through Grief

2. The Power of Legacy: How We Can Learn From Those Who Came Before Us

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. John 16:20-22 - "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

Genesis 50:4 And when the days of his mourning were past, Joseph spake unto the house of Pharaoh, saying, If now I have found grace in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying,

Joseph found grace in the eyes of Pharaoh and asked him to speak to him.

1: We can find the grace of God in our lives, even in times of mourning.

2: We can always turn to God for guidance, even in the most difficult times.

1: For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. (Psalm 84:11)

2: And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth. (Exodus 34:6)

Genesis 50:5 My father made me swear, saying, Lo, I die: in my grave which I have digged for me in the land of Canaan, there shalt thou bury me. Now therefore let me go up, I pray thee, and bury my father, and I will come again.

Joseph's request to bury his father in his own grave.

1. The importance of honoring our family and fulfilling our promises.

2. The power of faith, even in times of great difficulty.

1. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Genesis 50:6 And Pharaoh said, Go up, and bury thy father, according as he made thee swear.

Pharaoh commanded Joseph to fulfill his promise to bury his father.

1. Keeping Our Promises: The Example of Joseph

2. The Power of a Vow: Fulfilling the Commitment We Make

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Genesis 50:7 And Joseph went up to bury his father: and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt,

Joseph and a large group of Pharaoh's servants, elders of his house, and elders of the land of Egypt traveled to bury his father.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Joseph's Actions Impacted His Future

2. Mourning and Celebrating: Finding Strength in Times of Grief

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Genesis 50:8 And all the house of Joseph, and his brethren, and his father's house: only their little ones, and their flocks, and their herds, they left in the land of Goshen.

Joseph's family moved from the land of Goshen to Egypt, leaving behind their children, livestock, and other possessions.

1. Trust in the Lord's Provision: Joseph's story is a reminder that, no matter our circumstances, God will always provide for our needs.

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Joseph's willingness to forgive his brothers, even after their betrayal, is a testament to the power of mercy.

1. Genesis 50:8- And all the house of Joseph, and his brethren, and his father's house: only their little ones, and their flocks, and their herds, they left in the land of Goshen.

2. Matthew 6:25- Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Genesis 50:9 And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen: and it was a very great company.

Joseph and a large entourage went up to bury Jacob in Canaan.

1. The Importance of Gathering Together in Grief

2. The Need for Support in Times of Sadness

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

2. Romans 12:15-16

Genesis 50:10 And they came to the threshingfloor of Atad, which is beyond Jordan, and there they mourned with a great and very sore lamentation: and he made a mourning for his father seven days.

Joseph and his family mourned the death of his father, Jacob, at the threshingfloor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan River, for seven days.

1. The Power of Mourning: How to Find Comfort in Times of Loss

2. Remembering Our Loved Ones: How to Honor Their Memories

1. Ecclesiastes 3:4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

2. Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me.

Genesis 50:11 And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said, This is a grievous mourning to the Egyptians: wherefore the name of it was called Abelmizraim, which is beyond Jordan.

The Canaanites noticed the mournful atmosphere of the floor of Atad and named it Abelmizraim, which was located beyond the river Jordan.

1. The Power of Mourning

2. The Power of a Name

1. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.

2. Matthew 12:21 And in His name Gentiles will trust.

Genesis 50:12 And his sons did unto him according as he commanded them:

Joseph's sons obeyed his instructions.

1. The importance of obeying our parents.

2. The power of honoring a legacy.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 1:8 - Listen, my son, to your father s instruction and do not forsake your mother s teaching.

Genesis 50:13 For his sons carried him into the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, which Abraham bought with the field for a possession of a buryingplace of Ephron the Hittite, before Mamre.

Joseph forgave his brothers and ensured his father was buried in the land of Canaan.

1. Forgiveness brings peace and joy.

2. It is important to remember and honor our ancestors.

1. Colossians 3:13 - Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Psalm 105:4 - Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually.

Genesis 50:14 And Joseph returned into Egypt, he, and his brethren, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father.

Joseph shows loyalty to his father by returning to Egypt after burying him.

1: We should show loyalty and devotion to our family and loved ones.

2: Even in times of sorrow, God can bring us strength to carry on.

1: Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Genesis 50:15 And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him.

Joseph's brothers were worried that Joseph would take revenge on them for the wrongs they had done to him now that their father had died.

1. God is bigger than our sin and can work through our wrongs.

2. We can turn our regret into hope and joy by trusting in God.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Genesis 50:16 And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying,

Joseph's father commanded before his passing that his sons should go to Joseph and ask for forgiveness.

1. God's love and forgiveness is always greater than our mistakes.

2. We can always find reconciliation in the grace of God.

1. Romans 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Genesis 50:17 So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him.

Joseph forgave his brothers for their wrongdoing and he wept when they asked him for forgiveness.

1: We must always forgive those who wrong us, no matter how deep the hurt, trusting in God to bring healing.

2: We all make mistakes, but when we repent and ask for forgiveness, we can be restored.

1: Colossians 3:13 - "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

2: Luke 6:37 - "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

Genesis 50:18 And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants.

Joseph's brothers bowed before him and declared themselves to be his servants.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Joseph's Brothers

2. Forgiveness: Joseph's Response to His Brothers

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

2. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Genesis 50:19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God?

Joseph encourages his brothers to not be afraid, reminding them that he is not in the place of God.

1. The Security of God's Sovereignty

2. Knowing Who We Are in God's Plan

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Genesis 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

God used even the evil intentions of others to bring about good.

1: We can trust God to bring good out of any situation.

2: No matter how dark the circumstances may be, God can bring light.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Genesis 50:21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

Joseph reassured his brothers that he would take care of them and their families.

1. The Comfort of God's Provision

2. God's Kindness in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Genesis 50:22 And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house: and Joseph lived an hundred and ten years.

Joseph lived in Egypt for 110 years.

1. The Faithfulness of Joseph - How Joseph lived a life of faithfulness in the midst of adversity.

2. The Power of Forgiveness - How Joseph was able to forgive his brothers despite their wrongdoings.

1. Psalm 23:6 - Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

2. Romans 12:19-21 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Genesis 50:23 And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph's knees.

Joseph saw his great-grandchildren, the children of Machir, son of Manasseh, being brought up on his knees.

1. The Legacy of Faith: How Our Actions Affect Future Generations

2. A Story of Redemption: Joseph's Journey from Betrayal to Blessing

1. Psalm 103:17: But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children.

2. Psalm 128:3: Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

Genesis 50:24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Joseph tells his brothers that he is going to die, but assures them that God will take care of them and bring them to the land that he promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. "God's Promise Endures: Joseph's Message of Hope"

2. "Enduring Faith in Difficult Times: Joseph's Trust in God"

1. Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Genesis 50:25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

Joseph took an oath from the Israelites that they would take his bones with them when they left Egypt.

1: We can learn from Joseph's example of faithfulness and commitment, even in the face of adversity.

2: Joseph's oath reminds us of the importance of honoring our commitments, even in difficult times.

1: Hebrews 11:22 - By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

2: Joshua 24:32 - And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver.

Genesis 50:26 So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Joseph's life ended at the age of 110 and he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.

1. The Life of Joseph: An Example of Faithfulness

2. The Journey of a Lifetime: The Story of Joseph

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Exodus 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 1:1-7, the chapter begins by providing an overview of the descendants of Jacob who migrated to Egypt. It mentions the names of Jacob's sons who came to Egypt along with their families, totaling seventy individuals. Over time, these Israelites multiplied greatly and became a numerous people. They were fruitful and increased abundantly in number, growing stronger and more prosperous in the land.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 1:8-14, a new Pharaoh arises who did not know Joseph or his contributions to Egypt. This Pharaoh becomes concerned about the growing population of Israelites and fears that they might become a threat or ally themselves with Egypt's enemies during times of war. To curb their numbers and suppress their potential influence, Pharaoh enslaves the Israelites and imposes harsh labor upon them. He appoints taskmasters over them and forces them into hard labor involving brickmaking and various construction projects.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 1:15-22, despite facing oppression under Egyptian slavery, the Israelite population continues to multiply due to God's blessing upon them. Pharaoh then instructs Hebrew midwives named Shiphrah and Puah to kill all male Hebrew babies at birth while allowing female babies to live. However, these midwives fear God more than Pharaoh's commandment and refuse to carry out his orders. When confronted by Pharaoh for not following his instructions, they cleverly claim that Hebrew women give birth quickly before they can arrive for delivery.

In summary:

Exodus 1 presents:

An overview of Jacob's descendants who migrated to Egypt;

Their multiplication into a numerous people;

Growing concerns of a new Pharaoh regarding their potential threat.

Pharaoh enslaving the Israelites due to fear;

Imposing harsh labor upon them;

Appointing taskmasters over them for control.

Pharaoh ordering Hebrew midwives to kill male babies;

Midwives refusing out of fear for God;

Cleverly deceiving Pharaoh when questioned about their actions.

This chapter sets the stage for future events in Exodus by establishing the oppressive conditions faced by the Israelites under Egyptian rule. It highlights how despite suffering under slavery, God continues to bless His chosen people with growth and prosperity. The resistance shown by Shiphrah and Puah demonstrates acts of courage rooted in faithfulness towards God's commandments even amidst difficult circumstances.

Exodus 1:1 Now these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt; every man and his household came with Jacob.

The names of the Israelites who came into Egypt with Jacob are listed in Exodus 1:1.

1. God remembers every individual, even in the midst of a nation.

2. Our identity is found in God and His covenant with us.

1. Psalm 56:8 - You have recorded my wanderings; put my tears in Your bottle; are they not in Your book?

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Exodus 1:2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah,

The passage talks about the four sons of Jacob: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah.

1. The importance of family and brotherhood

2. The power of faith and perseverance

1. Genesis 49:3-4 Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor, excelling in power.

2. Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Exodus 1:3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin,

The Bible passage discusses the names of the sons of Jacob who were Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the generations of his chosen people.

2: God brings order to the world through his chosen people.

1: Genesis 35:23-26 - The sons of Jacob are listed and blessed by their father.

2: Psalm 78:4-7 - God's faithfulness to generations of people.

Exodus 1:4 Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

The passage mentions four tribes of Israel: Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

1: God's Faithfulness in Uniting His Children Together

2: God's Blessing in the Unity of His People

1: Ephesians 4:3-6 - emphasizing the need for unity among believers in the church

2: Romans 12:5 - stressing the importance of the unity of the body of Christ

Exodus 1:5 And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already.

The passage states that all the souls that descended from Jacob were seventy in total, including Joseph who was already in Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the promise of a nation from Jacob's descendants.

2. Joseph's move to Egypt was part of God's grand plan.

1. Genesis 46:26-27 - All the persons belonging to Jacob who came to Egypt, who were his own direct descendants, not including the wives of Jacob's sons, were sixty-six persons in all.

2. Genesis 12:1-2 - The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you.

Exodus 1:6 And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

Joseph and his entire generation died in the book of Exodus.

1. The Transience of Life: Exploring the brevity of life and the importance of making the most of it.

2. Persevering in the Midst of Suffering: How to stay strong and hopeful in times of difficulty.

1. James 4:14 - "Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going."

Exodus 1:7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

The children of Israel were incredibly successful in growing and multiplying in numbers.

1: God's faithfulness to His people is seen in the abundance of the children of Israel.

2: We should strive to be fruitful and multiply in order to fulfill God's will.

1: Genesis 1:28 - "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it."

2: Psalm 115:14 - "The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children."

Exodus 1:8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

New King Arises in Egypt: This passage describes the situation in which a new king arose in Egypt, one who did not know Joseph.

1: We can learn from this passage that God can use even difficult situations to bring about his will.

2: The Lord can use any situation, no matter how difficult, to bring about his plans and purposes.

1: Romans 8:28, And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 55:8, For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

Exodus 1:9 And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:

The people of Israel were greater in numbers and strength than the Egyptians.

1: God's power is greater than any human power.

2: We should trust in God's strength and not rely on our own.

1: Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2: Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Exodus 1:10 Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

The Israelites were concerned about the growing population of the Egyptians and worried that if there was a war they would join their enemies and fight against them.

1. The importance of wise decisions and the consequences of bad ones.

2. Having faith that God will protect us even in times of uncertainty.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 1:11 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

The Egyptians imposed heavy labor on the Israelites, and forced them to build treasure cities for the Pharaoh.

1. God's grace can help us endure even the most difficult of burdens.

2. We must remain steadfast in our faith, even when faced with overwhelming adversity.

1. Hebrews 12:1-3 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Exodus 1:12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

The Egyptians oppressed the Israelites, yet the more they were afflicted, the larger their population became.

1: God will always protect his people and use the efforts of their oppressors to increase their blessings.

2: We should never give up in the face of adversity as God will use our trials to bring about good for us.

1: Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2: Psalm 37:39, "The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble."

Exodus 1:13 And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

The Egyptians made the Israelites work hard and with great difficulty.

1. God's faithfulness in the midst of hardship

2. The importance of perseverance

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Exodus 1:14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in morter, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

The Israelites were forced to do hard labor, such as making bricks and working in fields, with great severity.

1. The Strength of Endurance: Learning to Persevere in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting in God During Hard Times

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Exodus 1:15 And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah:

The king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah.

1: We can learn from the example of Shiphrah and Puah to be brave and stand up for what is right even when it is difficult.

2: We should trust in God and put our faith in Him, as Shiphrah and Puah did, no matter the consequences.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Exodus 1:16 And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

Pharaoh commanded the Hebrew midwives to kill all baby boys born to the Israelites.

1: We are all made in God's image, and no human should ever be deprived of life due to the will of another.

2: God is sovereign, and no one can thwart His plans.

1: Isaiah 44:24 Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

2: Psalm 139:13 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

Exodus 1:17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

The midwives showed their faith in God by defying the orders of the king of Egypt and saving the male children alive.

1. Standing up for what is right despite opposition

2. Having faith in God even in difficult times

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

2. Acts 5:29 - Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Exodus 1:18 And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive?

The Pharaoh of Egypt called for the midwives and questioned why they had saved the male newborns alive.

1. God s Love for Humanity: A Look at the Midwives of Egypt

2. God s Plan for Life: Examining Pharaoh s Response to the Midwives

1. Hebrews 11:23-29 - The faith of the midwives in God s plan

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - God s blessing on those who fear Him and trust in His ways

Exodus 1:19 And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.

The midwives told Pharaoh that the Hebrew women were not like the Egyptian women, as they were more lively and delivered their babies before the midwives could get to them.

1. God is always with us, even in times of challenge and difficulty.

2. We can be brave and trust in God's strength even in the midst of difficult situations.

1. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 1:20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

God rewarded the midwives for their faithfulness and obedience, leading the people of Israel to grow in numbers and strength.

1: God rewards those who are faithful and obedient.

2: God blesses those who serve Him.

1: James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

2: Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Then the righteous will answer him, Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? And the King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Exodus 1:21 And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.

The midwives feared God so he rewarded them with houses.

1. God rewards those who fear Him.

2. Trust in God and He will bless you.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

Exodus 1:22 And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

Pharaoh ordered that all newborn sons be thrown into the river, while all newborn daughters should be kept alive.

1. The Power of Choice: How Our Decisions Affect Others

2. The Value of Life: Cherishing Every Life as a Gift

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

2. Proverbs 31:8-9 - Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Exodus 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 2:1-4, a Levite man from the house of Levi marries a Levite woman. They have a son and, fearing for his safety due to Pharaoh's decree to kill all Hebrew male babies, they hide him for three months. When they can no longer conceal him, the mother makes a basket and places the baby inside it, setting it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile River.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 2:5-10, Pharaoh's daughter comes to bathe in the river and discovers the basket with the baby. She takes pity on him and recognizes that he is one of the Hebrew children. The baby's sister watches from afar and approaches Pharaoh's daughter, offering to find a Hebrew woman who can nurse and care for the child. Pharaoh's daughter agrees, and unknowingly, Moses' own mother becomes his nursemaid while being paid by Pharaoh's daughter.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 2:11-25, when Moses grows up as an adult, he witnesses an Egyptian taskmaster beating a Hebrew slave. Filled with righteous anger, Moses kills the Egyptian and hides his body in sand. The next day he tries to intervene in a dispute between two Hebrews but is questioned about his actions by one of them who asks if he intends to kill them as he did with the Egyptian. Realizing that news of his deed has spread out already; Moses fears for his life and flees Egypt towards Midian.

In summary:

Exodus 2 presents:

A Levite couple concealing their son from Pharaoh's decree;

Placing him in a basket among reeds by Nile River;

Pharaoh's daughter discovering him and adopting him as her own.

Moses' sister arranging for their mother to become his nursemaid;

Moses growing up under Pharaoh's protection;

Witnessing an Egyptian taskmaster mistreating a Hebrew slave.

Moses killing an Egyptian out of anger;

Fleeing Egypt after being questioned about his actions;

Seeking refuge in Midian due to fear for his life.

This chapter lays important groundwork for Moses' early life before becoming one of Israel's most significant leaders. It highlights God's providence through unlikely circumstances such as Moses being rescued by Pharaoh's daughter despite attempts at infanticide against Hebrew boys. It also foreshadows Moses' future role as deliverer through his righteous indignation towards injustice but also reveals how this act leads him into exile from Egypt where God will eventually call upon him for greater purposes.

Exodus 2:1 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

A man from the house of Levi married a daughter of Levi.

1. The Importance of Godly Marriages

2. Building Strong Family Foundations

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

2. Genesis 2:24 - Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Exodus 2:2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

The woman conceived and bore a son, who was a goodly child, so she hid him for three months.

1: God's protection can be found in unexpected places.

2: God can turn any situation into a blessing.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 27:1 - "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Exodus 2:3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

In order to protect her son, a mother put him in an ark of bulrushes, which she had daubed with slime and pitch, and laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

1. The Unbelievable Strength of a Mother's Love

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Exodus 2:4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

Moses' sister watched from a distance to see what would happen to him.

1. God watches over us in difficult times.

2. We must always trust God, no matter the situation.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Exodus 2:5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

The daughter of Pharaoh discovers Moses' ark among the flags at the river while she was washing herself.

1. Discernment is necessary when faced with unexpected challenges.

2. We must be observant to recognize God's gifts even when they are disguised.

1. Proverbs 2:3-5 - "Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God."

2. Mark 4:24-25 - "And He said to them, Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

Exodus 2:6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

Pharaoh's daughter found a baby in the Nile River and realized he was a Hebrew child. She had compassion on him and chose to care for him.

1: God calls us to show compassion and care for those in need.

2: We all have a place in God's kingdom and He will provide for us.

1: Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

2: James 1:27 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Exodus 2:7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

Moses' sister proposes to Pharaoh's daughter that she should hire a Hebrew nurse for Moses.

1. The importance of family: Moses' sister shows loyalty and care for her brother, even in difficult circumstances.

2. God's provision: Despite their exile, God provides a nurse for Moses through his sister's ingenuity.

1. Genesis 50:20 - "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Exodus 2:8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

Pharaoh's daughter tells the maid to go and call the child's mother.

1. Following God's Will: Examining the Story of Moses

2. The Importance of Obedience in the Bible

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

Exodus 2:9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

Pharaoh's daughter asked a woman to take care of a child, which the woman agreed to do in exchange for wages.

1. God will provide for us in unexpected ways.

2. God will use ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Exodus 2:10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

The story of Moses' birth and adoption by Pharaoh's daughter is told in Exodus 2:10.

1. How God uses the most unlikely people to fulfill His divine plan.

2. The power of faith in the face of great odds.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Exodus 2:11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

Moses saw an Egyptian mistreating one of his fellow Hebrews, and he acted to defend him.

1. The example of Moses: standing up for justice and defending the oppressed.

2. We are all called to be a light in the darkness, just as Moses was.

1. Exodus 2:11 - And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

2. Proverbs 31:8-9 - Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

Exodus 2:12 And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

Moses, in a moment of desperation, kills an Egyptian for mistreating a Hebrew and hides the body in the sand.

1. The Power of Desperation: How to Respond to Life's Challenges

2. The Weight of Responsibility: How to Make Difficult Decisions

1. Genesis 4:8-9 - "And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?"

2. Proverbs 24:17-18 - "Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him."

Exodus 2:13 And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?

Moses witnessed two Hebrews quarreling and asked why the wrongdoer was striking his companion.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Taking a Stand for Peace

2. The Impact of Our Actions: How We Treat Others Matters

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Exodus 2:14 And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

Moses was accused of killing an Egyptian and was questioned about his authority to rule over them.

1: God can work through anyone, regardless of age or experience.

2: God can use our mistakes to work for His glory.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: 1 Peter 4:10 - As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Exodus 2:15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

Moses was forced to flee from Pharaoh due to Pharaoh's attempt to slay him. He escaped to the land of Midian and rested by a well.

1. God delivers us from harm, even when it seems impossible.

2. We can find peace and rest in God's will.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Exodus 2:16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.

The priest of Midian had seven daughters who came to draw water to water their father's flock.

1: In times of adversity, God will provide us with the strength and courage to help those in need - even when it's hard.

2: We are called to serve others and help them in any way we can, no matter the difficulty.

1: Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

2: James 1:27 - "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Exodus 2:17 And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

Moses showed his courage and compassion when he stood up for the daughters of Jethro and helped them water their flock.

1. The Courage of Compassion

2. Standing Up for What is Right

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 - "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

2. 1 John 3:16-18 - "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

Exodus 2:18 And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day?

Reuel asked his daughters why they had returned so soon from the well.

1. God s Timing is Perfect: Reuel s surprise teaches us to trust in God s perfect timing.

2. Trust in God: Reuel s response reminds us to put our trust in God s plan.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Exodus 2:19 And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.

An Egyptian had saved the Israelites from the shepherds and had provided enough water for them and their flock.

1. The Lord Works in Mysterious Ways

2. God's Protection and Provision

1. Isaiah 43:2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Exodus 2:20 And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread.

Moses' daughters tell him about a stranger they found at the well and ask him to invite the stranger to eat with them.

1. The Power of Inviting Others In

2. Welcoming the Stranger with Hospitality

1. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2. Luke 14:12-14 - Then Jesus said to him, When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.

Exodus 2:21 And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.

Moses agreed to live with the man and the man gave Moses his daughter, Zipporah, in marriage.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Moses Found Love in a Foreign Land

2. The Significance of Covenant Relationships: A Look at Moses and Zipporah's Marriage

1. Ruth 1:16-17 But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

2. Hebrews 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Exodus 2:22 And she bare him a son, and he called his name Gershom: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land.

God's love is expressed in allowing us to be strangers in a strange land, and in giving us strength to keep going.

1: God's Love is Unconditional

2: The Strength to Persevere in Difficult Times

1: Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 1 John 4:7-8 - Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Exodus 2:23 And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

The children of Israel were in bondage and their cries for help reached God.

1. God hears the cries of those in bondage.

2. God delivers those in bondage.

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Exodus 2:24 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

God hears and remembers the suffering of His people.

1. God is a compassionate and generous God who will never forget us in our suffering.

2. We can trust in God's promises even when our circumstances seem dire.

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Psalm 34:17-18 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Exodus 2:25 And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

God showed compassion towards the children of Israel by looking upon them favorably.

1: We should not be discouraged in our faith, for God looks upon us with love and compassion.

2: We should always seek to emulate God's love and show compassion to our fellow man.

1: 1 John 4:11-12 "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."

2: Romans 12:15 "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

Exodus 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 3:1-6, Moses, who has been living in Midian, tends to his father-in-law Jethro's flock near Horeb, the mountain of God. As he leads the flock to the far side of the wilderness, he encounters a remarkable sight a burning bush that is not consumed by the fire. Moses turns aside to investigate this strange phenomenon when suddenly God speaks to him from within the bush. The Lord identifies Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and instructs Moses to remove his sandals because he is standing on holy ground.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 3:7-15, God reveals His compassion for His people who are suffering under Egyptian oppression. He tells Moses that He has heard their cries and is aware of their affliction. Therefore, He plans to deliver them from Egypt and bring them into a land flowing with milk and honey the land promised to their ancestors. God declares that He will send Moses as His chosen instrument to confront Pharaoh and lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 3:16-22, God provides specific instructions for Moses regarding how he should approach Pharaoh and what message he should deliver. He assures Moses that Pharaoh will not let them go easily but will require demonstrations of divine power before relenting. Furthermore, God promises that through these events, Egypt will be plundered by Israelites as they depart from slavery. Additionally, Moses learns that when he brings the people out of Egypt, they are to worship God at Mount Horeb.

In summary:

Exodus 3 presents:

Moses encountering a burning bush on Mount Horeb;

God speaking from within the bush;

Moses being instructed to remove his sandals due to holy ground.

God expressing compassion for His oppressed people;

Revealing plans for their deliverance from Egypt;

Appointing Moses as His chosen leader for this task.

Specific instructions given regarding confronting Pharaoh;

Assurance of divine power backing up their demands;

Promise of plundering Egypt upon departure;

Commandment for future worship at Mount Horeb.

This chapter marks a significant turning point in Moses' life as he encounters God's presence through the burning bush experience. It establishes his calling as a leader who will confront Pharaoh on behalf of Israelites' liberation from slavery in Egypt. The compassionate nature of God towards His people is highlighted along with promises concerning their future inheritance and victorious departure from Egypt through miraculous signs and wonders. Exodus 3 sets in motion key events leading towards Israel's eventual exodus under divine guidance.

Exodus 3:1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

Moses leads Jethro's flock to the mountain of God.

1. The importance of trusting God's will, even when it takes us to unexpected places.

2. The power of faith in guiding us through difficult times.

1. Psalm 121:1-2 - "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

Exodus 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

The angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in a burning bush.

1: The Burning Bush: Trusting in God's Protection

2: Seeing the Unseen: When God Appears in the Ordinary

1: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Hebrews 11:23-29 - By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

Exodus 3:3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

Moses encounters a bush burning without being consumed and decides to investigate.

1. The Power of God: Examining the Miracles of the Bible

2. Unusual Encounters: Moses and the Burning Bush

1. Exodus 3:3

2. Hebrews 11:23-29 (By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict.)

Exodus 3:4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

Moses is called by God from a burning bush.

1. God calls us out of our comfort zone to do His will.

2. God is with us in the midst of our afflictions.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 6:28-30 - "And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"

Exodus 3:5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

This passage speaks of the holiness of the ground on which Moses stands, and God's command to Moses to remove his shoes.

1. A Call to Holiness: Learning to Respect Sacred Spaces

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commands Even When We Don't Understand

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - The Vision of Isaiah in the Temple

2. Numbers 20:8 - Moses Striking the Rock at Meribah

Exodus 3:6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

Moses is reminded by God of His promise to the Fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and Moses is in awe of God, so much so that he is afraid to look upon Him.

1. The Promises of God - He is faithful and true to His word

2. The Reverence of God - Showing respect and fear of the Almighty

1. Isaiah 41:8 "But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend"

2. 2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, not by sight"

Exodus 3:7 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

God sees the affliction of His people in Egypt and hears their cries due to their mistreatment. He is aware of their sorrows.

1. God Sees All: The Comfort of Knowing God Is Aware of Our Struggles

2. The Power of Crying Out: Relying on God in Times of Trouble

1. Romans 8:26-27 - Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 3:8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

God has come down to deliver the Israelites from the Egyptians and to bring them to a land flowing with milk and honey, which is the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.

1. God's protection and provision: trusting in the Lord's deliverance

2. God's promise of a land of abundance: the hope of the future

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-10 - For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Exodus 3:9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

The Lord sees the suffering of the Israelites and their oppression by the Egyptians.

1. The Lord Sees: Learning to Lean on God for Help

2. Oppression: Understanding Our Responsibility to Stand with the Oppressed

1. Isaiah 58:6-12

2. Psalm 82:3-4

Exodus 3:10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

God has called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

1: We can trust in God's plan even when it seems impossible.

2: When God calls us, we should respond in obedience.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 3:11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

Moses felt inadequate for the task that God had given him and asked for guidance.

1: God can use anyone to do His will, no matter how inadequate they may feel.

2: We can have confidence in God's promises when we feel inadequate.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Exodus 3:12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

God promised to be with Moses when he led the people out of Egypt and into service of God on the mountain.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises

2. The importance of remembering and honoring God's faithfulness

1. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Exodus 3:13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

Moses encounters God and asks what name he should use when speaking to the Israelites.

1. God's Identity: Knowing Who We Worship

2. Revealing Our Lord's Name: Knowing Our God

1. Deuteronomy 6:4: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

2. Isaiah 40:28: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

Exodus 3:14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

God reveals Himself to Moses as the divine, self-existent, and eternal being.

1. The Unchanging Nature of God

2. The Source of Our Strength and Confidence

1. Isaiah 40:28 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth."

2. John 8:58 - "Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.

Exodus 3:15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

God told Moses to tell the Israelites that He, the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, had sent him and that His name would be forever remembered.

1. The Everlasting Name of the Lord: A Study of Exodus 3:15

2. The Lord God of Our Fathers: An Exploration of Divine Legacy

1. Romans 4:17 - As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

Exodus 3:16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

The LORD God of the fathers of Israel appeared to Moses, informing him of the suffering of the Israelites in Egypt.

1. The Lord is always with us in our suffering, providing us hope and comfort.

2. We must always remember the Lord's promise of deliverance and rely on His faithfulness.

1. Psalm 34:17-19 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Exodus 3:17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

God is faithful to His promises, even in the midst of a difficult situation.

1: God's Promises in Difficult Times

2: God's Faithfulness Through Affliction

1: Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you"

2: Psalm 91:15 - "He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him."

Exodus 3:18 And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

Moses and the elders of Israel go to the king of Egypt to ask him to let them go on a three day journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the Lord.

1. God's Call to Obedience - Exodus 3:18

2. Listening to the Voice of God - Exodus 3:18

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

Exodus 3:19 And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand.

God informs Moses that the Pharaoh of Egypt will not allow the Israelites to leave, even with a strong hand.

1. God is Sovereign: How to Respond When We Don't Understand His Plans

2. The Power of God Overcomes All Circumstances

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose... I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Exodus 3:20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.

God will punish and protect His people.

1: We can trust God to protect us and to exact justice against those who oppose us.

2: God's power is infinite and can be seen in the wondrous things He does.

1: Deuteronomy 7:8 - "The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people."

2: Romans 8:37-39 - "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Exodus 3:21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty:

God will provide for His people and give them favor in the eyes of others.

1: No matter the situation, God will always provide for us.

2: God can give us favor in the eyes of others, if we trust in Him.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Genesis 39:21 But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Exodus 3:22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

God commands the Israelites to take silver, gold, and clothing from the Egyptians as they leave Egypt.

1. The Lord Provides: Learning to Trust God in Times of Need

2. Generosity of the Lord: Giving What We Have to Others

1. Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. Proverbs 22:7 The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

Exodus 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 4:1-9, Moses expresses doubt and reluctance to fulfill his role as God's chosen leader. He raises concerns about his credibility and ability to persuade the Israelites and Pharaoh. To address Moses' doubts, God demonstrates His power by turning Moses' staff into a serpent and then back into a staff. Additionally, God instructs Moses to put his hand inside his cloak, which becomes leprous, and then restores it to health. These signs are meant to assure Moses that God will equip him with miraculous abilities as evidence of His presence.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 4:10-17, Moses continues to resist God's call due to feeling inadequate in speech. He claims that he is not eloquent or persuasive enough for the task at hand. In response, God reassures Moses by reminding him that He is the one who gives people their abilities including speech and promises to be with him as he speaks. Furthermore, God appoints Aaron, Moses' brother, as a spokesperson for him when addressing both the Israelites and Pharaoh.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 4:18-31, after receiving these assurances from God, Moses returns to Jethro his father-in-law and requests permission to return to Egypt. Jethro grants his request and bids him farewell. Along with his wife Zipporah and their sons, Moses sets out on the journey back to Egypt carrying the staff of God in his hand. On their way, an incident occurs where Zipporah circumcises their son due to neglecting this important covenant practice earlier. Eventually, they reach Egypt where Aaron meets them according to God's instruction. Together they gather the elders of Israel and perform signs before them as evidence of their divine commission.

In summary:

Exodus 4 presents:

Moses expressing doubt about fulfilling his role;

God demonstrating His power through miraculous signs;

Assurance of equipping Moses for leadership.

Moses voicing concerns about inadequate speech;

God reassuring Him of His presence;

Appointment of Aaron as a spokesperson.

Moses obtaining permission from Jethro;

Journeying back towards Egypt with family;

Performing signs before the elders of Israel upon arrival.

This chapter reveals both human doubts and divine reassurances regarding Moses' leadership role in delivering Israel from slavery in Egypt. It emphasizes how God addresses each concern raised by providing tangible demonstrations of His power through miraculous signs performed by Moses himself or through objects like the staff. The appointment of Aaron serves not only as support but also highlights teamwork within this mission entrusted by God. Exodus 4 sets the stage for further encounters between Moses, Pharaoh, and the subsequent liberation events that will unfold throughout Exodus.

Exodus 4:1 And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

Moses expresses his fear that the Israelites will not believe or listen to him, as they will say that the Lord has not appeared to him.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting in the Promises of God in Times of Doubt

2. The Test of Obedience: Responding to God s Call in Spite of Fear

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Exodus 4:2 And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

God asked Moses what was in his hand, and Moses replied that it was a rod.

1: God calls us to use the resources we already have to do His work.

2: God puts us in the position to do the best we can with what we have.

1: Matthew 25:14-30 - The Parable of the Talents.

2: Luke 16:10 - The Parable of the Faithful Steward.

Exodus 4:3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

Moses encountered a strange event when God commanded him to throw his staff to the ground, which then turned into a serpent.

1. God's power is greater than anything we can imagine.

2. God calls us to trust Him even when faced with the unknown.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Exodus 4:4 And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand:

God instructed Moses to take a serpent by its tail, which turned into a rod in Moses' hand.

1. Faith in God can bring transformation in our lives.

2. God has the power to do the impossible.

1. Matthew 17:20 - He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Luke 1:37 - For nothing is impossible with God.

Exodus 4:5 That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

God appeared to Moses to prove to the Israelites that He is the same God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How His Covenant to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is Fulfilled

2. The Power of God: How He Reveals Himself to His People

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2. Romans 4:17 - "As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations, before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."

Exodus 4:6 And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.

The Lord instructed Moses to put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, his hand had become leprous, white as snow.

1. The Power of God: Exploring the Miraculous Transformation of Moses' Hand

2. The Benefits of Obedience: How Following the Lord's Commands Can Lead to Miracles

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

2. John 5:19-20 - "So Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing."

Exodus 4:7 And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.

God instructed Moses to put his hand back in his bosom, and when he did, it was healed.

1: God is capable of restoring us completely, even when we feel broken.

2: We can trust in the Lord's healing power to make us whole again.

1: Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

2: Luke 5:17 - "On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal."

Exodus 4:8 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.

God promised Moses that if the Israelites did not believe the first sign, they would believe the second.

1. How God's Faithful Promises Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. The Power of Signs and Wonders in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 4:17-21 - (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

Exodus 4:9 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

God tells Moses that if the Pharaoh does not believe in the two signs, he should take water from the river and pour it onto the dry land, and it will become blood.

1. The Power of the Lord- Exploring the Miraculous Signs of God in Exodus

2. When God's Word is Ignored- Exploring the Consequences of Rejecting God's Commands

1. Psalm 78:43- How He had worked His signs in Egypt and His wonders in the field of Zoan.

2. Numbers 14:22- Because all those men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have tempted Me these ten times, and have not hearkened to My voice.

Exodus 4:10 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my LORD, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

Moses expresses his lack of eloquence to the Lord, claiming he is slow of speech and of a slow tongue.

1. God Works Through Our Weaknesses

2. Embracing Our Uniqueness In God's Service

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Exodus 4:11 And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

God reminds Moses of his power and authority over all of creation, including the ability to make the dumb, deaf, seeing, and blind.

1. We can trust in God's power and authority over all things.

2. We can be confident in God's presence even in the most difficult situations.

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Exodus 4:12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

God tells Moses that He will be with him and teach him what to say.

1. Hearing God's Voice - How to Discern God's Will in Our Lives

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Situations

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Exodus 4:13 And he said, O my LORD, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

Moses requests that God sends someone to help him in his prophetic mission.

1. Our faith in God should be unwavering in times of difficulty.

2. We should trust in God to provide us with help in our mission.

1. James 1:5-8 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Exodus 33:14-15 - And he said, My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. And he said to him, If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.

Exodus 4:14 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

Moses was not being obedient to God's commands, and as a result the Lord's anger was kindled against him.

1. Obeying God's commands is an act of love and faith.

2. Being disobedient to God's commands can lead to anger and disappointment.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Isaiah 1:19 - If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.

Exodus 4:15 And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

God tells Moses to speak to Pharaoh and will help him to do so by providing the words to him and teaching Moses what to do.

1. The Power of God's Guidance - how God can provide direction and help us through difficult situations

2. Obeying God's Commands - how Moses was willing to obey God's call despite his fear and hesitation

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Romans 10:13-15 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Exodus 4:16 And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

God appointed Moses as his spokesperson to the people of Israel.

1. God entrusts us with important tasks

2. Faith in God will help us to accomplish anything

1. Jeremiah 1:7-9 - "But the Lord said to me, Do not say, I am only a youth ; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? And I said, Here am I! Send me.

Exodus 4:17 And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

This passage from Exodus 4:17 emphasizes the power of God, as Moses is instructed to use a rod as a sign of God's authority.

1. The Power of God: Understanding the Miraculous Signs of Exodus

2. The Staff of Moses: A Symbol of God's Authority

1. John 6:63 - It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all.

2. James 5:17 - Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

Exodus 4:18 And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which are in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.

Moses returns to his father-in-law's house and is granted permission to go back to his people in Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in Moses' reunion with his father-in-law, Jethro.

2. Through our loved ones, God grants us peace in times of turmoil.

1. Romans 5:1 - "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Exodus 4:19 And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life.

Moses was told to return to Egypt as the people who sought his life had died.

1. Faithfulness Rewarded: The Story of Moses

2. Perseverance in the Face of Adversity: The Story of Moses

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

Exodus 4:20 And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

Moses returns to Egypt with his family and the rod of God in his hand.

1. The Power of Obedience: How following God's commands brings us closer to Him.

2. The Importance of Family: How standing together can help us in our struggles.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Exodus 4:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.

God instructs Moses to perform the wonders He has given him before Pharaoh, but warns that Pharaoh's heart will be hardened so that he will not let the people go.

1. God is Sovereign Over Our Circumstances

2. The Power of Obedience in the Face of Opposition

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

2. Romans 8:28-29 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Exodus 4:22 And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:

God declaring that Israel is His son, even His firstborn.

1. The Love of a Father: Understanding God's Relationship with Israel

2. The Covenant of a Father: God's Promises to His People

1. Romans 9:4-5, "They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever."

2. Deuteronomy 7:6-8, "For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

Exodus 4:23 And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.

God commands Pharaoh to let His chosen people go.

1. The Power of Obedience: Why God Rewards Those Who Follow His Commandments

2. The Cost of Disobedience: What Happens When We Refuse to Obey God

1. Romans 6:16-17 - "Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Matthew 7:21-23 - "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"

Exodus 4:24 And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.

The LORD encountered Moses while he was traveling and sought to kill him.

1. The Power of God's Grace: How God Protects us in Unexpected Ways

2. Unfailing Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 5:20-21 - But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Exodus 4:25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband art thou to me.

Zipporah circumcises her son to protect her husband Moses from God's wrath.

1. The importance of obedience to God in marriage.

2. The strength and dedication of a mother's love.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Submission, Love, and Respect in Marriage.

2. Proverbs 31:25-31 - The Virtuous Woman and her Love for her Family.

Exodus 4:26 So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision.

The passage is about God allowing Moses to go after his wife performed circumcision on their son.

1: God's grace is greater than our mistakes.

2: Circumcision is a symbol of God's covenant with us.

1: Romans 5:20-21 - "But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

2: Galatians 6:15 - "For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything!"

Exodus 4:27 And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.

The LORD instructed Aaron to go into the wilderness to meet Moses, which he did, and they embraced when they met.

1. God is in the business of bringing people together and reuniting relationships.

2. A kiss is a powerful expression of love, acceptance, and joy.

1. Luke 15:20-24 - The Parable of the Lost Son.

2. Romans 12:9-10 - Love in Action.

Exodus 4:28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

Moses relayed the Lord's words and signs to Aaron.

1. Keeping God's Word: The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. Courage and Obedience: Following God's Directions Despite Fear

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13 - Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.

Exodus 4:29 And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

Moses and Aaron gathered the leaders of the Israelites.

1. The importance of leadership in the church

2. Gathering everyone together in unity

1. Isaiah 12:3-4 - With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation

2. Colossians 3:14-15 - And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity

Exodus 4:30 And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

Aaron spoke all the words that the Lord had spoken to Moses and performed the signs in front of the people.

1. We must be willing to follow God's direction no matter the cost.

2. It is important to obey God even when it is difficult and uncomfortable.

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

2. John 8:31-32 - To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Exodus 4:31 And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

The people of Israel believed in God and worshipped Him after hearing of His visit to the land and seeing His compassion for their affliction.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trouble

2. The Blessing of Worshiping a Loving God

1. Psalm 33:18-19 - "Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine."

2. Isaiah 25:1 - "O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure."

Exodus 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 5:1-9, Moses and Aaron approach Pharaoh to request that he allows the Israelites to go into the wilderness to hold a feast and worship their God. However, Pharaoh responds defiantly and refuses their request. He questions their motives and accuses them of trying to distract the people from their work. Instead, Pharaoh increases the workload on the Israelites by demanding that they continue producing bricks without providing them with straw the essential material for brickmaking. This intensified labor causes great distress among the Israelites who are unable to meet Pharaoh's demands.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 5:10-21, as a result of Pharaoh's harsh decree, the taskmasters and foremen appointed over the Israelite workers begin pressuring them to meet impossible quotas. The Israelites complain bitterly against Moses and Aaron for bringing this trouble upon them. They feel oppressed by both Pharaoh's decree and their own people being set over them as taskmasters. Moses himself is disheartened by this response from his own people but turns to God in prayer, questioning why He allowed such suffering without delivering His people.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 5:22-23, Moses expresses his frustration and disappointment before God. He questions why God has not rescued His people despite promising deliverance. Moses feels that since he confronted Pharaoh at God's command, things have only worsened for the Israelites instead of improving. However, despite his doubts and complaints, Moses still acknowledges his dependence on God by seeking answers from Him.

In summary:

Exodus 5 presents:

Moses and Aaron requesting permission for worship;

Pharaoh defiantly refusing their request;

Increasing workload on Israelites without providing straw.

Taskmasters pressuring workers due to increased quotas;

Israelites complaining against Moses and Aaron;

Moses turning to God in prayer amid disappointment.

Moses expressing frustration before God;

Questioning why deliverance has not occurred;

Acknowledging dependence on God despite doubts.

This chapter showcases an escalation of tension between Moses, Aaron representing the Israelites' desire for freedom from slavery and Pharaoh symbolizing oppressive authority resulting in increased hardship for the enslaved nation of Israel. It highlights how initial hopes for liberation are met with resistance from those in power while causing disillusionment among both leaders like Moses as well as among ordinary Hebrews who suffer under intensified oppression. Despite these challenges, Exodus 5 also demonstrates how faith is tested through doubt but remains anchored in seeking answers from God amidst adversity.

Exodus 5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and told him that the LORD God of Israel commands him to let the Hebrew people go in order to celebrate a feast for Him in the wilderness.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Command

2. The Blessings of Celebrating Feasts for the LORD

1. Acts 5:29 - "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

2. Leviticus 23:43 - "That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

Exodus 5:2 And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Pharaoh refuses to acknowledge God's authority and commands and refuses to let the Israelites go.

1. Do not be like Pharaoh, who refused to recognize and obey God's authority.

2. God's authority should be respected and obeyed, even when it goes against our own desires.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

2. Daniel 3:16-18 - "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king."

Exodus 5:3 And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest he fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.

The Hebrews told Pharaoh that their God had met with them and asked Pharaoh to allow them to go on a three-day journey into the desert to sacrifice to their God, lest He punish them with pestilence or the sword.

1. Learning to Trust in the Lord: The story of the Hebrews in Exodus 5:3

2. The Power of Faith: How the Hebrews overcame fear and trusted in God

1. Exodus 5:3

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

Exodus 5:4 And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens.

The Pharaoh orders Moses and Aaron to get the people back to their work and burdens.

1. Be Faithful in Your Work - 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

2. Have Compassion for Others - Luke 10:25-37

1. Exodus 1:13-14

2. Matthew 11:28-30

Exodus 5:5 And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now are many, and ye make them rest from their burdens.

Pharaoh acknowledges the growing number of people in the land and tells the people to rest from their burdens.

1. Finding Rest in Our Burdens - Exodus 5:5

2. Relying on God in Times of Plenty - Exodus 5:5

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 5:6 And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying,

Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters and their officers to oppress the people of Israel.

1. We must not let ourselves be overcome by evil, but instead stand up to injustice and oppression.

2. Even when we are being treated unfairly, we must remain humble and faithful to God's Word.

1. Romans 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Exodus 5:7 Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves.

Pharaoh has commanded the Israelites to no longer provide straw for the bricks they are required to make, and instead they must gather it themselves.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Even when Life Seems Hard

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on not worrying

2. Romans 8:28 - God's work in all circumstances

Exodus 5:8 And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish ought thereof: for they be idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go and sacrifice to our God.

The people of Israel are being asked to make bricks without reducing their quota, even though they are idle and wish to go sacrifice to God.

1. Working for God is not a burden, but a blessing.

2. Even in the midst of difficulty, our faith should remain strong.

1. Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.

2. Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Exodus 5:9 Let there more work be laid upon the men, that they may labour therein; and let them not regard vain words.

God commanded Moses to demand more work from the Israelites in order to prevent them from listening to false words.

1. The Power of Words: Reflecting on Exodus 5:9

2. Be Careful What You Listen To: A Study of Exodus 5:9

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Proverbs 10:19 - When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Exodus 5:10 And the taskmasters of the people went out, and their officers, and they spake to the people, saying, Thus saith Pharaoh, I will not give you straw.

The taskmasters of Pharaoh commanded the people to do their work without providing straw for their bricks.

1. God is with us in the midst of trials and tribulations.

2. God calls us to do our best work even when the task seems impossible.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 5:11 Go ye, get you straw where ye can find it: yet not ought of your work shall be diminished.

The Israelites were instructed to go and gather straw for their work, though their workload would not be reduced.

1. God's grace never diminishes hard work

2. Working hard despite discouraging circumstances

1. Ephesians 4:28 - Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 - And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

Exodus 5:12 So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble instead of straw.

The people of Israel were dispersed throughout Egypt to collect stubble instead of straw.

1. God will use any situation to accomplish His will.

2. The power of obedience in the face of adversity.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 5:13 And the taskmasters hasted them, saying, Fulfil your works, your daily tasks, as when there was straw.

The taskmasters in Exodus 5:13 pressed the Israelites to complete their daily tasks without providing them with straw.

1. God provides strength for us in our daily tasks.

2. We must remain diligent in our work, even when it seems impossible.

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 5:14 And the officers of the children of Israel, which Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and demanded, Wherefore have ye not fulfilled your task in making brick both yesterday and to day, as heretofore?

The officers of the children of Israel, appointed by Pharaoh's taskmasters, were beaten for not fulfilling the task of making bricks.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Working Through Difficulties

2. The Promises of God: Trusting in His Unfailing Love

1. Hebrews 12:1-3 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Exodus 5:15 Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried unto Pharaoh, saying, Wherefore dealest thou thus with thy servants?

Pharaoh's unjust treatment of the Israelites is condemned.

1. God does not condone the unfair treatment of others.

2. We must always strive to do what is right, even when those in positions of power do not.

1. James 2:12-13 - Speak and act as those who are to be judged by the law that gives freedom. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2. Matthew 7:12 - So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Exodus 5:16 There is no straw given unto thy servants, and they say to us, Make brick: and, behold, thy servants are beaten; but the fault is in thine own people.

The people of Israel were being mistreated and beaten for not having enough straw to make bricks.

1: We should not mistreat others, but instead show compassion and understanding, as it was not the people of Israel's fault.

2: We should not give up when faced with adversity, as the people of Israel kept going even when they were being mistreated.

1: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2: Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Exodus 5:17 But he said, Ye are idle, ye are idle: therefore ye say, Let us go and do sacrifice to the LORD.

The Israelites were accused of being idle and encouraged to go and do sacrifice to the Lord.

1. The importance of using our time to serve God.

2. The power of our actions and attitudes in serving God.

1. Ephesians 5:15-16 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Exodus 5:18 Go therefore now, and work; for there shall no straw be given you, yet shall ye deliver the tale of bricks.

Summarized Passage: The Pharaoh orders the Israelites to work without straw but still deliver the same amount of bricks.

1. The Power of Perseverance - How we can overcome adversity through faith in God.

2. Working in Adversity - Learning to work with what we have, no matter the situation.

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Exodus 5:19 And the officers of the children of Israel did see that they were in evil case, after it was said, Ye shall not minish ought from your bricks of your daily task.

The officers of the children of Israel were in a difficult situation when they were told not to reduce the amount of bricks they had to make each day.

1. When we are in difficult situations, we can find strength through faith in God.

2. Even when times are tough, we can remain resilient and complete our tasks with a positive attitude.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 5:20 And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh:

The Israelites encountered Moses and Aaron as they left Pharaoh.

1. The Lord will send help in our time of need.

2. We can rely on God to provide us with strength and guidance.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Exodus 5:21 And they said unto them, The LORD look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.

The Israelites were suffering due to Pharaoh's harshness and lack of compassion and asked God to judge him.

1. God is a just judge and will always uphold justice for the oppressed.

2. Compassion and mercy are key components of God's kingdom and should be displayed in our lives.

1. Exodus 5:21 - The LORD look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.

2. Psalm 9:7-8 - But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

Exodus 5:22 And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, LORD, wherefore hast thou so evil entreated this people? why is it that thou hast sent me?

Moses questioned God about why his people were suffering.

1: God is always in control and is present in times of suffering.

2: We must trust God and rely on Him in times of difficulty.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: John 16:33 - I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

Exodus 5:23 For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he hath done evil to this people; neither hast thou delivered thy people at all.

Pharaoh had done evil to the people of Israel despite God's command to let them go, and God had not yet delivered them.

1. The Power of Faith in Unfavorable Circumstances

2. Trusting in God's Timing

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 6:1-9, God reassures Moses of His power and His faithfulness to fulfill His promises. He declares Himself as the Lord who appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob but was not fully known by them through the name "Yahweh." God affirms that He has heard the groaning of the Israelites under their oppression in Egypt and is determined to deliver them from bondage. He promises to bring them into the land He swore to give to their ancestors as an inheritance. Despite Moses' initial doubts, God reaffirms his role as a leader and instructs him to go before Pharaoh once again.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 6:10-13, Moses expresses his own reservations about speaking before Pharaoh due to his own "uncircumcised lips." However, God insists that both Moses and Aaron are chosen for this task and reiterates His command for them to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. The genealogy of Moses and Aaron is also given here, tracing their lineage back to Levi.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 6:14-30, a detailed genealogical account is provided concerning various family lines within the tribes of Reuben, Simeon, Levi (including Kohath), Gershon (son of Levi), Merari (son of Levi), Aaron's descendants through Eleazar and Ithamar highlighting key figures among Israelite leadership. Additionally, it mentions that it was Aaron who spoke on behalf of Moses when they confronted Pharaoh.

In summary:

Exodus 6 presents:

God assuring Moses of His power and faithfulness;

Revealing Himself as Yahweh;

Promising deliverance from Egyptian oppression;

Affirming Moses' role as a leader.

Moses expressing doubts about speaking before Pharaoh;

God insisting on both Moses' and Aaron's roles;

Reiterating command for their mission.

Detailed genealogical account highlighting key figures within tribes;

Emphasizing leadership roles among Israelites.

Mentioning Aaron's involvement in confronting Pharaoh.

This chapter emphasizes God's unwavering commitment towards delivering the Israelites from slavery despite initial setbacks or doubts expressed by both Moses and Aaron. It reveals more about God's nature through His self-revelation using the name "Yahweh" while reinforcing His covenantal promises made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The inclusion of genealogical details underscores the importance of lineage within Hebrew society while highlighting significant figures who would play pivotal roles in leading Israel out of Egypt. Exodus 6 sets the stage for further confrontations between Moses, Aaron and Pharaoh while solidifying their divine mandate among their people.

Exodus 6:1 Then the LORD said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land.

Moses was told by God that Pharaoh would have to let the Israelites go with a strong hand and be driven out of Egypt.

1. Letting Go of Control: How to Surrender to God

2. Unwavering Faith: Recognizing God's Strength

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Exodus 6:2 And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the LORD:

God reassures Moses that He is the Lord.

1. Embrace God's Love and Faithfulness in Times of Doubt

2. Experiencing God's Presence Through His Promises

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Exodus 6:3 And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.

God revealed himself to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob by the name of God Almighty, but not by name Jehovah.

1. The Importance of Knowing God's Name

2. God's Sovereignty in Revealing Himself

1. Exodus 3:14-15, "God said to Moses, I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I am has sent me to you.

2. Genesis 17:1-8, When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.

Exodus 6:4 And I have also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, wherein they were strangers.

God established a covenant with His people to give them the land of Canaan as a home.

1: God's Promise of Home - Romans 8:15-17

2: God's Covenant Faithfulness - Psalm 89:34

1: Hebrews 11:9-10

2: Jeremiah 29:10-14

Exodus 6:5 And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant.

God heard the groaning of the children of Israel, who were kept in bondage by the Egyptians, and He remembered His covenant.

1. God Is Always Listening - How God's covenant and care for His people should encourage us to come to Him in our times of distress.

2. Bondage to Freedom - How God has the power to free us from any bondage and bring us into a place of freedom.

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 54:10 - For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Exodus 6:6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments:

God promised to free the Israelites from the slavery of the Egyptians and to redeem them with his powerful arm and great judgments.

1. God's Power to Redeem: The Story of the Israelites

2. The Strength of God's Promises: A Study in Exodus 6:6

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

Exodus 6:7 And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

God promises the Israelites that He will be their God and will free them from their oppression.

1. God is our Deliverer and Savior, who will always provide us with freedom and hope.

2. Our trust in the Lord will enable us to overcome any obstacle and difficulty in life.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Exodus 6:8 And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I am the LORD.

God promised to bring the Israelites to the promised land and give it to them as an inheritance.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2. Obedience to God brings rewards.

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-13 - Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee.

2. Joshua 21:43-45 - And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein. And the LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand. There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.

Exodus 6:9 And Moses spake so unto the children of Israel: but they hearkened not unto Moses for anguish of spirit, and for cruel bondage.

Moses spoke to the Israelites, but they were too discouraged by their harsh slavery to listen.

1. Don't Lose Hope in Difficult Times

2. Have Faith in God Amidst Suffering

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Exodus 6:10 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. God's guidance and the importance of listening.

2. How to be obedient to God's will.

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

2. James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

Exodus 6:11 Go in, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.

This passage from the Bible instructs Moses to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go free.

1. God's Deliverance of His People: How God's Love and Grace Provide Escape from Oppression

2. Obeying God's Commands: The Power of Obedience and How It Brings Freedom

1. John 8:36 - "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed"

2. Isaiah 61:1 - "The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners."

Exodus 6:12 And Moses spake before the LORD, saying, Behold, the children of Israel have not hearkened unto me; how then shall Pharaoh hear me, who am of uncircumcised lips?

Moses questioning God's ability to help him communicate with Pharaoh.

1: God is capable of doing the impossible.

2: Trust in the Lord, even when the odds are against you.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Exodus 6:13 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, and gave them a charge unto the children of Israel, and unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

Passage Summarization: God commanded Moses and Aaron to bring the Israelites out of Egypt.

1. God's call to fulfill His mission.

2. Go and be brave in the face of Pharaoh.

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 6:14 These be the heads of their fathers' houses: The sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel; Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi: these be the families of Reuben.

This passage from Exodus 6:14 lists the four families of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel.

1. God's Plan for Our Lives: A Study of the Sons of Reuben

2. Honoring Our Forefathers: The Legacy of Reuben and His Sons

1. Genesis 49:3-4 - "Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch."

2. Matthew 1:1-2 - "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren."

Exodus 6:15 And the sons of Simeon; Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman: these are the families of Simeon.

This verse in Exodus mentions the sons and family of Simeon.

1. "The Importance of Family"

2. "A Faithful Son of God: Simeon"

1. Genesis 35:23-26 (The sons of Jacob, including Simeon)

2. Psalm 78:67-71 (God's faithfulness to his people, including Simeon)

Exodus 6:16 And these are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations; Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari: and the years of the life of Levi were an hundred thirty and seven years.

This verse provides the names of the three sons of Levi and the length of his life.

1. The life of Levi: a lesson in faithfulness

2. The importance of honoring our ancestors

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - What does the Lord require of you?

2. Exodus 12:37-42 - The journey of the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land.

Exodus 6:17 The sons of Gershon; Libni, and Shimi, according to their families.

This passage outlines the two sons of Gershon, Libni and Shimi.

1. The importance of knowing our family lineage.

2. The significance of honoring our ancestors.

1. Romans 11:29 - "For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable."

2. Psalm 105:6 - "O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!"

Exodus 6:18 And the sons of Kohath; Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel: and the years of the life of Kohath were an hundred thirty and three years.

Kohath had four sons: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. He lived to be 133 years old.

1. God's Faithfulness: The Story of Kohath

2. The Blessing of a Long Life

1. Psalm 90:10: "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty;"

2. Deuteronomy 4:30: "When you are in tribulation, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, you will return to the Lord your God and obey His voice."

Exodus 6:19 And the sons of Merari; Mahali and Mushi: these are the families of Levi according to their generations.

This passage describes the families of Levi, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, according to their generations.

1. The Importance of Keeping Family Traditions

2. The Significance of the 12 tribes of Israel

1. Deuteronomy 10:9 - Therefore, Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers; the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God told him.

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Exodus 6:20 And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years.

Amram married his father's sister, Jochebed, and they had two sons, Aaron and Moses. Amram lived for 137 years.

1. The Power of Faithful Marriage - Using the example of Amram and Jochebed, we can see the power of a faithful marriage.

2. The Strength of Family - Amram and Jochebed's marriage is a reminder of the strength of family, even in difficult times.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church.

2. Colossians 3:12-17 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Exodus 6:21 And the sons of Izhar; Korah, and Nepheg, and Zichri.

This verse from the book of Exodus mentions Izhar's three sons, Korah, Nepheg, and Zichri.

1. The Strength of Family - How the Sons of Izhar Show the Power of the Family Unit

2. Faithful Followers - Lessons from the Sons of Izhar on Faithful Obedience

1. Matthew 12:48-50 - Jesus' Parable of the Wise and Faithful Servant

2. Joshua 24:15 - Joshua's Charge to Choose Between Serving God or Not

Exodus 6:22 And the sons of Uzziel; Mishael, and Elzaphan, and Zithri.

This verse from Exodus mentions the three sons of Uzziel: Mishael, Elzaphan, and Zithri.

1. God Remembers His Children: A Study of Uzziel and His Sons

2. God s Provision and Protection: The Story of Uzziel and His Sons

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. Psalm 103:13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

Exodus 6:23 And Aaron took him Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Naashon, to wife; and she bare him Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

Aaron took Elisheba as his wife, and she bore him four sons.

1. The importance of marriage and family

2. The faithfulness of God in providing for His people

1. Genesis 2:24 - Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

2. Exodus 4:22 - Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son.

Exodus 6:24 And the sons of Korah; Assir, and Elkanah, and Abiasaph: these are the families of the Korhites.

The passage is about the descendants of Korah, which include Assir, Elkanah and Abiasaph.

1. God's Faithfulness in Preserving His People's Lineage

2. The Power of God's Blessing in Upholding His People

1. Exodus 6:24

2. Romans 8:28-29 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Exodus 6:25 And Eleazar Aaron's son took him one of the daughters of Putiel to wife; and she bare him Phinehas: these are the heads of the fathers of the Levites according to their families.

Eleazar, the son of Aaron, married one of the daughters of Putiel and they had a son, Phinehas. This is an overview of the ancestors of the Levites.

1. A Legacy of Faith: How Our Ancestors Shape Our Future

2. Fulfilling God's Plan: The Lineage of the Levites

1. Romans 4:17-18 "As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations. He believed in God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

2. Matthew 22:32 "I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

Exodus 6:26 These are that Aaron and Moses, to whom the LORD said, Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their armies.

The LORD commanded Moses and Aaron to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

1. God's Plan for Deliverance

2. Taking Action in Faith

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Exodus 6:27 These are they which spake to Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring out the children of Israel from Egypt: these are that Moses and Aaron.

Moses and Aaron spoke to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, in order to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt.

1. The Power of Faith: Using Faith to Overcome Obstacles

2. Faithful Leadership: The Example of Moses and Aaron

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

2. Exodus 4:10-12 - And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

Exodus 6:28 And it came to pass on the day when the LORD spake unto Moses in the land of Egypt,

The LORD spoke to Moses in Egypt.

1: We must listen to the Lord and obey His voice.

2: God graciously speaks to us in times of need.

1: Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live."

2: James 1:19 - "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath."

Exodus 6:29 That the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, I am the LORD: speak thou unto Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say unto thee.

Moses was commanded by God to speak to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, on His behalf.

1. Obedience to God's Calling - Exodus 6:29

2. Faithfulness in Serving God - Exodus 6:29

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. 1 Samuel 3:10 - The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, Samuel! Samuel! Then Samuel said, Speak, for your servant is listening.

Exodus 6:30 And Moses said before the LORD, Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh hearken unto me?

Moses was struggling with his own insecurities before God regarding his ability to speak to and be heard by Pharaoh.

1. Overcome Insecurity: Trust In God to Speak Through You

2. The Power of God: Conquering Fear and Doubt

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

Exodus 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 7:1-7, God appoints Moses as His representative and Aaron as his prophet to confront Pharaoh. He assures them that Pharaoh's heart will be hardened, but through the signs and wonders that God will perform, Egypt will know that He is the Lord. Moses and Aaron are instructed to perform miracles before Pharaoh to demonstrate God's power. However, despite these warnings and instructions, Pharaoh remains resistant.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 7:8-13, Moses and Aaron appear before Pharaoh as commanded by God. They perform a sign by turning Moses' staff into a serpent. However, Pharaoh's magicians also replicate this feat through their secret arts. This display of power does not convince Pharaoh to release the Israelites but instead hardens his heart further. The confrontation intensifies as both sides engage in a display of supernatural abilities.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 7:14-25, God instructs Moses to meet Pharaoh at the Nile River early in the morning when he goes out to the water. There, Moses is to warn him about the impending plague of blood turning all water in Egypt into blood as a consequence of his refusal to let Israel go. As commanded by God, Moses strikes the Nile with his staff and it immediately turns into blood throughout Egypt causing great distress among its people who are unable to find clean water for drinking or irrigation purposes.

In summary:

Exodus 7 presents:

God appointing Moses and Aaron for confronting Pharaoh;

Assurance of hardened hearts but signs demonstrating divine power;

Instructions for performing miracles before Pharaoh.

Moses and Aaron appearing before Pharaoh;

Performing a sign with staff turning into a serpent;

Pharaoh's magicians replicating this feat.

Moses warning about impending plague of blood;

Striking Nile River with staff turning it into blood;

Causing distress among Egyptians due to lack of clean water.

This chapter marks the beginning of direct confrontations between Moses, Aaron representing God's authority and power and Pharaoh symbolizing stubborn resistance against releasing Israel from slavery. It highlights how initial displays of miraculous signs fail to sway pharaonic resolve while showcasing supernatural abilities exhibited both by God's representatives (Moses, Aaron) and Egyptian magicians an indication of escalating conflict between opposing forces. The introduction of plagues serves as divine judgments upon Egypt while demonstrating Yahweh's superiority over Egyptian gods associated with natural elements like water (as seen in the transformation of Nile). Exodus 7 sets the stage for subsequent plagues that will unfold throughout Exodus chapters leading towards eventual liberation.

Exodus 7:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.

God has appointed Moses and Aaron to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

1. God is the ultimate authority and we should trust and obey Him.

2. Always remember that God is in control and will give us the strength to face our challenges.

1. Exodus 3:7-12 - God's call to Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

2. Hebrews 11:24-27 - Moses' faith in God despite challenges.

Exodus 7:2 Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land.

God commanded Moses to speak to Pharaoh and demand that he let the Israelites go.

1: We are called to follow God s commands with faith and obedience, no matter the cost.

2: God has given us His Word to guide us, and we must take it seriously.

1: John 4:23-24 - But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

2: Joshua 1:7-9 - Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Exodus 7:3 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.

God's power will be seen through signs and wonders in Egypt.

1: God's might and power are revealed in many ways.

2: We should be in awe of God's greatness and His works.

1: Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

2: Psalm 66:4 - All the earth worships You; they sing praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.

Exodus 7:4 But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.

Pharaoh refuses to listen to God's command to let the Israelites go out of Egypt, so God will bring judgement upon Egypt to release His people.

1. God Will Provide: How Faith in God Will Overcome All Struggles

2. The Power of God's Judgement: How God's Intervention Will Lead to Victory

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Exodus 7:5 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

The Lord will demonstrate His power and prove His sovereignty when He brings the Israelites out of Egypt.

1. The Power of the Lord: Demonstrated in His Deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt

2. God's Sovereignty: Evident in His Salvation of the Israelites from Egypt

1. Exodus 4:21 - "And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Exodus 7:6 And Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded them, so did they.

Moses and Aaron obeyed the Lord's commands.

1. Obey the Lord's Commands - Exodus 7:6

2. Trust in the Lord's Guidance - Exodus 7:6

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Exodus 7:7 And Moses was fourscore years old, and Aaron fourscore and three years old, when they spake unto Pharaoh.

Moses and Aaron spoke to Pharaoh when they were aged 80 and 83 respectively.

1. The Power of Aging: How Our Experience Strengthens Our Voice

2. Taking a Stand: The Courage of Moses and Aaron

1. Isaiah 46:4 And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

2. Psalm 71:9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.

Exodus 7:8 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

God spoke to Moses and Aaron and gave them instructions.

1. God has a plan for each of us and He will speak to us if we are willing to listen.

2. We are called to follow His instructions for our lives, even if it is hard.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Exodus 7:9 When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent.

Exodus 7:9 reveals God's command to Aaron to cast his rod before Pharaoh and it will become a serpent as a miracle.

1: God will provide the necessary miracles to show His strength and glory.

2: God provides us with commands so we may demonstrate His power and His might.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Exodus 7:10 And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

Moses and Aaron obeyed God's commands and Aaron cast down his rod to become a serpent.

1. Miracles of God: How Obedience Brings Power

2. The Significance of Miracles: A Lesson from Exodus 7

1. Hebrews 11:23-29 - By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

2. Daniel 6:16-23 - Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. Now the king spoke, and said to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you."

Exodus 7:11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

Pharaoh called upon wise men and sorcerers to use their enchantments to compete with Moses and Aaron's miracles.

1. God's power is greater than any human power.

2. The Lord always wins in the end.

1. 1 John 4:4 - "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."

2. Isaiah 40:28-29 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."

Exodus 7:12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

The Israelites and Egyptians engaged in a contest of power when they cast down their rods and they became serpents, but Aaron's rod swallowed up the rods of the Egyptians.

1. The Power of God's Word: Learning from the Miracles of Aaron's Rod

2. Trusting in God in the Face of Trial: Overcoming Adversity with Faith

1. John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

2. Romans 8:31-39 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 7:13 And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

Pharaoh's heart was hardened by the LORD, causing him to not listen to Moses and Aaron's demands.

1. The Power of God's Word - How God uses His Word to bring about His Will

2. The Hardened Heart of Pharaoh - How Pharaoh resisted God's Will despite warnings

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Ezekiel 36:26-27 - A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Exodus 7:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Pharaoh's heart is hardened, he refuseth to let the people go.

God's power over Pharaoh's hardened heart: Pharaoh's refusal to let the people go showed that his heart had been hardened by God.

1. The power of God is greater than the hardness of our hearts.

2. God can work in even the darkest of hearts.

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Exodus 7:15 Get thee unto Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goeth out unto the water; and thou shalt stand by the river's brink against he come; and the rod which was turned to a serpent shalt thou take in thine hand.

The Lord commanded Moses to go to Pharaoh in the morning and stand by the river's brink until Pharaoh arrived. Moses was to take the rod that had been turned to a serpent in his hand.

1. Trusting in the Lord: Learning to Wait on His Timing

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God s Commands

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. John 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Exodus 7:16 And thou shalt say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath sent me unto thee, saying, Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness: and, behold, hitherto thou wouldest not hear.

God commands Moses to tell Pharaoh to let the Hebrew people go so that they may serve Him in the wilderness, but Pharaoh has not listened.

1. The Power of Obedience and Listening to God

2. Faith in the Midst of Trials

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Exodus 7:17 Thus saith the LORD, In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.

God commands Moses to turn the waters of the river into blood as a sign of His power.

1. The Power of the Almighty: A on Exodus 7:17

2. God's Authority to Transform: A on Exodus 7:17

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Exodus 7:18 And the fish that is in the river shall die, and the river shall stink; and the Egyptians shall lothe to drink of the water of the river.

The plague of the river causes the fish to die, making the water foul and undrinkable.

1. Living in the Presence of God: Learning to Rely on God in Times of Trouble

2. Trusting in God's Plan: The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Exodus 7:19 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and that there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood, and in vessels of stone.

God instructed Moses to tell Aaron to use his rod to turn the water in Egypt into blood.

1. The Power of God: How God Can Transform and Redeem Any Situation

2. Trusting in God: Learning to Let Go and Put Faith in God

1. John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Exodus 7:20 And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

Moses and Aaron followed God's command and used the rod to turn the waters of the river into blood in front of Pharaoh and his servants.

1. The Power of Obedience: the story of Moses and Aaron and their faithfulness to God's commands

2. The Impact of Disobedience: a lesson from Pharaoh and his refusal to listen to God's warning

1. Romans 1:18-21 - God's wrath revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men

2. Jeremiah 17:5-10 - Blessed is the man that trusts in the LORD and whose hope the LORD is

Exodus 7:21 And the fish that was in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

The waters of the Nile were turned to blood, resulting in the death of the fish in the river and a terrible stench. The Egyptians were unable to drink from the river and blood covered the entire land.

1. The Power of God's Wrath: A Study of the Plagues in Exodus

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God Delivered His People Despite Seemingly Impossible Odds

1. Romans 1:18-20 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

2. Psalm 105:5-7 - Remember his marvelous works that he has done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth, O seed of Abraham his servant, you children of Jacob, his chosen ones! He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

Exodus 7:22 And the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them; as the LORD had said.

Pharaoh's heart was hardened and he refused to listen to the magicians of Egypt, despite their enchantments, as the LORD had predicted.

1. How to Persevere in Faith Despite Challenges and Setbacks

2. God's Predictive Nature and His Sovereignty

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Exodus 7:23 And Pharaoh turned and went into his house, neither did he set his heart to this also.

Pharaoh refused to heed God's warnings and instead returned to his house without heeding God's instructions.

1. God's instructions should be followed even in times of doubt.

2. We should not give up on God's promises, even when others do not believe.

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Exodus 7:24 And all the Egyptians digged round about the river for water to drink; for they could not drink of the water of the river.

The Egyptians were unable to drink the water from the river and had to dig around it to find another source of water.

1. The Power of Faith - Even in desperate times, faith can help us find solutions.

2. The Value of Water - Water is a precious resource and should be treated and valued as such.

1. Exodus 7:24 - And all the Egyptians digged round about the river for water to drink; for they could not drink of the water of the river.

2. Psalm 42:1-2 - As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

Exodus 7:25 And seven days were fulfilled, after that the LORD had smitten the river.

After the Lord had smitten the river, seven days had passed.

1. God's power is manifest in our lives and the world.

2. The Lord is faithful and His promises are sure.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

Exodus 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 8:1-7, Moses and Aaron appear before Pharaoh again, this time to demand the release of the Israelites. They warn Pharaoh that if he refuses, Egypt will be plagued by a swarm of frogs. Despite Pharaoh's initial reluctance, he eventually agrees to let the people go and asks Moses to intercede with God to remove the frogs from Egypt. Moses gives Pharaoh the choice of when he wants the frogs to be removed immediately or on a specific day and Pharaoh requests for them to be gone on the following day. God grants Moses' request, and all the frogs die and are gathered into heaps throughout Egypt.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 8:8-15, after witnessing the removal of the frog plague, Pharaoh reneges on his promise and hardens his heart. As a consequence, God sends a second plague upon Egypt swarms of gnats or lice that infest both humans and animals. The magicians attempt to replicate this miracle but fail, acknowledging that it is "the finger of God." Despite experiencing this affliction firsthand along with his people, Pharaoh remains stubborn and refuses to release Israel.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 8:16-32 , God commands Moses to stretch out his staff over Egypt so that swarms of flies fill every corner of the land except for Goshen the region where Israel resides. This plague causes great distress among Egyptians as flies swarm their homes and fields. Once again, Pharaoh attempts negotiation by suggesting that Israel can worship their God within Egypt instead of being fully released. However, Moses insists on a three-day journey into the wilderness as commanded by Yahweh. Eventually relenting under pressure from this third plague upon Egypt's livestock suffering from disease while sparing those belonging to Israelites Pharaoh agrees but still harbors reservations.

In summary:

Exodus 8 presents:

Moses demanding release of Israel before Pharaoh;

Warning about impending frog plague;

Pharaoh initially relenting but later requesting removal.

Frogs covering Egypt;

Pharaoh asking for their removal;

God granting request leading to their demise.

Swarms of gnats, lice afflicting Egyptians;

Magicians acknowledging divine intervention;

Pharaoh remaining defiant despite suffering consequences.

Command for flies swarming throughout Egypt except Goshen;

Egyptian distress due to fly infestation;

Pharaonic negotiations regarding worship within Egypt rejected.

This chapter continues depicting confrontations between Moses, Aaron representing divine authority and an obstinate pharaonic ruler who repeatedly breaks promises made under duress from plagues inflicted upon his kingdom. It showcases how various plagues target Egyptian society's daily life from nuisances like frogs or insects (gnats, lice) up until more significant disruptions such as livestock diseases or fly infestations while demonstrating Yahweh's power over natural elements within Egyptian religious context often associated with deities symbolizing fertility or protection against pests, disease (e.g., Heket). Exodus 8 underscores both escalating severity in divine judgments upon defiance while highlighting pharaonic resistance towards complete liberation sought by Hebrews led by Moses, Aaron.

Exodus 8:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

God commanded Moses to tell Pharaoh to release the Israelites from slavery so they could serve God.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God Uses Us to Accomplish His Will

2. The Freedom of Faith: How We Find True Liberation Through Service to God

1. Romans 6:15-17 - For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

2. Ephesians 6:5-8 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

Exodus 8:2 And if thou refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with frogs:

God will punish those who do not obey His commands.

1. Obey God and His Commands Faithfully for Blessings

2. Follow the Lord's Will and Avoid the Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 1:19 - If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land.

2. Ezekiel 18:30 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD.

Exodus 8:3 And the river shall bring forth frogs abundantly, which shall go up and come into thine house, and into thy bedchamber, and upon thy bed, and into the house of thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thine ovens, and into thy kneadingtroughs:

The river will bring forth an abundance of frogs, which will enter into the houses, bedrooms, beds, servants' houses, people's houses, ovens, and kneading troughs of the Egyptians.

1. A Frog in Your Bed: Experiencing the Power of God During Times of Trouble

2. A Frog in Your Oven: Learning to Find Blessing in the Midst of Chaos

1. Exodus 10:1-2 - And the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh: for I have hardened his heart, and the heart of his servants, that I might shew these my signs before him: And that thou mayest tell in the ears of thy son, and of thy son's son, what things I have wrought in Egypt, and my signs which I have done among them; that ye may know how that I am the LORD.

2. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Exodus 8:4 And the frogs shall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy servants.

The Lord sent frogs to plague Pharaoh and his people.

1. The Lord's Plagues: The Power of God to Control Creation

2. How to Respond to God's Judgments and Blessings

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Exodus 8:5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch forth thine hand with thy rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up upon the land of Egypt.

God instructed Moses to tell Aaron to stretch out his rod over the waters of Egypt and bring forth a plague of frogs.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commands Can Bring Forth Miracles

2. The Power of Faith: How God Uses Our Faith to Work Miracles

1. Matthew 17:20 - "He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Romans 10:17 - "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."

Exodus 8:6 And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt.

Aaron stretched out his hand and caused frogs to cover the land of Egypt.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commands Brings Miracles

2. The Miraculous Effects of Faith: How Trusting in God Can Bring About Change

1. Matthew 17:20 - "He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Luke 24:1-3 - On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Exodus 8:7 And the magicians did so with their enchantments, and brought up frogs upon the land of Egypt.

The magicians of Egypt, by using their enchantments, caused frogs to come up out of the land of Egypt.

1. The power of enchantments and the limits of human power.

2. God is always in control and works through the most unlikely people and situations.

1. Job 12:7-10, But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.

2. Acts 10:34-35, So Peter opened his mouth and said: Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Exodus 8:8 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, Intreat the LORD, that he may take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may do sacrifice unto the LORD.

Pharaoh calls for Moses and Aaron and asks them to pray to the Lord to remove the frogs from Egypt, offering to let the Israelites go if they do so.

1. Letting Go of Our Fears - Learning to trust God even when the situation seems overwhelming.

2. Releasing Our Hold on Control - Recognizing God's power and allowing His will to be done.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 8:9 And Moses said unto Pharaoh, Glory over me: when shall I intreat for thee, and for thy servants, and for thy people, to destroy the frogs from thee and thy houses, that they may remain in the river only?

The Lord sent Moses to Pharaoh to remove the frogs from Pharaoh's palace, so that they would only remain in the river.

1. The Power of God's Word: The example of Moses and Pharaoh

2. Trusting God's Plan: Overcoming Obstacles through Faith

1. Matthew 17:20 - And He said to them, Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Exodus 8:10 And he said, To morrow. And he said, Be it according to thy word: that thou mayest know that there is none like unto the LORD our God.

God's greatness and power is unique and incomparable.

1. God's power is unmatched - Exodus 8:10

2. God is greater than all - Exodus 8:10

1. Isaiah 40:25 - To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

2. Jeremiah 10:6-7 - Forasmuch as there is none like unto thee, O LORD; thou art great, and thy name is great in might. Who would not fear thee, O King of the nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee.

Exodus 8:11 And the frogs shall depart from thee, and from thy houses, and from thy servants, and from thy people; they shall remain in the river only.

The plague of frogs is lifted from the people of Egypt, but the frogs still remain in the river.

1. God's Mercy in the Midst of Judgment - Exodus 8:11

2. Turning Plagues to Praise - Exodus 8:11

1. Psalm 107:43 - Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things; let them consider the steadfast love of the Lord.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 8:12 And Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh: and Moses cried unto the LORD because of the frogs which he had brought against Pharaoh.

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh to plead for the removal of the frogs that the LORD had brought against Pharaoh.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Moses Interceded for Pharaoh

2. The Faithfulness of God: How God Answered Moses' Cry

1. Isaiah 41:17 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Exodus 8:13 And the LORD did according to the word of Moses; and the frogs died out of the houses, out of the villages, and out of the fields.

The LORD followed Moses' instructions and the frogs died out of all the houses, villages, and fields.

1. God is Faithful: A Study of Exodus 8:13

2. We are Called to Obey: A Reflection on Exodus 8:13

1. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Exodus 8:14 And they gathered them together upon heaps: and the land stank.

This passage from Exodus 8:14 tells us that Pharaoh's magicians gathered the frogs together in heaps, and the land smelled bad.

1. Where We Don t Want to Go: Dealing with the Consequences of Our Decisions

2. The Power of God over Nature: The Miracles of the Exodus and Beyond

1. Psalm 105:30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings.

2. Romans 8:20-21 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

Exodus 8:15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was respite, he hardened his heart, and hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

Pharaoh hardened his heart when he saw that there was a respite, and did not heed to the command of the Lord.

1. We must not be deceived by times of ease and complacency, and must continue to trust in the Lord.

2. We must be wary of our own hearts, and be prepared for the Lord's will.

1. Proverbs 16:18: Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Ephesians 4:26: Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger.

Exodus 8:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch out thy rod, and smite the dust of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

The Lord commanded Moses to tell Aaron to stretch out his rod and smite the dust of the land, causing lice to spread throughout Egypt.

1: The Lord's power can be seen through his commands.

2: When we obey God, He will use us to accomplish His will.

1: Luke 6:46-49 - Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?

2: 1 John 2:3-4 - And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says I know him but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Exodus 8:17 And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

Aaron used his rod to strike the dust of the earth, causing it to become lice that spread throughout all the land of Egypt.

1. God's Power is Unmatched: The Miraculous Miracle of Lice in Egypt

2. Obedience to God is Rewarded: Experiencing God's Blessings Through Submission

1. Exodus 8:17 - And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

2. Matthew 17:20 - He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

Exodus 8:18 And the magicians did so with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not: so there were lice upon man, and upon beast.

The magicians were unable to replicate the plagues God brought upon Egypt, including lice, which affected both people and animals.

1. God is All-Powerful and No One Can Compare

2. Let Us Follow God and His Ways

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 8:19 Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This is the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

The magicians told Pharaoh that the plagues were from God, but Pharaoh refused to listen and his heart was hardened.

1. The Power of God's Finger - Examining the plagues in Exodus and the hardness of Pharaoh's heart.

2. Heeding the Word of God - Following the Lord's commands despite opposition.

1. Acts 7:51 - "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye."

2. Proverbs 28:14 - "Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief."

Exodus 8:20 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he cometh forth to the water; and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

God commands Moses to confront Pharaoh and demand freedom for the Israelites.

1. God is the ultimate authority and He will bring justice for His people.

2. Our faith and obedience will be rewarded when we trust in God.

1. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Romans 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Exodus 8:21 Else, if thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground whereon they are.

God warned the Pharaoh that if he did not let His people go, He would send swarms of flies.

1: When God makes a promise, He will keep it.

2: God will always protect His people.

1: Isaiah 55:10-11 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

2: John 10:27-28 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

Exodus 8:22 And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

The Lord promises to protect the land of Goshen from swarms of flies, so that the people may recognize His presence among them.

1. The Lord Our Protector: The Story of Goshen

2. The Lord s Presence: An Example From Exodus 8:22

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Exodus 8:23 And I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.

This passage from Exodus 8:23 tells of how God will put a division between His people and the Pharaoh's people.

1. God is our protector; He will provide for us and keep us safe.

2. We must trust in the Lord to lead us and follow His commands.

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 8:24 And the LORD did so; and there came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt: the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of flies.

The Lord brought a great swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, his servants, and all the land of Egypt, causing it to be corrupted.

1. God's Power and Strength: How the Lord Showed His Might Through His Miracles in Exodus

2. The Result of Disobeying God: What Can We Learn from Pharaoh's Mistakes in Exodus

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Exodus 8:25 And Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron, and said, Go ye, sacrifice to your God in the land.

Pharaoh commanded Moses and Aaron to offer sacrifices to God in the land of Egypt.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Can Lead to Blessings

2. How to Overcome Obstacles: Remaining Faithful to God Despite Difficulties

1. Romans 5:19 - For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

Exodus 8:26 And Moses said, It is not meet so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God: lo, shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and will they not stone us?

Moses questions the advisability of sacrificing a sacred animal of the Egyptians to the Lord.

1. The importance of faith in God and His commands, even when it appears unwise.

2. The power of God to turn a difficult situation into a blessing.

1. Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Daniel 3:17-18: If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Exodus 8:27 We will go three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to the LORD our God, as he shall command us.

The Israelites agree to travel three days into the wilderness and offer sacrifices to the Lord as He commands.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God Requires Us to Obey His Commands

2. The Power of Sacrifice: What it Means to Give Up Something to God

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Exodus 8:28 And Pharaoh said, I will let you go, that ye may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only ye shall not go very far away: intreat for me.

Pharaoh agreed to allow the Israelites to go into the wilderness to sacrifice to the LORD, but only if they did not go too far away.

1. Staying Close to God: How to Make the Most of Our Time with the Lord

2. The Benefits of Obedience: Following God's Commands Leads to Great Rewards

1. Deuteronomy 11:8-9 - Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it; And that ye may prolong your days in the land, which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Exodus 8:29 And Moses said, Behold, I go out from thee, and I will intreat the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people, to morrow: but let not Pharaoh deal deceitfully any more in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD.

Moses warns Pharaoh that he will ask the Lord to remove the swarms of flies if Pharaoh does not allow the people to sacrifice to the Lord.

1. The Power of Intercession: How to Pray Boldly and Effectively

2. Keeping Faith in Difficult Times: Why We Must Persevere

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Exodus 8:30 And Moses went out from Pharaoh, and intreated the LORD.

Moses pleaded with the Lord on behalf of the Israelites.

1: We can learn from Moses' example and pray to the Lord for help during difficult times.

2: We should have faith that the Lord will answer our prayers and provide us with the strength we need.

1: James 5:13-16 - Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Exodus 8:31 And the LORD did according to the word of Moses; and he removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people; there remained not one.

The LORD fulfilled Moses' request and completely removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, his servants and his people.

1. God Responds to Faithful Prayers

2. Miracles of God's Power

1. Matthew 17:20 - "He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

2. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Exodus 8:32 And Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also, neither would he let the people go.

Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, despite a series of plagues.

1. The power of persistence and faith even in the face of adversity.

2. Understanding the consequences of hardening one's heart.

1. Hebrews 11:24-29

2. Matthew 5:3-10

Exodus 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 9:1-7, God sends Moses to Pharaoh once again, warning him of a severe plague that will strike Egypt if he continues to refuse the release of the Israelites. This time, the plague would affect the livestock belonging to Egypt while sparing those belonging to Israel. True to God's word, a devastating epidemic strikes all the livestock in Egypt, causing them to die. However, none of the livestock belonging to Israel suffer any harm.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 9:8-12, Moses and Aaron confront Pharaoh after witnessing the affliction on Egyptian livestock. They announce another impending plague boils which would afflict both humans and animals throughout Egypt. Moses is instructed by God to take handfuls of soot from a kiln and scatter it toward heaven before Pharaoh's eyes. As Moses does so, painful boils break out on both humans and animals in Egypt.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 9:13-35 , God commands Moses to warn Pharaoh about an imminent hailstorm unlike any seen before in Egypt. This hailstorm would cause destruction upon crops left in fields along with anyone or anything caught outside during its fury. Some Egyptians heed this warning and bring their servants and livestock indoors for protection while others disregard it. As foretold by Moses, a tremendous hailstorm accompanied by thunder strikes Egypt destroying crops and killing both people and animals exposed during its onslaught.

In summary:

Exodus 9 presents:

Warning about impending plague on Egyptian livestock;

Livestock dying throughout Egypt but spared among Israelites.

Announcement of boils affecting humans and animals;

Moses scattering soot leading to painful boils outbreak;

Egyptians suffering from this affliction.

Warning regarding unprecedented hailstorm destruction;

Egyptians given opportunity for protection but some ignore it;

Hailstorm causing devastation upon crops, people, and animals.

This chapter continues the pattern of divine judgments inflicted upon Pharaoh's kingdom due to his continued refusal to release Israel from slavery. It highlights how plagues progressively intensify from targeting specific aspects like Egyptian livelihood (livestock) up until broader afflictions affecting human health (boils) or agricultural prosperity (hail). The distinction between suffering experienced by Egyptians versus preservation enjoyed by Israelites underscores Yahweh's selective power over these plagues while emphasizing His protection towards His chosen people amidst widespread calamity befalling their oppressors' land. Exodus 9 serves as a reminder of escalating consequences faced when defying divine commands a testament not only against pharaonic authority but also against Egyptian religious beliefs tied closely with natural elements or fertility deities associated with prosperity within ancient Near Eastern context.

Exodus 9:1 Then the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh, and tell him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

God tells Moses to command Pharaoh to allow the Hebrews to serve Him.

1. The Power of Obedience: The story of Moses and Pharaoh reminds us to always obey God's commands, no matter the cost.

2. The Power of Faith: Moses was able to trust in God's promise and liberate the Hebrews, showing us the power of faith.

1. Romans 6:16, Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. James 2:17, So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Exodus 9:2 For if thou refuse to let them go, and wilt hold them still,

The Lord warns Pharaoh that if he does not let the Israelites go, God will send more plagues.

1. Learning to Submit to God's Will

2. Trusting God to Fulfill His Promises

1. Deuteronomy 10:20 - Fear the Lord thy God, serve him, and to swear by his name.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Exodus 9:3 Behold, the hand of the LORD is upon thy cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous murrain.

The LORD is punishing the Egyptians with a very grievous murrain on their cattle.

1. God's Punishments are Just and Righteous

2. A Call to Repentance

1. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

2. Exodus 8:1 - "And the LORD spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me."

Exodus 9:4 And the LORD shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel.

The Lord will separate the livestock belonging to the Israelites and the Egyptians so that none of the Israelites' animals will die.

1. The Lord will always protect His people.

2. God will make a way when it seems impossible.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee; yes, I will help thee; yes, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.

Exodus 9:5 And the LORD appointed a set time, saying, To morrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land.

The Lord promised a set time to act on the land.

1. Patience: Waiting for God s Timing

2. Trusting God to Bring His Promises to Pass

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

Exodus 9:6 And the LORD did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died: but of the cattle of the children of Israel died not one.

God protected the Israelites from the plague of death on the cattle of Egypt, while sparing the Israelites livestock.

1: God watches over His chosen people.

2: God is sovereign and His will is done.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2: Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Exodus 9:7 And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not one of the cattle of the Israelites dead. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go.

Pharaoh noticed that none of the Israelites' cattle were dead after being afflicted by a plague, but he still refused to let the people go.

1. The Power of God's Mercy: Learning to Trust God Despite our Circumstances

2. The Danger of Hardening Our Hearts: Refusing to Listen to God's Goodness

1. Romans 9:18, "Therefore he has mercy on whom he wills, and whom he wills he hardens."

2. Hebrews 3:13, "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called today, that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."

Exodus 9:8 And the LORD said unto Moses and unto Aaron, Take to you handfuls of ashes of the furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the heaven in the sight of Pharaoh.

God instructs Moses and Aaron to take ashes from the furnace and sprinkle them towards the sky in front of Pharaoh.

1. Faith in the face of adversity: trusting in God s power even when confronted by a powerful enemy.

2. Obedience to God s will: following His instructions even when they seem impossible.

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

2. Acts 5:29 - Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Exodus 9:9 And it shall become small dust in all the land of Egypt, and shall be a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast, throughout all the land of Egypt.

In Exodus 9:9, it is revealed that a plague of boils would break out on both people and animals in all of Egypt.

1. The Power of God: Examining the Plagues of Egypt

2. The Significance of Boils and Blains: Lessons from the Bible

1. Deuteronomy 28:27 - The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.

2. Job 2:7 - So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

Exodus 9:10 And they took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it became a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast.

Moses sprinkled ashes up toward heaven, and it resulted in boils breaking forth on man and beast in Pharaoh's presence.

1. God's Justice: A Lesson from Exodus

2. The Consequences of Defying God

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

2. Romans 11:33-36 - O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

Exodus 9:11 And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.

The boils inflicted on the magicians and Egyptians were a sign of God's power that even the magicians could not stand before Moses.

1: God's power is greater than any other force in this world.

2: We should trust in God's power to protect us and guide us.

1: Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2: Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

Exodus 9:12 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had spoken unto Moses.

The Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart and he refused to listen to Moses, as the Lord had predicted.

1. God's Sovereign Will: How God's Plans Will Always Prevail

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Can Lead to Blessing

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Exodus 9:13 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

God instructs Moses to go before Pharaoh and demand that the Hebrews be set free so that they can serve God.

1. The Power of Obedience: God's Call to Moses to Free His People.

2. The Strength of Faith: Trusting God in the Midst of Great Challenge.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Exodus 9:14 For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth.

God is the only one who is like Him in all the earth.

1: God is the only one who can do things that no one else can do.

2: God has the power to bring plagues and destruction on those who disobey Him.

1: Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.

2: Romans 11:33-36 - O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

Exodus 9:15 For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth.

God warns Pharaoh that he will smite him and his people with pestilence if he does not obey.

1. Obey the Lord and Receive His Blessings

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Exodus 9:16 And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

God has raised up Pharaoh to demonstrate His power and to declare His name across all the earth.

1. The Power of God: The Story of Pharaoh

2. The Greatness of God's Name: Declaring it Across the World

1. Ephesians 1:20-23 - God has raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named

2. Romans 9:17 - For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show My power in you, and that My name might be declared in all the earth.

Exodus 9:17 As yet exaltest thou thyself against my people, that thou wilt not let them go?

God commands Pharaoh to let His people go and warns him of the consequences if he does not.

1: God expects us to show mercy and kindness to our fellow man.

2: We must be mindful of the consequences of our actions.

1: James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

2: Luke 10:37 - "He said, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind ; and your neighbor as yourself.

Exodus 9:18 Behold, to morrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now.

God warns Pharaoh through Moses that He will send a very destructive hail to Egypt the following day.

1. When God Warns, We Must Take Heed

2. God's Judgment is Unstoppable

1. James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

Exodus 9:19 Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die.

God is warning us to take responsibility for our actions and to be prepared for the consequences.

1: There is no escaping God's judgement; we must take responsibility for our actions.

2: We must be ready for God's judgement, no matter what hardships it may bring.

1: Isaiah 1:19-20 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

2: Matthew 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Exodus 9:20 He that feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses:

God's word commands people to take action, even in the face of danger.

1: We must not fear the Lord s Word, but embrace it and take action.

2: It is better to obey God than to fear man.

1: Acts 5:29 - But Peter and the apostles answered, We must obey God rather than men.

2: Joshua 24:15 - Choose this day whom you will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Exodus 9:21 And he that regarded not the word of the LORD left his servants and his cattle in the field.

People who did not heed God's word left their workers and livestock in the fields.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Don't Ignore God's Word

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Listen to God's Instructions

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Exodus 9:22 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt.

God commanded Moses to stretch out his hand to the sky and bring hail down upon all of Egypt, including man, beast, and every herb of the field.

1. God's Power: Reaffirming God's Sovereignty Through Miracles

2. The Perseverance of Faith: Reaching the Unreachable

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Exodus 9:23 And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.

The Lord sent thunder, hail, and fire to the land of Egypt, which was unleashed by Moses' stretching out his rod towards the heavens.

1. The Power of Faith: How faith can move mountains and even unleash the wrath of God.

2. The Power of Obedience: How following God's commands can lead to incredible and miraculous outcomes.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Exodus 9:24 So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

God sent down hail and fire on the land of Egypt as a punishment, and it was the worst it had ever experienced.

1. The Power of God's Judgment

2. God's Will is Unstoppable

1. Isaiah 28:2 - Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth with the hand.

2. Habakkuk 3:17 - Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls.

Exodus 9:25 And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field.

The hail in Egypt smote every living creature, plant, and tree in the land.

1. God is powerful and can do anything.

2. We must be thankful for everything God provides.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Exodus 9:26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail.

In the land of Goshen, where the Israelites were living, there was no hail.

1. God's Protection: How God Cares for His People

2. The Power of Faith: How Believing in God Can Strengthen Us

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?

Exodus 9:27 And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked.

The Pharaoh acknowledges his and his people's wickedness and recognizes the Lord's righteousness.

1. The importance of recognizing the Lord's righteousness

2. The danger of living in a state of wickedness

1. Romans 3:10-12 - "As it is written: 'None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.'"

2. Psalm 34:8 - "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!"

Exodus 9:28 Intreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer.

Moses pleaded with Pharaoh to let the Hebrew people go, and in response, Pharaoh agreed to stop the thunderstorms and hail if they left.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Moses' Plea to Pharaoh Demonstrates the Strength of Faith

2. Letting Go: The Story of Pharaoh's Agreement to Release the Hebrews

1. Romans 10:13, For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2. James 5:16, The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Exodus 9:29 And Moses said unto him, As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD's.

Moses demonstrates faith in God and His power to end the hail during the plague of Egypt.

1: God is always in control and we can trust in Him, no matter what comes our way.

2: We can have faith in God, even when it seems impossible for the situation to change.

1: Matthew 8:23-27 - Jesus stills the storm at sea.

2: Isaiah 26:3 - Those who trust in the Lord will find perfect peace.

Exodus 9:30 But as for thee and thy servants, I know that ye will not yet fear the LORD God.

Pharaoh and his servants refused to fear the Lord God even after seeing the plagues.

1. The Danger of Refusing to Fear God

2. The Importance of Acknowledging God's Might

1. Luke 1:50 His mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.

2. Psalm 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

Exodus 9:31 And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was bolled.

The flax and barley in Exodus 9:31 were smitten because they were in the ear and bolled respectively.

1. God's righteous judgement: Understanding how to apply God's judgement in our lives.

2. The importance of timing: Understanding how to be prepared for God's blessings and judgement.

1. Exodus 9:31

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Exodus 9:32 But the wheat and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up.

The plague of hail did not affect the wheat and rye because they had not yet grown.

1. God is merciful and protects us in difficult times.

2. We can trust God to take care of us even when bad things happen.

1. James 4:17 "Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Psalm 34:8 "O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

Exodus 9:33 And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the LORD: and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth.

Moses spread out his hands to God, and the thunder, hail, and rain stopped.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answered Moses' Plea

2. How the Lord Answers Our Prayers in Times of Need

1. James 5:16 "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Exodus 9:34 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants.

When Pharaoh refused to obey God, he continued to harden his heart.

1. The Danger of Refusing to Obey God

2. The Consequences of Hardening Our Hearts

1. Isaiah 6:9-10: Go and tell this people: Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving. Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.

2. Romans 2:5: But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

Exodus 9:35 And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, neither would he let the children of Israel go; as the LORD had spoken by Moses.

Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave, despite God's command through Moses.

1. God's will must be done, even when it's hard to accept.

2. Faithfulness in the face of adversity is the true test of faith.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments".

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - "By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin".

Exodus 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 10:1-11, Moses and Aaron appear before Pharaoh once again to deliver God's message. They warn Pharaoh of a locust plague that will descend upon Egypt if he continues to refuse the release of the Israelites. Moses describes how these locusts will devour all vegetation left after the hailstorm and leave the land desolate. Despite warnings from his own advisors, Pharaoh refuses to yield and dismisses Moses and Aaron from his presence.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 10:12-20, God brings a swarm of locusts as foretold by Moses. These insects cover the entire land of Egypt, consuming every plant and tree until nothing green remains. The devastation caused by this plague is immense, plunging Egypt into darkness due to the swarms of locusts blocking out the sun. Pharaoh realizes his mistake and calls for Moses and Aaron, confessing his sin against both God and Israel. He pleads for forgiveness and asks them to intercede with God to remove the locusts.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 10:21-29 , God commands Moses to stretch out his hand toward heaven so that darkness engulfs Egypt for three days darkness so thick that it can be felt. During this time, no one can see another or move about from their location. However, within Goshen where Israel resides, there is light as usual. Despite experiencing this deep darkness throughout Egypt for an extended period, Pharaoh remains unyielding in his refusal to let Israel go.

In summary:

Exodus 10 presents:

Warning about impending locust plague;

Pharaoh's refusal despite advice from advisors;

Locusts devouring all vegetation in Egypt.

Swarm of locusts covering entire land;

Devastation causing darkness due to their numbers;

Pharaoh confessing sin and pleading for forgiveness.

Command for darkness enveloping Egypt except Goshen;

Three days of thick darkness preventing movement or visibility;

Pharaoh remaining stubborn despite prolonged affliction.

This chapter highlights a continued cycle of confrontations between Moses, Aaron representing divine authority and an obstinate pharaonic ruler who persists in defying Yahweh's demands for releasing Israel from bondage. It demonstrates how plagues escalate both in magnitude (locusts devouring vegetation) as well as their impact on daily life (thick darkness preventing normal activities). The inclusion of Pharaoh's temporary repentance amidst witnessing devastating consequences reflects moments of potential change but ultimately underscores his hardened heart leading him back into defiance once immediate distress subsides illustrating the depth of spiritual resistance faced by those seeking liberation against oppressive powers during ancient times.

Exodus 10:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh: for I have hardened his heart, and the heart of his servants, that I might shew these my signs before him:

God hardened Pharaoh and his servants' hearts so that God's signs could be demonstrated before them.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God is in Control of our Lives

2. Why God Hardened Pharaoh's Heart

1. Romans 9:17 - For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

2. Psalm 105:25 - He turned their heart to hate his people, to deal subtilly with his servants.

Exodus 10:2 And that thou mayest tell in the ears of thy son, and of thy son's son, what things I have wrought in Egypt, and my signs which I have done among them; that ye may know how that I am the LORD.

God is the Lord and He has shown himself to be powerful in Egypt through the signs He has done.

1. God's Power in Egypt: What it Means for Us Today

2. Knowing God Through His Signs

1. Deuteronomy 6:20-24

2. Psalm 77:14-16

Exodus 10:3 And Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me.

Moses and Aaron asked Pharaoh to let the Israelites go so they can serve God.

1: We must be humble before God and recognize His authority in our lives.

2: We must be willing to obey the commands of God and let those under our authority go and serve Him.

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2: Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Exodus 10:4 Else, if thou refuse to let my people go, behold, to morrow will I bring the locusts into thy coast:

The Lord warns that if Pharaoh refuses to free the Israelites, He will bring locusts to Pharaoh's land.

1. God's Sovereignty: How the Lord Uses Natural Disasters to Achieve His Purposes

2. The Consequences of Rebellion: How We Reap What We Sow

1. Exodus 10:4

2. James 5:7-8 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Exodus 10:5 And they shall cover the face of the earth, that one cannot be able to see the earth: and they shall eat the residue of that which is escaped, which remaineth unto you from the hail, and shall eat every tree which groweth for you out of the field:

God sent swarms of locusts to consume the crops and vegetation of Egypt as a plague.

1. God's Provision in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of God's Judgement

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 10:6 And they shall fill thy houses, and the houses of all thy servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians; which neither thy fathers, nor thy fathers' fathers have seen, since the day that they were upon the earth unto this day. And he turned himself, and went out from Pharaoh.

Pharaoh is warned that God will send swarms of locusts to plague Egypt, filling their houses with them, something none of their fathers had ever seen before. Pharaoh then leaves.

1. God's power is greater than human power, and He can bring even the mightiest of men to their knees.

2. We should not be afraid to stand up for what we believe in, even in the face of opposition.

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Exodus 10:7 And Pharaoh's servants said unto him, How long shall this man be a snare unto us? let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God: knowest thou not yet that Egypt is destroyed?

Pharaoh's servants ask Pharaoh why he is not letting the Israelites go and serve the Lord, reminding him that Egypt is destroyed.

1. God is always faithful to His promises.

2. Don't be a snare to anyone by not letting them do the will of God.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Exodus 10:8 And Moses and Aaron were brought again unto Pharaoh: and he said unto them, Go, serve the LORD your God: but who are they that shall go?

The Pharaoh commanded Moses and Aaron to go and serve the Lord their God, asking who were those that would go.

1. The Obedience of Moses and Aaron: A Model for Faithful Service

2. The Sovereignty of God: He is in Control of All Things

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Exodus 10:9 And Moses said, We will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds will we go; for we must hold a feast unto the LORD.

Moses encourages the Israelites to make a pilgrimage to the Lord, including the old, young, and animals.

1. God calls us to be devoted to him, even in our old age and through our children.

2. Obedience to God leads to blessing and joy.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9

2. Psalm 84:10

Exodus 10:10 And he said unto them, Let the LORD be so with you, as I will let you go, and your little ones: look to it; for evil is before you.

Pharaoh allows the Israelites to leave Egypt with their children, warning them of the dangers ahead.

1. Prepare Yourselves for the Journey Ahead: Trusting God in Times of Adversity

2. Reflections on the Israelites Exodus from Egypt: Persevering in Faith

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Exodus 10:11 Not so: go now ye that are men, and serve the LORD; for that ye did desire. And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

The people of the Israelites were commanded by God to serve the Lord and were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

1. Serving God should be our highest priority.

2. We should never let anything stand in the way of obeying God.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Exodus 10:12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up upon the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail hath left.

God commanded Moses to send a plague of locusts to the land of Egypt to consume all the vegetation left behind by the hail.

1. God's Power: A lesson from the plagues of Egypt

2. Trust in God's Provision: A lesson from Exodus 10:12

1. Job 38:22-23 - "Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?"

2. Matthew 6:26-27 - "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

Exodus 10:13 And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.

The Lord sent an east wind on the land of Egypt that brought locusts.

1. God's Power and Sovereignty: Recognizing His Control in Every Situation

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding the Repercussions of Defying God

1. Jeremiah 5:11-13 - For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

2. Revelation 9:7-9 - And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

Exodus 10:14 And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.

The locusts covered the whole land of Egypt, causing great devastation. This plague of locusts was greater than any seen before, and none like them have been seen since.

1. The Power of God: How God Used the Plague of Locusts to Achieve His Purposes

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God Demonstrates His Control Over Creation

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Isaiah 45:7 - I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things.

Exodus 10:15 For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt.

The hail destroyed all the vegetation in Egypt.

1. God's Judgement Brings Destruction

2. Our Responses to God's Nature

1. Romans 8:20-21 - For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

2. Revelations 6:14 - The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

Exodus 10:16 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste; and he said, I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you.

Pharaoh acknowledges his sin against the LORD and Moses and Aaron.

1. The Power of Admitting Our Sins

2. Reaping What We Sow: Consequences of Sin

1. Psalm 51:3-4 For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight.

2. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Exodus 10:17 Now therefore forgive, I pray thee, my sin only this once, and intreat the LORD your God, that he may take away from me this death only.

Pharaoh asks Moses to pray to God to spare his life from the plague of death.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Prayer in Overcoming Difficult Situations

1. Luke 18:13-14 - "But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

2. James 5:13-14 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

Exodus 10:18 And he went out from Pharaoh, and intreated the LORD.

The Lord was intreated by Moses.

1. The Power of Faithful Prayer

2. The Lord Hears and Answers Our Prayers

1. 1 John 5:14-15 - And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

2. James 5:16-17 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Exodus 10:19 And the LORD turned a mighty strong west wind, which took away the locusts, and cast them into the Red sea; there remained not one locust in all the coasts of Egypt.

The LORD sent a strong wind to remove the locusts from Egypt and cast them into the Red Sea.

1. God's Power: Understanding the Miraculous Ways of the LORD

2. Faith and Obedience: Trusting God in Times of Trouble

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Exodus 10:20 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go.

The Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart so he would not let the Israelites go.

1: God has the power to harden hearts and make decisions impossible for us to control.

2: We can learn from Pharaoh's story and trust in God even when we face great opposition.

1: Proverbs 21:1 - The king s heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

2: Romans 9:17-18 - For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth. Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

Exodus 10:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.

God commanded Moses to stretch out his hand toward the sky in order to bring darkness over Egypt.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. The power of faith in times of darkness

1. Isaiah 50:10 Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

2. Psalm 91:1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Exodus 10:22 And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days:

Moses stretched his hand towards the heavens and caused a thick darkness to fall upon Egypt for three days.

1. The Power of Faith: Using Moses as an example of how faith can bring light to the darkest places.

2. God's Providence: A lesson on how God's power can bring about His will and judgement, no matter the circumstances.

1. Matthew 17:20 - He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 10:23 They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

All the children of Israel had light in their dwellings for three days, during which none of them could see one another.

1. God's Light in Darkness: Discovering the Hope of God's Promises in Difficult Times

2. The Strength of Togetherness: How Unity in God Brings Us Light and Hope

1. Isaiah 9:2 - "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Exodus 10:24 And Pharaoh called unto Moses, and said, Go ye, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be stayed: let your little ones also go with you.

Pharaoh allowed Moses to go and serve the Lord, but requested that his flocks, herds, and the younger members of the group also go.

1. Commitment to the Lord: Letting Go of Our Attachments - Exodus 10:24

2. Trust in the Lord: Embracing the Call - Exodus 10:24

1. Romans 8:38-39 "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Exodus 10:25 And Moses said, Thou must give us also sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice unto the LORD our God.

The Lord God commanded Moses to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings to Him.

1: The Sacrifice of Obedience - The ultimate act of worship towards God is to obey His commands.

2: The Cost of Disobedience - Disobeying God's commands leads to spiritual poverty and lack of blessing.

1: John 15:14 You are my friends if you do whatever I command you.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Exodus 10:26 Our cattle also shall go with us; there shall not an hoof be left behind; for thereof must we take to serve the LORD our God; and we know not with what we must serve the LORD, until we come thither.

The people of Israel were told to bring all of their livestock with them as they were leaving Egypt to serve the Lord.

1. God calls us to serve Him with all that we have.

2. The Lord rewards obedience when we give Him our all.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Exodus 10:27 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go.

Despite Pharaoh's willingness to allow the Israelites to leave Egypt, the Lord hardened his heart and prevented their release.

1. God's will is more powerful than human will.

2. Hardening our hearts against God's will can lead to unfortunate consequences.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Exodus 10:28 And Pharaoh said unto him, Get thee from me, take heed to thyself, see my face no more; for in that day thou seest my face thou shalt die.

Pharaoh orders Moses to leave him and not to return, or he will die.

1. "The Power of God: How to Stand Firm in the Face of Authority"

2. "The Cost of Obedience: How to Know When to Draw the Line"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:6 - "So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Exodus 10:29 And Moses said, Thou hast spoken well, I will see thy face again no more.

Moses said farewell to Pharaoh, knowing he would never see him again.

1: God knows when it is time to move on, and his timing is perfect.

2: We can trust that God will open the right doors for us to move forward in life.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Exodus 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 11:1-3, God informs Moses of one final plague that will strike Egypt the death of every firstborn in the land. God instructs Moses to share this message with the Israelites, preparing them for their imminent release from slavery. Additionally, Moses is to inform Pharaoh of the severity of this final plague and how it will affect all Egyptians, including Pharaoh's own firstborn son.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 11:4-8, Moses confronts Pharaoh once again and delivers God's message regarding the impending death of every firstborn. Despite knowing the consequences and witnessing the devastating plagues before, Pharaoh remains defiant and refuses to let Israel go. The text highlights how God hardens Pharaoh's heart further, reinforcing his resistance against releasing the Israelites.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 11:9-10 , Moses predicts what will happen at midnight the death of every firstborn throughout Egypt. This includes both humans and animals from Pharaoh's palace to even those in captivity or among livestock. The severity of this final plague is emphasized by mentioning that there will be loud wailing throughout Egypt like never before or ever again. As a result, all Egyptians are compelled to recognize that Yahweh alone has power over life and death.

In summary:

Exodus 11 presents:

God informing Moses about impending death of every firstborn;

Instructions for preparing Israelites for their release;

Moses sharing this message with Pharaoh.

Confrontation between Moses and Pharaoh regarding final plague;

Pharaoh remaining defiant despite knowledge of consequences;

God hardening Pharaoh's heart further.

Prediction by Moses about midnight death of every firstborn;

Emphasis on widespread impact from palace to captives to livestock;

Recognition among Egyptians regarding Yahweh's power over life and death.

This chapter serves as a climactic moment leading up to the ultimate act that would secure Israel's liberation from Egyptian bondage the devastating plague resulting in the loss of every firstborn throughout Egypt. It portrays a heightened confrontation between divine authority represented by Moses, Aaron and an obstinate pharaonic ruler who persists in resisting Yahweh's demands despite witnessing previous plagues' destructive impact upon his kingdom. The impending tragedy underscores both God's justice against oppressive powers while serving as a pivotal event marking a turning point towards freedom for Israel a reminder that liberation often comes at great cost amidst divine judgments upon those who refuse righteousness or mercy offered through prophetic voices like that represented by Moses, Aaron.

Exodus 11:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.

The LORD promised to bring one final plague on Pharaoh and Egypt before allowing the Israelites to leave.

1. God's Promises Will Always Be Fulfilled

2. The Faithfulness of God in All Circumstances

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Exodus 11:2 Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man borrow of his neighbour, and every woman of her neighbour, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold.

The Lord commanded the people to borrow from their neighbors jewelry made of gold and silver.

1. The Power of Giving and Receiving

2. Learning to Share What We Have

1. Acts 20:35 - In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Exodus 11:3 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.

The LORD gave the Israelites favor in the sight of the Egyptians, and Moses was highly esteemed in the land.

1. God's power to make a way when it seems impossible.

2. God's faithfulness when we are in a difficult situation.

1. Daniel 3:17-18 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and He will deliver us from Your Majesty s hand. But even if He does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.

2. Psalm 46:11 The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Exodus 11:4 And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt:

Moses announces that the Lord will go out into the midst of Egypt at midnight.

1: The Lord is with us in our darkest hours.

2: God will deliver us no matter the odds.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2: Hebrews 13:5 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Exodus 11:5 And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the first born of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.

The Lord will kill all the firstborn in Egypt, from the Pharaoh to the firstborn of the maidservant and firstborn of the beasts.

1. The Lord's Judgment: A Warning to All Nations

2. The Power of the Lord's Judgment: Its Unavoidable Nature

1. Isaiah 46:9-10 - "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."

2. Ecclesiastes 8:11 - "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

Exodus 11:6 And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.

The Lord announces a coming great cry throughout all the land of Egypt like no other.

1. The Lord's Promise of the Great Cry - trusting God's promises no matter how difficult they might be to believe.

2. The Strength of the Lord's Judgement - the power of God's judgement to bring fear and repentance.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 11:7 But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.

The LORD put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel so that no dog would move its tongue against any of the children of Israel.

1. "The Power of the Lord's Protection"

2. "God's Mercy Separates Us from Others"

1. Psalm 91:1-4 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord.

Exodus 11:8 And all these thy servants shall come down unto me, and bow down themselves unto me, saying, Get thee out, and all the people that follow thee: and after that I will go out. And he went out from Pharaoh in a great anger.

The people of Egypt begged Moses to leave with all of his followers, and he left with great anger.

1. Knowing When to Leave: Learning to Discern God's Movement

2. Anger: An Appropriate Reaction to Unjust Treatment

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:9 - Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

Exodus 11:9 And the LORD said unto Moses, Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you; that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.

God told Moses that Pharaoh would not listen to him so that God's wonders could be revealed in Egypt.

1. Allowing God to Work Wonders in our Lives

2. Understanding God's Timing in Our Trials

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Exodus 11:10 And Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh: and the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

Moses and Aaron performed many miracles before Pharaoh, but the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart so that the Israelites could not leave Egypt.

1. The Power of God's Sovereignty

2. The Fickleness of Human Nature

1. Romans 9:18 - So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

2. Proverbs 21:1 - The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

Exodus 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 12:1-13, God instructs Moses and Aaron regarding the Passover. He establishes it as the first month of the year for the Israelites and provides detailed instructions on how to observe this sacred feast. Each household is to select a lamb without blemish on the tenth day of the month, keep it until the fourteenth day, and then slaughter it at twilight. The blood of the lamb is to be applied to their doorposts and lintels as a sign, so that when God sees it, He will pass over that house and spare them from His judgment. This becomes a perpetual ordinance for future generations.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 12:14-20, Moses relays God's instructions regarding the Feast of Unleavened Bread which follows immediately after Passover. The Israelites are commanded to remove all leaven from their homes for seven days during this feast. They are also instructed to have a holy convocation on both the first and seventh days where no work is to be done except for preparing food. These observances serve as reminders of their deliverance from Egypt.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 12:21-51 , Moses summons all elders of Israel and delivers God's instructions regarding Passover directly to them. The Israelites faithfully follow these instructions by selecting lambs without blemish, applying blood on their doorposts, and observing the Feast of Unleavened Bread precisely as commanded by God through Moses. At midnight, God strikes down every firstborn in Egypt while sparing those marked by the blood on their doors fulfilling His promise made earlier.

In summary:

Exodus 12 presents:

Establishment of Passover as sacred feast;

Detailed instructions on selecting and slaughtering unblemished lamb;

Application of lamb's blood on doorposts for protection.

Instructions regarding Feast of Unleavened Bread following Passover;

Command to remove leaven from homes during this period;

Holy convocations on first and seventh days with no work except food preparation.

Moses delivering instructions directly to Israelite elders;

Faithful observance by Israelites selecting lambs without blemish,

Applying blood marking protected households during midnight judgment.

This chapter marks a significant turning point in Israelite history the establishment of two key observances that would become central components in their religious identity: Passover commemorating deliverance from Egyptian slavery through sacrificial offering marked by lamb's blood and Feast of Unleavened Bread reminding them not only about haste associated with exodus but also emphasizing purity or removal of impurity represented by leaven within ancient Near Eastern cultural context often associated with corruption or decay within religious symbolism. Exodus 12 showcases meticulous obedience displayed by Israelites upon receiving divine commands transmitted through Moses, Aaron while highlighting Yahweh's faithfulness in fulfilling promises made concerning judgment against Egypt distinguishing between those who trustingly follow His directives versus those who defy or disregard them amidst escalating consequences leading towards ultimate liberation sought by Hebrews under oppressive pharaonic rule.

Exodus 12:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, commanding them to create the Passover.

1. The Lord Calls Us to Uphold His Word

2. The Power of Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 6:17 - "You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you."

2. 1 Peter 1:14-16 - "As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Exodus 12:2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

This passage declares the first month of the year in the Hebrew calendar.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: How We Can Rely on the Lord's Guidance

2. The Power of New Beginnings: How We Can Embrace Change

1. Galatians 4:4-5 - But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

Exodus 12:3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:

The people of Israel are instructed to take a lamb on the tenth day of the month according to their house.

1. The importance of following God's commands.

2. The significance of the lamb in the Bible.

1. Exodus 12:3 - "Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:"

2. John 1:29 - "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

Exodus 12:4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

Passage If a household is not big enough to consume a whole lamb, they should share it with their neighbor according to the number of people in both households.

1. The importance of community and helping your neighbor in times of need.

2. The power of sharing and how it can bring us together.

1. Galatians 6:2 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Exodus 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

The Israelites were instructed to select a male lamb from the first year without blemish from among sheep or goats for the Passover.

1. The Perfect Lamb: A Study in Sacrifice

2. The Lamb of God: Why We Celebrate the Passover

1. John 1:29 - "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

2. Isaiah 53:7 - "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."

Exodus 12:6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

This passage describes the instructions for the killing of the Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the month.

1. The Lamb of God: How Jesus Fulfilled the Passover

2. The Meaning of Obedience: Following God's Commandments in Exodus 12

1. John 1:29 - "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

2. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome."

Exodus 12:7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

The Lord instructs the Israelites to take the blood of the Passover lamb and put it on the side posts and upper door post of their homes.

1. The Blood of the Lamb: Its Significance and Relevance for Us Today

2. How the Passover Lamb Points Us to Christ

1. John 1:29 - "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

2. Ephesians 1:7 - "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace."

Exodus 12:8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

In Exodus 12:8, it is commanded that the Israelites eat the Passover meal with roasted meat, unleavened bread, and bitter herbs.

1. God's Commandments: Eating the Passover Meal

2. The Symbolic Significance of the Passover Meal

1. Luke 22:19-20 - Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper as a memorial of his death

2. John 6:48-58 - Jesus is the true bread of life and the bread of God that comes down from Heaven

Exodus 12:9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

This verse instructs people to not eat meat raw or boiled, but to roast it with fire, including the head, legs, and internal organs.

1. The Lord's Instructions for Eating Meat: A Study of Exodux 12:9

2. Learning to Follow God's Guidance: A Reflection on the Meaning of Exodus 12:9

1. Leviticus 7:26-27 - "Moreover ye shall eat no manner of blood, whether it be of fowl or of beast, in any of your dwellings. Whatsoever soul it be that eateth any manner of blood, even that soul shall be cut off from his people."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

Exodus 12:10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

The Israelites were instructed not to leave any of the sacrificial lamb overnight, and to burn the remainder with fire.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The power of faith in a life of holiness.

1. Luke 6:46-49, "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?

2. Hebrews 11:4-7, "By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts."

Exodus 12:11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD's passover.

The Israelites were instructed to eat the Passover meal with their clothing ready for a journey, girded, shoes on their feet, and staff in their hand.

1. The Importance of Being Ready - God's call to the Israelites to be ready for their journey is a reminder to us to always stay prepared for life's challenges and opportunities.

2. The Significance of the Passover - The Passover is a reminder of God's faithfulness to His people, as He delivered them from bondage in Egypt.

1. Matthew 24:44 - Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

2. Exodus 15:13 - You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

Exodus 12:12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.

God will punish the gods of Egypt by striking down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Power and Judgement

2. The Faithfulness of God: He Will Do What He Has Promised

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 - "I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known me; that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun, that there is no one besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, the One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these."

2. Psalm 103:19 - "The LORD has established his throne in the heavens; and his sovereignty rules over all."

Exodus 12:13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

The blood of a lamb was a sign of protection from the plague of God on the land of Egypt.

1. The Power of the Blood of the Lamb

2. The Saving Grace of God's Protection

1. Romans 5:9 - Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Exodus 12:14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

This passage emphasizes the importance of keeping the feast of Passover as an eternal ordinance of celebration.

1. Eternal Joy: Celebrating Passover and the Promise of Salvation

2. The Blessing of a Sacred Memorial: Remembering the Significance of Passover

1. Exodus 12:14

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8

Exodus 12:15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

The Israelites are commanded to eat unleavened bread for seven days and if anyone eats leavened bread during that time, they will be cut off from Israel.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commands

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God

1. Deuteronomy 4:2- "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you."

2. Romans 6:23- "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Exodus 12:16 And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.

The Israelites were instructed to observe a holy convocation on the first and seventh day of the week, with no other work to be done except for food preparation.

1. The importance of taking a day of rest and focusing on God

2. Fulfilling God's commands in our lives

1. Colossians 2:16-17 Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

2. Matthew 11:28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 12:17 And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

This passage from Exodus speaks about the observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which was to commemorate the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt.

1. The Power of God's Deliverance: Celebrating the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

2. The Importance of Remembrance: Understanding the Significance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

1. Deuteronomy 16:3 - "You shall eat no leavened bread with it; seven days you shall eat it with unleavened bread, the bread of affliction for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste that all the days of your life you may remember the day when you came out of the land of Egypt.

2. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Exodus 12:18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.

The Israelites were instructed to eat unleavened bread for seven days beginning on the fourteenth day of the first month.

1. The importance of following God's instructions

2. Keeping God's appointed times

1. Deuteronomy 16:3-4 - "You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it, that is, the bread of affliction for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste that you may remember the day in which you came out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life.

2. Matthew 26:26-28 - Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Exodus 12:19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.

The Israelites were to have no leaven in their houses for seven days and anyone who ate leavened food would be cut off from the congregation.

1. The Power of Obedience: The Example of the Israelites

2. The Value of Holiness: Purifying Our Lives Through Obedience

1. Leviticus 23:6-7 - And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

2. 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 - Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Exodus 12:20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.

In the book of Exodus, God commands the Israelites to eat unleavened bread in all their dwellings and to refrain from eating anything leavened.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commandments Can Unleash a Blessing in Your Life

2. The Bread of Life: How Jesus' Unselfish Sacrifice is the Ultimate Symbol of Love

1. Deuteronomy 16:3 - "You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it, that is, the bread of affliction for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste that you may remember the day you came out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life.

2. John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Exodus 12:21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover.

Moses instructed the elders of Israel to take a lamb according to their families and kill the Passover.

1. God's Faithfulness - How God's faithfulness is demonstrated in the sacrifice of the Passover lamb.

2. The Sacrifice of the Passover - How the Passover lamb is a symbol of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice.

1. John 1:29 - "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'"

2. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 12:22 And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.

The Israelites were instructed to take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that was in the bason, and then use the blood to mark the lintel and the two side posts of the door of their houses. They were to stay inside until morning.

1. The Power of Blood: Exploring How God Used Blood to Protect and Sanctify His People

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Examining How Far We Should Go To Follow God's Commands

1. Hebrews 9:22 - In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

2. Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.

Exodus 12:23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.

Passage The LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians and will pass over the door of those who have blood on their lintel and two side posts, protecting them from the destroyer.

1. God is Faithful in His Promises

2. The Power of the Blood of Jesus

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

2. Hebrews 9:22-23 "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these."

Exodus 12:24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

It is commanded to observe the Passover as an ordinance to be followed by the Israelites and their descendants forever.

1. The Power of God's Promises - Exploring the Covenant of Passover

2. Reclaiming the Past - The Eternal Significance of the Passover

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. Hebrews 9:14-15 - "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."

Exodus 12:25 And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.

God promised to give the Israelites a land and commanded them to keep His service when they arrived.

1: We should trust in the Lord and His promises.

2: We should obey the Lord and His commands.

1: Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

2: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"

Exodus 12:26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?

This passage describes the importance of explaining the meaning of the Passover service to the children.

1. Passing on the Passover: The Power of Teaching Our Children

2. The Meaning of the Passover: Explaining the Significance to Our Children

1. John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 - But now, thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Exodus 12:27 That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD's passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.

The LORD's passover was celebrated as a sacrifice and remembrance of when the LORD passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and delivered them, and the people bowed their heads in worship.

1. The Power and Provision of the LORD

2. The Blessing of Worshiping the LORD

1. Psalm 136:1-2 - O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever.

2. Isaiah 12:4-5 - And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

Exodus 12:28 And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

The Israelites followed the commands of Moses and Aaron.

1. Obeying God s Commandments Brings Blessing

2. Submitting to Authority Brings Unity

1. 1 John 2:3-5 - We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

Exodus 12:29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.

At midnight, the Lord struck down all first-borns in Egypt, from Pharaoh to the captives in the dungeon, and all animals.

1. God is Almighty and His Judgement is Unavoidable

2. The Power of Obedience: The Difference between Life and Death

1. Isaiah 48:12-13 Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, whom I have called: I am he, I am the first, and I am the last. My hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand forth together.

2. Exodus 9:16 But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth.

Exodus 12:30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

Pharaoh and all the Egyptians were awoken in the night to find that each house had at least one dead family member.

1. The Power of God to Bring Justice

2. The Reality of Death in Life

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Exodus 12:31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.

God commanded Moses and Aaron to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to serve Him.

1. Trusting God's plan for our lives

2. Obeying God's commands

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 "You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Exodus 12:32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.

This passage from Exodus 12:32 reflects God's command to the Israelites to take all their animals and depart from Egypt with His blessing.

1: God's provision for us is greater than we can imagine. Even when we are faced with seemingly insurmountable odds, He has a plan to take care of us and bless us.

2: We must always remember to trust in God's guidance and not our own. Even when it seems like there is no hope, God's provision will always be there to sustain us.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Exodus 12:33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

The Egyptians wanted the Israelites to leave the land quickly, as they feared they would all die.

1: We should always be willing to leave our comfort zone and obey God's commands, even when it leads to difficult situations.

2: Even in times of adversity, we can trust God to provide for us and protect us from harm.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Exodus 12:34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.

The Israelites took their dough before it was leavened, and had it packed up in their clothing.

1. The Faithfulness of the Israelites - How the Israelites faithfully followed God's instructions, even when it was inconvenient.

2. The Importance of Obedience - Why it is important to obey God's commands, even when it may be difficult.

1. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

2. Hebrews 11:8 - "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went."

Exodus 12:35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:

The children of Israel followed Moses' instructions and borrowed gold, silver and clothing from the Egyptians.

1: God can provide for our needs if we have faith and obedience.

2: We must trust in God's plan and follow it even if it doesn't make sense.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Exodus 12:36 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

The Lord granted favor to the Israelites in the sight of the Egyptians, and the Israelites were able to borrow what they needed from them. In return, they took from the Egyptians.

1. The Lord s Favour: A Blessing to Receive and A Blessing to Give

2. God's Provision: Relying on Him to Meet Our Needs

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

Exodus 12:37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

The Israelites set out from Rameses to Succoth with 600,000 men, plus children.

1: God's faithfulness is revealed in the salvation of His people.

2: God's grace and provision are abundantly evident even in difficult times.

1: Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

2: Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Exodus 12:38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

The Israelites were accompanied by a great mixture of people, animals, and livestock when they left Egypt.

1. The Power of God to Unite People of Different Backgrounds

2. The Importance of Community in Times of Crisis

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 - "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ."

Exodus 12:39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.

The Israelites, who were forced to leave Egypt in haste, had not brought any food with them and were forced to bake unleavened cakes out of the dough they had brought with them.

1. The importance of being prepared for the unexpected

2. God s provision in times of need

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Exodus 12:40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

The Israelites were in Egypt for 430 years.

1. We can learn from the Israelites' faithfulness in facing adversity during their time in Egypt.

2. God's faithfulness endures, even in difficult times.

1. Deuteronomy 6:20-23 - God commanded the Israelites to remember the Lord and the time they spent in Egypt.

2. Romans 8:28 - We can trust that God works all things for our good.

Exodus 12:41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

After 430 years, the Lord led the people of Israel out of Egypt.

1. The Power of Faith: How the Lord's Faithfulness Led the People of Israel Out of Egypt

2. The Faithfulness of the Lord: How the Lord's Promise Led to the Liberation of the People of Israel

1. Deuteronomy 5:15 - You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

2. Hebrews 11:22 - By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

Exodus 12:42 It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

This passage speaks of the night when the Israelites were brought out of the land of Egypt and how it should be observed by the children of Israel in every generation.

1) The Power of Remembering: Celebrating God's Deliverance

2) The Importance of Tradition: Keeping Faith Alive

1) Deuteronomy 4:9-10 - Only take heed to yourself, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; but teach them your sons and your sons sons.

2) Joshua 4:21-24 - Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What are these stones? then you shall let your children know, saying, Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land ; for the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over.

Exodus 12:43 And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:

Passover is an ordinance that only those close to God may partake in.

1. God's ordinances are sacred and should only be shared with those who have a close relationship with Him.

2. Participating in the Passover is an act of obedience and faith in God.

1. Matthew 26:17-30 - Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of His death.

2. Romans 6:15-23 - We are to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to God.

Exodus 12:44 But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof.

This passage speaks of the requirement of circumcision for a servant bought with money in order to partake of the Passover meal.

1. The Significance of Circumcision: A Study of Exodus 12:44

2. God s Provision for His People: Why We Celebrate the Passover

1. Genesis 17:10-14 - God's covenant with Abraham: Circumcision as a sign of the covenant.

2. Colossians 2:11-12 - Circumcision as a sign of spiritual cleansing and renewal through faith in Jesus.

Exodus 12:45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof.

This passage from Exodus 12:45 states that foreigners and hired servants are not allowed to eat the Passover meal.

1. "The Holiness of the Passover Meal" - a on the importance of honoring the sacredness of the Passover meal.

2. "Inclusion and Exclusion in the Passover Meal" - a on the implications of the exclusion of foreigners and hired servants from the Passover meal.

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 - When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt.

2. Deuteronomy 1:16 - "And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren, and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him."

Exodus 12:46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof.

The Israelites were instructed to eat the Passover meal in one house and not to take any of the flesh outside the house or break any of the bones.

1. God's instructions must be followed to the letter.

2. Cherish the sacredness of shared meals.

1. Luke 22:14-22 - Jesus and His disciples observe the Last Supper.

2. Deuteronomy 16:7 - The Israelites were commanded to observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Exodus 12:47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

The Israelites should all observe the Passover.

1. The importance of coming together as a community to observe God's commands.

2. How the Passover in Exodus 12:47 is a reminder of God's faithfulness to His people.

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

2. Hebrews 11:28 - By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

Exodus 12:48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

This verse from Exodus 12:48 talks about the requirement to be circumcised in order to keep the Passover to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Circumcision in Keeping the Passover

2. The Significance of Fulfilling the Lord's Commandments

1. Genesis 17:10-14 - God's command to Abram to be circumcised

2. Romans 2:25-29 - The importance of keeping the law written in one's heart

Exodus 12:49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.

This passage emphasizes the importance of treating everyone equally under one law, regardless of their origin.

1: "Love thy Neighbor: Acting Out God's Equal Mercy

2: No Partiality: Justice for All

1: Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

2: James 2:1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

Exodus 12:50 Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

The children of Israel followed the Lord's commands as given to them by Moses and Aaron.

1. Obeying God's commands leads to blessings.

2. The importance of following the Lord's instructions.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commands.

Exodus 12:51 And it came to pass the selfsame day, that the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.

On the same day, the Lord brought the Israelites out of Egypt with a powerful display of armies.

1. God's deliverance of the Israelites is a reminder of His faithfulness to His people.

2. Even in the face of overwhelming odds, God is always with us to protect and guide us.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Exodus 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 13:1-10, God instructs Moses regarding the consecration of every firstborn among the Israelites. The Lord declares that all firstborn males, both of humans and animals, belong to Him. The Israelites are commanded to sanctify their firstborn sons by dedicating them to God or redeeming them with a sacrifice. Additionally, God establishes the Feast of Unleavened Bread as a perpetual observance to commemorate their deliverance from Egypt. Moses relays these instructions to the people, emphasizing the importance of passing down this tradition to future generations.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 13:11-16, Moses explains further instructions regarding the redemption of firstborn males and how it should be observed. He tells the people that when their children ask about this practice in years to come, they are to explain that it is a remembrance of how God brought them out of Egypt with His mighty hand. The Israelites are also reminded not to forget the sign on their hands and between their eyes the reminder of God's law symbolized by unleavened bread.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 13:17-22 , Moses recounts how God led the Israelites out of Egypt after Pharaoh finally released them. Instead of taking them through Philistine territory which could lead to war and discouragement among inexperienced fighters, God leads them by a longer route through the wilderness towards the Red Sea. During this journey, they are guided by a pillar of cloud during daylight and a pillar of fire at night a visible manifestation representing God's presence ensuring they travel safely until they reach their destination.

In summary:

Exodus 13 presents:

God's instruction regarding consecration or redemption of firstborn;

Establishment of Feast of Unleavened Bread for perpetual observance;

Moses relaying these instructions for passing down through generations.

Further explanation on redemption and its significance;

Command for future generations' understanding and explanation;

Reminder not to forget symbolized by unleavened bread sign.

Accounting how Israelites were led out after Pharaoh's release;

Divine guidance manifested through pillars cloud during day, fire at night;

Safe passage along longer route avoiding conflict until reaching destination.

This chapter highlights significant aspects related to consecration, redemption practices among Israelite community specifically focusing on dedication or ransom associated with every firstborn male while establishing Feast of Unleavened Bread as commemoration linked closely with exodus experience against oppressive pharaonic rule within ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing divine ownership over all creation including human beings as well as importance placed upon remembrance or transmission concerning key events shaping religious identity tied closely with Yahweh's redemptive acts throughout history an emphasis echoed within biblical narratives often seen in various rituals, practices aimed at reinforcing communal memory or faithfulness towards covenantal relationship between deity (Yahweh) and chosen people (Israel).

Exodus 13:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD spoke to Moses, giving instructions.

1. The importance of following the Lord's instructions.

2. God's sovereignty and power in leading His people.

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Exodus 13:2 Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine.

This passage from Exodus 13:2 serves as a reminder of God's sovereignty, that all firstborn belong to him.

1. The Lordship of God: Understanding God's Sovereignty

2. Honoring God through His Firstborn

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord s, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.

2. Psalm 50:10-11 - For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, And the wild beasts of the field are Mine.

Exodus 13:3 And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.

Moses reminds the people of how God freed them from Egypt and that they should not eat leavened bread on this day.

1. God's Strength is Unparalleled: Reflecting on Exodus 13:3

2. The Power of Remembrance: Learning from the People of Exodus 13:3

1. Deuteronomy 16:3 - "You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it, that is, the bread of affliction--for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste--that you may remember the day in which you came out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life."

2. Psalm 136:10-12 - "To Him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, For His lovingkindness is everlasting; And brought Israel out from their midst, For His lovingkindness is everlasting; With a strong hand and an outstretched arm, For His lovingkindness is everlasting."

Exodus 13:4 This day came ye out in the month Abib.

God instructed the Israelites to celebrate their deliverance from Egypt every year by leaving on the same day of the month Abib.

God instructed the Israelites to celebrate their deliverance from Egypt annually by leaving on the same day of the month Abib.

1. The Power of Remembering: Celebrating God's Deliverance

2. The Faithfulness of God: Remembering His Promises

1. Deuteronomy 16:1 - "Observe the month of Abib and keep the Passover to the Lord your God"

2. Joshua 24:17 - "For the Lord our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage"

Exodus 13:5 And it shall be when the LORD shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee, a land flowing with milk and honey, that thou shalt keep this service in this month.

The LORD promised to bring Israel into the Promised Land of Canaan, a land of abundance. He commanded Israel to observe this service in this month.

1. God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises - Exodus 13:5

2. The importance of obeying God's commands - Exodus 13:5

1. Deuteronomy 6:3 - Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

2. Isaiah 43:20 - The beast of the field shall honour me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen.

Exodus 13:6 Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, and in the seventh day shall be a feast to the LORD.

This passage from the book of Exodus describes the Israelites' observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. 1. The Importance of Obeying God s Commandments 2. Making Room for God in Our Lives. 1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 2. Deuteronomy 6:5 - And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Exodus 13:7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days; and there shall no leavened bread be seen with thee, neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters.

The Israelites were commanded to eat unleavened bread for seven days and to not have any leavened bread in their homes.

1. The importance of obeying God's commands

2. The significance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 - "Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Exodus 13:8 And thou shalt shew thy son in that day, saying, This is done because of that which the LORD did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt.

This passage speaks of the importance of recounting the Lord's deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt to their children.

1. God s Faithfulness: Remembering His Deliverance

2. The Power of Testimony: Passing on the Story of God s Grace

1. Deuteronomy 6:20-23 When your son asks you in time to come, saying, What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the LORD our God has commanded you? then you shall say to your son, We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. And the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes.

2. Psalm 78:3-7 What we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Exodus 13:9 And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon thine hand, and for a memorial between thine eyes, that the LORD's law may be in thy mouth: for with a strong hand hath the LORD brought thee out of Egypt.

God commands the Israelites to place a sign on their hands and forehead to remind them of the law and how God brought them out of Egypt with a strong hand.

1. Our Obedience to God's Commandments

2. God's Protection and Provision for His People

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

2. Psalm 124:1-2

Exodus 13:10 Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year.

This passage from Exodus commands that an ordinance should be kept from year to year.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God's Commandments Lead to Blessing

2. The Beauty of the Ordinances: Celebrating God's Presence in Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;

2. Deuteronomy 6:24-25 - And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive.

Exodus 13:11 And it shall be when the LORD shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, as he sware unto thee and to thy fathers, and shall give it thee,

God fulfills His promises by bringing the Israelites into the Promised Land.

1: God is faithful and always keeps His promises.

2: God is powerful and able to fulfill His promises even when it may seem impossible.

1: Joshua 21:45 - Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.

2: Romans 4:21 - And being fully assured that what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Exodus 13:12 That thou shalt set apart unto the LORD all that openeth the matrix, and every firstling that cometh of a beast which thou hast; the males shall be the LORD's.

God commanded that the firstborn of every Israelite family and every firstborn animal be set aside for the Lord.

1. The Power of Dedication: Giving the Best of Ourselves to God

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commandments Brings Fulfillment

1. 1 Chronicles 29:14, "For all things come from You, and from Your hand we have given You."

2. Romans 12:1, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Exodus 13:13 And every firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb; and if thou wilt not redeem it, then thou shalt break his neck: and all the firstborn of man among thy children shalt thou redeem.

God instructs the Israelites to redeem their firstborn sons with a lamb, or break the neck of their firstborn donkey.

1. The Redemptive Power of Jesus Christ: How God Saved Us from Sin

2. The Significance of the Firstborn in the Bible: The Blessing & Responsibility of Leadership

1. Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God s grace.

2. Colossians 1:14 - In Christ we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Exodus 13:14 And it shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What is this? that thou shalt say unto him, By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage:

God used His strength to bring the Israelites out of Egypt and out of slavery.

1. The Strength of God: How God Can Overcome Any Obstacle

2. The Freedom God Brings: Rejoicing in Our Deliverance

1. Psalm 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Exodus 13:15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh would hardly let us go, that the LORD slew all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of beast: therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all that openeth the matrix, being males; but all the firstborn of my children I redeem.

This passage explains that God killed all the firstborn of Egypt because Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, and as a result, Moses vowed to make a sacrifice to the Lord of all the firstborn of his livestock and to redeem the firstborn of his children.

1. The Power of God's Judgment: How the Lord's Wrath Brought Redemption to the Israelites

2. The Significance of Redeeming the Firstborn: The Meaning of Sacrifice and Redemption in Ancient Israel

1. Exodus 4:22-23 - "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son, and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.'"

2. Numbers 3:45-46 - "Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the people of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of their livestock. The Levites shall be mine: I am the LORD."

Exodus 13:16 And it shall be for a token upon thine hand, and for frontlets between thine eyes: for by strength of hand the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt.

God's strength and power is what allowed for the Israelites to be freed from Egypt.

1. The Strength of the Lord: Relying on God's Strength in Times of Trouble

2. The Token of the Lord: How to Remember the Lord's Strength and Faithfulness

1. Psalm 107:13-15 - "Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their chains apart. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!"

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?"

Exodus 13:17 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:

God guides His people away from danger as He leads them to freedom.

1. The Lord will lead us away from danger and towards freedom.

2. God protects us even when we don't realize He is working.

1. Isaiah 48:17-18, Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go. Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

2. John 10:3-4, To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Exodus 13:18 But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.

God led the Israelites out of Egypt and through the wilderness of the Red Sea.

1. God is always in control, even when His plan may seem unclear.

2. Our faith is strengthened when we remain faithful to God, even when the way is unclear.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Deuteronomy 1:30 The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes.

Exodus 13:19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

Moses took the bones of Joseph with him to fulfill the promise that he made to the children of Israel to bring them with him as a reminder of God's promise.

1. Remembering God's Promises: An Exploration of Exodus 13:19

2. Keeping Our Promises to God: Lessons from Joseph's Bones

1. Hebrews 11:22 - By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

2. Genesis 50:25 - So Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones up from here.

Exodus 13:20 And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, in the edge of the wilderness.

The Israelites journeyed from Succoth and camped at the edge of the wilderness in Etham.

1. Journey to the Promised Land: Trusting in God's Provision

2. Taking Steps of Faith in Uncertain Times

1. Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Exodus 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

The Lord guided the Israelites on their journey with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

1. The Lord Our Guide: How God Leads Us Through Life's Journey

2. The Pillar of God's Presence: Experiencing the Comfort of His Presence in Times of Need

1. Psalm 48:14 - For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

2. Isaiah 58:11 - And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Exodus 13:22 He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

The Lord provided guidance for the Israelites in the form of a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night during their journey out of Egypt.

1. "The Lord is Our Guide"

2. "The Pillar of the Lord"

1. Psalm 48:14, For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

2. Matthew 28:20, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Exodus 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 14:1-9, the Lord instructs Moses to have the Israelites turn back and camp by the sea, opposite Baal-zephon. As Pharaoh learns of their change in direction, he regrets releasing them and mobilizes his army to pursue them. The Israelites find themselves trapped between the sea and the approaching Egyptian forces. Fear grips their hearts as they cry out to Moses, questioning why they were brought out of Egypt only to die in the wilderness.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 14:10-18, Moses reassures the people not to fear but to stand firm and witness God's salvation. The Lord commands Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea, causing it to part and form a dry path for the Israelites to cross on dry ground. God promises that He will harden Pharaoh's heart once again so that he will pursue them into the sea. Through this miraculous event, both Egypt and Israel will know that Yahweh is God.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 14:19-31 , an angel of God goes before the Israelites as they make their way through the divided waters of the Red Sea during the night. The pillar of cloud moves from leading them at their front to positioning itself behind them creating a barrier between Egypt's army and Israelite camp providing darkness for one side while illuminating their path on another side throughout this journey. As morning comes, Moses stretches out his hand once more over the sea, causing it to return to its normal state. The pursuing Egyptian army is overwhelmed by water as it collapses upon them none survive.

In summary:

Exodus 14 presents:

Israelites trapped between pursuing Egyptian army and Red Sea;

Fear among people questioning their deliverance from Egypt.

Moses reassures people; God commands stretching hand over sea;

Sea miraculously parts forming dry path for Israelite escape;

Promise of hardening Pharaoh's heart for divine demonstration.

Angel leading Israelites through divided waters during night;

Pillar of cloud providing darkness against Egyptians while illumination for Israel;

Egyptian army overwhelmed by returning waters; none survive.

This chapter portrays a climactic moment in which God demonstrates His power and faithfulness through a miraculous deliverance the crossing of the Red Sea by His chosen people while ensuring destruction upon pursuing Egyptian forces seeking their recapture or annihilation within ancient Near Eastern context often associated with cosmic conflict between deities representing opposing nations or powers an event that would shape collective memory among Hebrews regarding divine intervention amidst seemingly insurmountable obstacles faced during liberation journey against oppressive pharaonic rule a testament not only against human oppressors but also highlighting Yahweh's sovereignty over natural elements or cosmic forces perceived within ancient worldview prevailing at that time period across various cultures throughout region encompassing biblical narrative framework.

Exodus 14:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. God's direction is the surest path to success.

2. God's promises are always reliable.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 14:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, that they turn and encamp before Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, over against Baalzephon: before it shall ye encamp by the sea.

God commands the Israelites to camp at Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, over against Baalzephon.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands

2. The Importance of Community: How Israelites Find Strength in Unity

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

2. James 1:22-24 "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was."

Exodus 14:3 For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.

The Pharaoh believes the Israelites are stuck in the wilderness and unable to escape.

1. God Is In Control: Even When It Seems Like There is No Hope

2. Overcoming Adversity: Breaking Out of the Wilderness

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Exodus 14:4 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honoured upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD. And they did so.

The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart so that he would follow the Israelites, and He was honored over Pharaoh and his host.

1. God's sovereignty over all things, even over Pharaoh's heart.

2. God's faithfulness to His promises, even when Pharaoh refused to yield.

1. Isaiah 43:13 - "Yes, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Exodus 14:5 And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?

The Pharaoh and his servants were distressed when they heard that the Israelites had fled, questioning why they had allowed them to leave their service.

1. God's plan is always greater than our own.

2. We can trust that God will carry out His will in our lives.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Exodus 14:6 And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:

The Lord prepared Pharaoh's chariot and brought His people with Him.

1. God's power and provision in the face of opposition

2. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises

1. Isaiah 31:5 - "Like birds hovering overhead, the Lord Almighty will shield Jerusalem; he will shield it and deliver it, he will pass over it and will rescue it."

2. Jeremiah 46:3-4 - "Prepare your shields, both large and small, and march out for battle! Harness the horses, mount the steeds let us ride! Take your positions with helmets on polish your spears, put on your armor!"

Exodus 14:7 And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.

The Lord instructed Moses to take six hundred chosen chariots of Egypt, along with their captains.

1. God's provision and protection in times of trouble.

2. The importance of obedience in following God's instructions.

1. Matthew 6:31-34 - Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

Exodus 14:8 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.

Pharaoh's heart was hardened by the Lord, causing him to pursue after the children of Israel as they left Egypt with a great display of power.

1. God's Power To Challenge Even The Most Stubborn - Exodus 14:8

2. Seeing God's Hand In Every Situation - Exodus 14:8

1. Isaiah 63:17 - "Why art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?"

2. Romans 9:17 - "For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth."

Exodus 14:9 But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon.

The Egyptians chased after the Israelites, with Pharaoh's horses, chariots, horsemen, and army, until they reached the shore of the Red Sea near Pihahiroth and Baalzephon.

1. God will go before us and fight our battles if we put our trust in Him.

2. God can turn our impossible situations into undeniable miracles.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 14:10 And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

The Israelites were terrified when they saw the Egyptians approaching them. They cried out to the Lord for help.

1. God Is Our Refuge in Times of Trouble - Psalm 46:1

2. Have Faith and Trust in God Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Exodus 14:11 And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

The Israelites had become fearful and complained to Moses about why God had taken them away from Egypt.

1. Trusting in God in times of fear and doubt

2. Relying on God for provision and protection

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Exodus 14:12 Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

The Israelites had previously expressed a desire to remain in Egypt to serve the Egyptians, despite the fact that it would have been better for them to die in the wilderness than to remain in Egypt.

1. Living according to God's plan is better than following our own desires.

2. We should be willing to leave our comfort zones to follow God's will.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Exodus 14:13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

The LORD will show His salvation to the people, and the Egyptians will be gone forever.

1. God is always by our side to show us the way to salvation.

2. Have faith in God and He will provide the way to freedom.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Isaiah 41:10-13 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish. Though you search for your enemies, you will not find them. Those who wage war against you will be as nothing at all. For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you."

Exodus 14:14 The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

The LORD will fight on behalf of His people and they should remain still and be at peace.

1: God is our defender and we should trust in His protection.

2: Have faith that God will fight for us and we should remain in peace.

1: Isaiah 41:10-13 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

Exodus 14:15 And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:

God instructs Moses to tell the Israelites to move forward.

1. Overcoming Fear in Difficult Times

2. Trusting in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Exodus 14:16 But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

God commanded Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea and divide it, so that the children of Israel can pass through on dry ground.

1. God's Power in Overcoming Fear - Trusting God in Difficult Situations

2. Following God's Commands - Obedience and Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Exodus 14:17 And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

God promises to harden Pharaoh's heart and honour Himself through Pharaoh's defeat.

1. God's Promises: How His Plans Always Lead to His Glory

2. Humbled by God's Power: How He Alone Controls Our Fate

1. Isaiah 43:7 - Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Romans 9:17 - For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.

Exodus 14:18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

God will demonstrate His power over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen to make the Egyptians aware of His greatness.

1. God's Strength and Honor in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of Faith in the Almighty

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Exodus 14:19 And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

The angel of God led the camp of Israel and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and stood behind them.

1. God will go before and behind us in times of difficulty.

2. God will never leave us, even when it feels like He is distant.

1. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you."

2. Psalm 139:5-6 "You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it."

Exodus 14:20 And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

The cloud of darkness that came between the camps of Israel and Egypt created a barrier to separate them.

1. The Lord s protection is always with us, even in the midst of the darkest hour.

2. The power of faith and trust in God can create a barrier between us and our enemies.

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. You shall win no conflict by your own strength.

Exodus 14:21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and the Lord caused the sea to separate, creating dry land.

1. God is capable of performing miracles and breaking through seemingly impossible obstacles.

2. The power of faith can lead to incredible outcomes.

1. John 16:33 - "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Exodus 14:22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

God's protection is evident in the miraculous parting of the Red Sea for the Israelites.

1. Trust in the Lord's Mighty Power

2. Drawing Strength from Difficult Circumstances

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 107:29 - He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Exodus 14:23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Pharaoh's army pursued the Israelites to the Red Sea, with Pharaoh's chariots, horses and horsemen.

1. The Pursuit of God s People: Overcoming Adversity in God s Strength

2. The Power of Faith: Standing Firm in the Face of Impossible Odds

1. Hebrews 11:29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted it they were drowned.

2. Exodus 14:14 The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Exodus 14:24 And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

God saved the Israelites from the Egyptians by showing His strength and power.

1: God is our Protector and Savior.

2: Let us be thankful for the ways God provides for us.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2: Hebrews 13:6 "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Exodus 14:25 And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

The LORD fought for Israel against the Egyptians, causing them to flee.

1. God is our protector, and He will fight for us when we are in need.

2. We can put our faith in God, and He will provide strength and courage in times of trouble.

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 14:26 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

The Lord told Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea so that the waters would come back on the Egyptians, their chariots, and horsemen.

1. God's power can be seen in miraculous events.

2. Obeying God's commands brings about His protection.

1. Psalm 66:5 - Come and see the works of God; he is awesome in his doing toward the children of man.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Exodus 14:27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and it returned to its normal strength when morning came. The Egyptians attempted to flee, but the LORD overthrew them in the midst of the sea.

1. God's power can overcome any obstacle

2. When God leads, trust in His provision

1. Isaiah 43:16-17 - "Thus says the Lord, Who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters, Who brings forth the chariot and horse, the army and the power; they shall lie down together, they shall not rise; they are extinguished, they are quenched like a wick"

2. Psalm 107:29-30 - "He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad because they were quiet, so He guided them to their desired haven."

Exodus 14:28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

The waters of the Red Sea closed in on the Egyptians and none of them survived.

1. God's power can overcome any obstacle.

2. When God is on our side, nothing can stand in our way.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Exodus 14:29 But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

The children of Israel miraculously crossed the Red Sea on dry land.

1. God is our Rock and Deliverer

2. The Power of God in our Lives

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Exodus 14:30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

On the day of the Exodus, the Lord saved Israel from the Egyptians, who were left dead on the shore of the sea.

1. God will always save us from our enemies.

2. We can trust the Lord to deliver us from danger.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 14:31 And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.

God's miraculous work on the Egyptians demonstrated His power, and the people feared and believed in Him and His servant Moses.

1. The Power of God in Action

2. The Need for Faith and Obedience

1. Isaiah 40:28-31

2. Romans 1:20-21

Exodus 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 15:1-12, Moses and the Israelites sing a song of praise to God after their miraculous deliverance from the pursuing Egyptian army at the Red Sea. They exalt Yahweh for His triumph over their enemies, acknowledging His power and might. The song recounts the destruction of Pharaoh's chariots and his army in the sea, emphasizing God's role as a warrior and deliverer. The Israelites express gratitude for their rescue and acknowledge Yahweh as their God, promising to build Him a sanctuary.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 15:13-18, the song of praise shifts to proclaiming God's faithfulness and future plans for His people. It highlights how Yahweh leads them with steadfast love, guiding them towards His holy dwelling place the mountain of His inheritance. The nations will hear of these wonders and tremble with fear. God's people are assured that He will bring them into Canaan the promised land and plant them securely there.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 15:19-27 , Miriam leads a procession of women who join in singing and dancing to celebrate the victory over Egypt. They use tambourines and joyful melodies to express their joy and gratitude towards God for His mighty acts. After this celebration, Moses leads the Israelites into the Wilderness of Shur where they travel for three days without finding water. When they finally arrive at Marah, they discover bitter water which is made sweet by a tree thrown into it upon Moses' instruction. There at Marah, God sets forth statutes and rules for His people.

In summary:

Exodus 15 presents:

Song of praise by Moses and Israelites after Red Sea deliverance;

Acknowledgment of Yahweh's power over enemies;

Promise to build sanctuary; gratitude expressed.

Proclamation of God's faithfulness leading towards promised land;

Assurance of secure planting in Canaan;

Nations hearing about wonders performed by Yahweh.

Celebration led by Miriam through singing, dancing;

Gratitude expressed through tambourines, joyful melodies;

Travel through Wilderness; arrival at Marah with bitter water made sweet by divine intervention; establishment of statutes, rules by God.

This chapter showcases an outpouring of praise from Moses and the Israelites following their miraculous escape from Egypt highlighting both gratitude for deliverance from oppressive forces as well as acknowledgment regarding divine attributes such as power or faithfulness demonstrated throughout liberation journey a celebration that includes participation from women like Miriam who play significant roles within Hebrew narrative framework representing expressions or embodiment associated with communal joy amidst worshipful acts reflecting cultural practices prevalent during ancient Near Eastern context often accompanied by music, dance rituals conveying emotional responses evoked due to perceived divine interventions or salvific events shaping religious identity among chosen people (Israel) while reinforcing collective memory regarding pivotal moments encountered during formative stages within biblical history encompassing themes like redemption against oppressive powers or guidance leading towards fulfillment concerning covenantal promises tied closely with land inheritance sought throughout generations.

Exodus 15:1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

Moses and the Israelites sang a song of praise for the Lord's victory over their enemies.

1. The Power of Praise: God's Triumphs in Our Lives

2. A Song of Praise: Rejoicing in God's Victory

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

2. Romans 15:11 - And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

Exodus 15:2 The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

This passage celebrates the Lord as the source of strength, salvation, and joy.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Salvation

2. Experiencing the Strength and Joy of the Lord

1. Psalm 118:14 - The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

2. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Exodus 15:3 The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.

This passage from Exodus speaks of the Lord's power and might as a warrior.

1. The Lord: A Mighty Warrior

2. The Sovereignty of God in War

1. Isaiah 59:16-17 - "He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm achieved salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him. He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak."

2. Psalm 24:8 - "Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle."

Exodus 15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea.

God's power is demonstrated through judgement against Pharaoh and his army.

1. God's judgement is ever present and His power is unrivalled.

2. We must remember to trust in the Lord, for He will deliver us from any situation.

1. Psalm 33:4-5: For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

2. Exodus 15:13: Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

Exodus 15:5 The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.

This passage is a to God's power to defeat enemies of His people.

1: God is powerful and can overcome any obstacle.

2: We can trust in God's power and faithfulness to protect us from our enemies.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Exodus 15:6 Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

The Lord's right hand is powerful, and He has broken His enemies.

1: God's power is beyond compare and He can defeat any enemy.

2: When we are weak, God is strong and will fight for us.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 118:15 - "The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly."

Exodus 15:7 And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

God's greatness and excellency is demonstrated by His power to defeat and consume His enemies.

1. The Power of God Demonstrated in Victory

2. The Wrath of God and Its Consequences

1. Psalm 68:1-2 - "Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Exodus 15:8 And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

God's power over nature is demonstrated in the parting of the Red Sea.

1. The Power of God in the Red Sea Crossing: A Study on Faith in Difficult Times

2. Trusting in the Lord's Provision: Learning from the Red Sea Crossing

1. Exodus 14:21-31 - The Red Sea Crossing

2. Psalm 65:7 - God's power over nature

Exodus 15:9 The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

God's protection against enemies is a powerful reminder for us to trust in Him.

1: Our faith in God will protect us from any enemies that come our way.

2: No enemy is too powerful for God and we can rely on Him for our protection.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Exodus 15:10 Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

The Lord showed his power by using the wind to cover Pharaoh's army with the sea.

1. Through Faith, Even the Mightiest of Obstacles Can Be Overcome

2. The Strength of God Is Mighty and Unstoppable

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 107:29 - He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Exodus 15:11 Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

God is incomparable in His glory and holiness, and He is praised for His wondrous works.

1. The Wonder of God's Uniqueness

2. Celebrating the Majesty of the Almighty God

1. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

2. Psalm 145:3-7 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

Exodus 15:12 Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them.

God demonstrated his power by stretching out his right hand and causing the earth to swallow the enemy.

1. God's Power is Unmatched: A Study of Exodus 15:12

2. The Strength of God and His Righteousness: A Look at Exodus 15:12

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 89:13 - "Your right hand is filled with righteousness. Let Mount Zion be glad; let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgments."

Exodus 15:13 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

God s mercy and strength leads us to safety and holiness.

1. God s Mercy and Strength: The Path to Safety and Holiness

2. The Power of God s Mercy and Strength in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Exodus 15:14 The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina.

The people of Palestine will hear about God's power and fear him, causing them to be filled with sorrow.

1. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

2. The Power of God in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 8:13 - "Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."

2. Psalm 19:9 - "The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

Exodus 15:15 Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed; the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away.

The dukes of Edom and the mighty men of Moab will be filled with amazement, and the inhabitants of Canaan will be filled with fear.

1. Fear God, Not Man - Isaiah 8:12-13

2. Taking Heart in God's Faithfulness - Deuteronomy 7:9

1. The Lord is a Man of War - Exodus 15:3

2. The Lord is Mighty in Power - Psalm 89:8

Exodus 15:16 Fear and dread shall fall upon them; by the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still as a stone; till thy people pass over, O LORD, till the people pass over, which thou hast purchased.

God will cause fear and dread to fall upon His enemies, so that His people can pass through unharmed.

1. Knowing God's Promise of Protection

2. How to Trust God in the Face of Fear

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 27:1 - "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Exodus 15:17 Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance, in the place, O LORD, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O LORD, which thy hands have established.

God has given us a place to live in and a sanctuary to dwell in.

1. God has given us a place to call our own: A place of refuge and safety.

2. The Lord has established a Sanctuary for us to dwell in: A place of shelter and protection.

1. Psalm 91:1-2 "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Isaiah 4:5-6 "And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence. And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the day time from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain."

Exodus 15:18 The LORD shall reign for ever and ever.

The Lord will reign forever and ever.

1. The Unending Reign of God - A reminder of God's eternal reign and how it should affect our lives.

2. Unshakable Faith - How God's unending reign gives us hope and strength in times of doubt and despair.

1. Psalm 145:13 - Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations.

2. Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

Exodus 15:19 For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the LORD brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

The Lord brought the waters of the sea upon Pharaoh's chariots and horsemen, while the Israelites walked through the sea on dry land.

1. God is the ultimate protector of his people.

2. When we trust in the Lord, we are never alone.

1. Psalm 91:14-15 - Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.

2. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

Exodus 15:20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

Miriam leads a procession of women with timbrels and dances.

1. The Power of Women in Worship

2. The Joy of Worship

1. 1 Samuel 18:6,7 - David danced before the Lord with all his might

2. Luke 19:37-40 - Jesus entered Jerusalem with joy, singing and praising God

Exodus 15:21 And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

This passage speaks of Miriam singing in celebration of God's victory over the Egyptians.

1. God's Deliverance - Celebrating God's Victory in Our Lives

2. The Power of Praise - Singing in Appreciation of God's Miracles

1. Psalm 13:5-6 - But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation. I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

2. Psalm 118:15-16 - The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly. The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.

Exodus 15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

Moses led the Israelites out of the Red Sea and into the wilderness of Shur, where they searched three days for water but found none.

1. God tests us even when He provides for us.

2. Faith is essential when facing the unknown.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Exodus 15:23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

The Israelites arrived at Marah, but could not drink the waters as they were bitter.

1. God's provision for us may not always look like what we expect.

2. Even when things are bitter, God still provides.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Exodus 15:24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

The people of Israel grumbled to Moses, asking what they would drink in the desert.

1. Learning to Appreciate What We Have - A Study in Gratitude

2. When the Going Gets Tough: Overcoming Challenges with Faith

1. John 4:14 - "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Exodus 15:25 And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,

Moses cried out to the Lord for help, and the Lord showed him a tree that when put into the waters, they were made sweet. At that spot, Moses made a statute and ordinance and tested the people.

1. God is our Source of Help in Times of Need

2. God Tests Us to Prove our Faith

1. Isaiah 41:17-18 When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

2. Psalm 145:18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

Exodus 15:26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

The passage encourages us to listen to the voice of God, do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep His statutes to avoid diseases.

1. Obeying God is the Key to Health and Wellbeing

2. Understanding the Benefits of Obedience to God

1. Psalm 91:10-11 - No evil shall befall you, no plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

11. Isaiah 53:5 - But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

Exodus 15:27 And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.

The Israelites came to Elim and found twelve wells and seventy palm trees.

1. Learning to trust God even when faced with difficult circumstances.

2. Encouraging strength and unity in the face of adversity.

1. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Exodus 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 16:1-12, the Israelites continue their journey through the wilderness and find themselves facing a new challenge lack of food. They grumble against Moses and Aaron, expressing their longing for the provisions they had in Egypt. God hears their complaints and promises to provide bread from heaven for them. He tells Moses that in the evening, they will have meat to eat, and in the morning, they will have bread. This is a test of their faithfulness to follow God's instructions.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 16:13-21, that evening quail cover the camp as promised by God. The people gather them and have an abundance of meat to eat. In the morning, a layer of dew covers the ground, which evaporates as the sun rises and reveals a fine flake-like substance called manna. The Israelites are instructed to gather only enough for each person's daily needs no more and no less. Those who gather more find that it spoils overnight except on Fridays when they gather twice as much because Sabbath is a day of rest.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 16:22-36 , Moses instructs the people about gathering manna on weekdays and resting on Sabbath a day consecrated by God where no manna will be provided or found in fields. Some disregard this instruction but find that their extra portions become infested with worms or become foul-smelling overnight. However, on Fridays when they gather twice as much for Sabbath observance, it does not spoil or attract worms until after Sabbath ends at sunset.

In summary:

Exodus 16 presents:

Israelites grumbling against lack of food in wilderness;

God's promise to provide bread from heaven;

Instructions given regarding gathering daily provisions.

Quail covering camp providing meat for evening meal;

Manna appearing as fine flakes with dew evaporating;

Command to gather enough for daily needs; double portion before Sabbath.

Instruction about observing Sabbath rest without gathering manna;

Disregard leading to spoiled or infested portions;

Exception made for gathering double portion before Sabbath without spoilage until after sunset.

This chapter portrays another challenging episode during Israelite journey through wilderness following deliverance from Egypt a period marked by scarcity or lack concerning sustenance amidst ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing divine provision often associated with desert regions where nomadic lifestyle necessitates reliance upon supernatural intervention sustaining life highlighting tension between trust, faithfulness versus doubt, grumbling prevalent among Hebrew community confronting hardships encountered while seeking fulfillment concerning covenantal promises tied closely with land inheritance sought throughout generations an event serving not only as reminder regarding Yahweh's faithfulness but also testing obedience towards divine commands shaping communal identity reflecting covenantal relationship between chosen people (Israel) represented by Moses, Aaron while reinforcing memory associated with miraculous acts performed during liberation journey against oppressive pharaonic rule within biblical narrative framework centered around themes like sustenance, miraculous provision against backdrop shaped by cultural practices often observed within ancient religious rituals, practices involving food offerings linked closely with worshipful acts conveying expressions tied closely with gratitude, dependence upon deity (Yahweh) revered within ancient Near Eastern worldview prevailing at that time period across various cultures throughout region encompassing biblical narrative framework.

Exodus 16:1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt.

The children of Israel journeyed from Elim to the wilderness of Sin on the fifteenth day of the second month after leaving the land of Egypt.

1. Learning to Trust God's Timing

2. Trusting in the Lord's Provision

1. Psalm 33:18-19 - Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

2. Exodus 15:26 - saying, If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer.

Exodus 16:2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:

The children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

1. Complaining and murmuring will not get us anywhere. We must have faith in God's plan.

2. Even when things seem difficult, God is still in control and will provide for us.

1. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Exodus 16:3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

The Children of Israel regret leaving Egypt as they are now struggling in the wilderness and fear dying of hunger.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. Trusting in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 139:7-10 - "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

Exodus 16:4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.

God provided manna from heaven as a way to test the Israelites' faithfulness to His law.

1. "God Tests Our Faithfulness"

2. "The Bread from Heaven: Manna and Its Meaning"

1. Deuteronomy 8:3-4 - And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

2. John 6:31-35 - Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Exodus 16:5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.

The people of Israel were instructed to gather twice as much manna on the sixth day.

1. The importance of obedience and faith in God's plan.

2. The power of preparation and planning.

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

2. Luke 12:16-21 - The Parable of the Rich Fool.

Exodus 16:6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt:

Moses and Aaron told the Israelites that in the evening they would know that the Lord had brought them out of Egypt.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Blessed the Israelites Through Their Faith

2. The Journey of Freedom: The Story of the Israelites Fleeing from Egypt

1. Romans 8:31-34 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Exodus 16:7 And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what are we, that ye murmur against us?

The Israelites were murmuring against the Lord and Moses questioned what they had done to deserve it.

1. We must be mindful of our attitude and behavior towards God, even in difficult times.

2. We must be careful to not take our blessings and provisions for granted.

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Exodus 16:8 And Moses said, This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.

Moses tells the people that the Lord will provide for them in the evening and morning, and reminds them that their murmuring is not against them, but against the Lord.

1. "God's Provision in Times of Need"

2. "The Power of Gratitude to Change Our Perspective"

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

Exodus 16:9 And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings.

Moses instructs Aaron to call the Israelites to gather before the LORD, for He has heard their murmuring.

1. Contentment in the Lord: Learning to be at peace with the Lord's plan

2. Trusting Over Murmuring: Rejecting the temptation to grumble and trust in God's provision

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Exodus 16:10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Aaron spoke to the congregation of the children of Israel and the glory of the Lord appeared in a cloud.

1. The Power of Speaking God's Word

2. The Glory of the Lord Revealed

1. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Exodus 16:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Israelites are provided with a miraculous supply of bread from heaven.

The Lord spoke to Moses and provided the Israelites with an abundant supply of bread from heaven.

1. God's Provision in Times of Need

2. Trusting in the Lord amid Uncertainty

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

Exodus 16:12 I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God.

The Lord has heard the complaints of the Israelites and has promised them meat in the evening and bread in the morning to show them that He is the Lord their God.

1: God is always listening and He will always provide.

2: The Lord is the provider of all our needs.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Exodus 16:13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

In the evening, quails came and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay all around them.

1. God always provides what we need - Exodus 16:13

2. God's providential care - Exodus 16:13

1. Matthew 6:25-34 (Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?)

2. Psalm 23:1-3 (The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.)

Exodus 16:14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

This passage from Exodus 16:14 describes a layer of small round things, like hoar frost, that appeared on the face of the wilderness.

1. God's Provision: Learning to Rely on God in Times of Need

2. God's Faithfulness: Experiencing His Grace in Every Situation

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Trusting in God's Provision

2. Psalm 136 - God's Faithfulness and Great Love

Exodus 16:15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

The Israelites found a strange food they had never seen before, and Moses identified it as the bread given to them by the Lord.

1. God Provides - How God provides for us in unexpected ways

2. Knowing God's Voice - How to recognize God's voice in the midst of life's challenges

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not be anxious for your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Exodus 16:16 This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents.

The LORD commanded the Israelites to gather an omer of manna for each person in their tents.

1. Learning to Obey God's Commands

2. The Provision of God's Care

1. Luke 6:46 - "Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say?"

2. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Exodus 16:17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less.

The Israelites gathered to receive their daily portion of manna from God.

1: We are called to receive God's blessings with humility and thankfulness.

2: We should not be jealous of the blessings God gives to others, but be content with our own portion.

1: Philippians 4:11-13 "I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

2: James 1:17 "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Exodus 16:18 And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating.

The Israelites gathered an omer per person for food each day, and no one was left with too much or too little.

1. God Provides: The Israelites' faith in God's provision is exemplified in Exodus 16:18.

2. Abundant Provision: God provided enough for the Israelites each day, no matter how much they gathered, as seen in Exodus 16:18.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - The Message of Trusting in God's Provision

2. Philippians 4:19 - God's Abundant Supply of All Things Needful

Exodus 16:19 And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning.

This passage describes Moses' instruction that none of the manna should be left over until the morning.

1. The Lord's Provision: Trusting God for Daily Bread

2. Discernment: Making Wise Decisions

1. Psalm 78:24-25, "He rained down manna for the people to eat, he gave them the grain of heaven. Human beings ate the bread of angels; he sent them all the food they could eat."

2. Matthew 6:11, "Give us this day our daily bread."

Exodus 16:20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

Some of the Israelites disobeyed Moses and kept some of the manna overnight, resulting in it becoming infested with worms and emitting an unpleasant smell.

1. True Obedience: Learning from the Mistakes of the Israelites

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Lesson from Moses

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2. Proverbs 13:13 - "Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded."

Exodus 16:21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted.

The Israelites gathered manna every morning according to what they needed for that day. When the sun got hot, the manna melted away.

1. Trusting God for Daily Provision

2. The Faithfulness of God in Keeping His Promises

1. Matthew 6:11, "Give us this day our daily bread."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:8-9, "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

Exodus 16:22 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

On the sixth day, the Israelites gathered twice as much bread as the day before. The rulers of the congregation reported this to Moses.

1. God's Provision - God provided more than enough to meet the needs of the Israelites.

2. Faithfulness - The Israelites demonstrated faithfulness in gathering the manna.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Exodus 16:23 And he said unto them, This is that which the LORD hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

God instructed the Israelites to prepare food for the Sabbath day and to store the leftovers until morning.

1. God calls us to set aside time for rest and to honor the Sabbath day.

2. We are called to follow God's instructions and to trust in His provision.

1. Psalm 95:7-8 "For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

2. Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Exodus 16:24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein.

The Israelites gathered manna in the wilderness and followed Moses' instructions to store it until morning, at which time it had neither decayed nor become infested with worms.

1. Obeying God's Instructions Brings Blessing

2. Provision from God in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry and trust in God's provision

2. Psalm 23 - God is our Shepherd and Provider

Exodus 16:25 And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the LORD: to day ye shall not find it in the field.

On the Sabbath, Moses instructed the Israelites that they would not be able to find food in the fields.

1: God has given us the gift of the Sabbath, a special day of rest and reflection.

2: We should be thankful for the Sabbath and use it as an opportunity to focus on God.

1: Hebrews 4:9-10 "So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his."

2: Isaiah 58:13-14 "If you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the Lord, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob. The mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Exodus 16:26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.

This passage explains that six days are designated for gathering manna, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, gathering should not be done.

1. "The Need to Observe the Sabbath"

2. "The Value of Rest"

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking vainly, then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth.

2. Luke 4:16 - And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.

Exodus 16:27 And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none.

On the seventh day, some of the people went out to gather food but found none.

1. God's faithfulness during times of scarcity.

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Deuteronomy 8:3 - And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Exodus 16:28 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?

The Lord asks Moses how long the people of Israel will refuse to keep his commandments and laws.

1: Refusing to Keep God's Commands Brings Punishment

2: Obey God and Live in Righteousness

1: Deuteronomy 6:24 - And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

2: Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Exodus 16:29 See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.

God has provided us with the Sabbath and the two days of bread, and we should remain in our place on the seventh day.

1. God's provision of the Sabbath and the two days of bread is a reminder of His faithfulness and care for us.

2. We should be thankful to God for His provision and faithfully remain in our place on the seventh day.

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the Lord honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words, Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord has spoken.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Exodus 16:30 So the people rested on the seventh day.

The people of Israel rested on the seventh day.

1. God's command to rest on the seventh day is an important part of His plan for our lives.

2. We can find peace and contentment in following God's commands.

1. Hebrews 4:9-11 - There remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 16:31 And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.

The Israelites named the food from God Manna, which had a taste similar to honey-infused wafers.

1. God provides for us in unexpected ways.

2. The importance of having faith in God's provision.

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Exodus 16:32 And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.

Moses reminds the Israelites that the LORD has fed them in the wilderness when they were brought out of Egypt.

1. The Lord Provides for His People: Trusting in God's Provision

2. The Lord's Faithfulness: God Cares for His People

1. Psalm 23:1-6

2. Matthew 6:25-34

Exodus 16:33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations.

This verse from Exodus 16:33 speaks of Moses instructing Aaron to take a pot and fill it with an omer of manna, to be kept as a reminder of the Lord's provision for generations to come.

1: We can learn from the account of Moses and Aaron that the Lord provides for us in our times of need.

2: Let us remember the Lord's provision for us, and pass that knowledge on to the next generation.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry, and to trust in God's provision.

2: Psalm 55:22 - Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you.

Exodus 16:34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.

Aaron placed manna in the Tabernacle to be kept according to the Lord's command.

1. The Importance of Obedience to the Lord

2. The Faithfulness of Aaron in Carrying Out God's Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:5-7 - Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.

Exodus 16:35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

The Israelites ate manna for forty years while they traveled to the land of Canaan.

1. "God's Faithfulness: Experiencing God's Provision During Times of Transition"

2. "The Power of Endurance: Remaining Faithful and Hopeful During Long Journeys"

1. Psalm 78:24 - And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.

2. Deuteronomy 8:3 - And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Exodus 16:36 Now an omer is the tenth part of an ephah.

This verse gives an explanation of the measurement of an omer in relation to an ephah.

1. Learning to Measure Life by God's Standards

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Instructions

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Exodus 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 17:1-7, the Israelites continue their journey through the wilderness and once again face a shortage of water. They grumble against Moses, demanding water to drink. Moses cries out to God for help, expressing his concern that the people may stone him. The Lord instructs Moses to strike a specific rock at Horeb with his staff, and water miraculously gushes forth from it. The people are provided with water to drink, and Moses names the place Massah (meaning "testing") and Meribah (meaning "quarreling") because of the Israelites' complaints.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 17:8-16, the Amalekites come and engage in battle against the Israelites at Rephidim. Moses instructs Joshua to choose men for battle while he himself goes up on a hilltop with Aaron and Hur. As long as Moses holds up his hands with his staff raised towards heaven, Israel prevails in battle; but when he lowers his hands due to fatigue, Amalek gains an advantage. To support Moses, Aaron and Hur provide him a stone to sit on while they hold up his hands until sunset. With their assistance, Joshua leads the Israelite army to victory over Amalek.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 17:14-16 , God commands Moses to write down an account of this victory over Amalek as a memorial for future generations. He declares that He will completely blot out any memory of Amalek from under heaven because they acted as enemies towards His people. Moses builds an altar named Yahweh-Nissi (meaning "the Lord is my banner") symbolizing God's victory over their enemies.

In summary:

Exodus 17 presents:

Israelites facing scarcity of water in wilderness;

Moses striking rock at Horeb water miraculously provided;

Naming of place Massah, Meribah due to complaints.

Battle between Israelites and Amalekites at Rephidim;

Moses holding up hands Israel prevails; lowering Amalek gains advantage;

Assistance from Aaron, Hur supporting Moses until victory achieved.

God's command for writing down account as memorial;

Promise of blotting out memory of Amalek from under heaven;

Building altar named Yahweh-Nissi symbolizing divine victory.

This chapter depicts another challenging episode during Israelite journey through wilderness following deliverance from Egypt a period marked by scarcity or lack concerning essential resources like water amidst ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing divine provision often associated with desert regions where survival hinges upon supernatural intervention sustaining life highlighting tension between trust, faithfulness versus doubt, grumbling prevalent among Hebrew community confronting hardships encountered while seeking fulfillment concerning covenantal promises tied closely with land inheritance sought throughout generations an event serving not only as reminder regarding Yahweh's faithfulness but also testing obedience towards divine commands shaping communal identity reflecting covenantal relationship between chosen people (Israel) represented by Moses, Aaron while reinforcing memory associated with miraculous acts performed during liberation journey against oppressive pharaonic rule within biblical narrative framework centered around themes like sustenance, miraculous provision against backdrop shaped by cultural practices often observed within ancient religious rituals, practices involving offerings linked closely with worshipful acts conveying expressions tied closely with gratitude, dependence upon deity (Yahweh) revered within ancient Near Eastern worldview prevailing at that time period across various cultures throughout region encompassing biblical narrative framework

Exodus 17:1 And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the LORD, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink.

The Children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin to Rephidim, according to the commandment of the LORD, but there was no water for them to drink.

1. The Importance of Following the Lord's Commandments

2. Trusting in God's Provision Despite Difficult Circumstances

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Exodus 17:2 Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the LORD?

The people of Israel complained to Moses for lack of water, but Moses reminded them that this was a test from God.

1. The Lord Tests Us: Learning to Trust in God's Provision

2. Discernment in Times of Crisis: How to Identify and Respond to Tests from God

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Exodus 17:3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

The people of Israel complained to Moses about their lack of water during their journey in the desert.

1. God always provides in times of need.

2. We must be patient and trust in the Lord's plan.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Exodus 17:4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

Moses was in distress and asked God for help.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times

2. Relying on the Lord in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Exodus 17:5 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

Moses was instructed by the LORD to take some of the elders of Israel and his rod to lead the people.

1. Obedience: A Key to God's Blessing

2. The Power of Leadership

1. Isaiah 30:21, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

2. Matthew 28:19-20, Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Exodus 17:6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Moses was instructed by God to strike the rock in Horeb and water flowed out of it for the Israelites to drink.

1. God's Provision for His People - How God provides for us even in the desert

2. Trusting God in Times of Need - Learning to rely on God even in difficult times

1. Psalm 78:15-16 - He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the depths

2. Isaiah 48:21 - They thirsted not when he led them through the deserts; he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them

Exodus 17:7 And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, Is the LORD among us, or not?

The children of Israel tested the Lord's presence by asking if He was among them, and God responded by naming the place Massah and Meribah in remembrance of their chiding.

1. The Lord Is Always With Us: A Study of Massah and Meribah

2. Testing God: A Reflection on the Children of Israel's Mistake

1. Deuteronomy 6:16 - Do not put the Lord your God to the test as you did at Massah.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

Exodus 17:8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

The Israelites encountered Amalek in Rephidim and fought with them.

1. We must be prepared to face opposition in our journey of faith.

2. God will give us strength to fight our spiritual enemies.

1. Ephesians 6:12-13 - "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Exodus 17:9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

Moses instructs Joshua to choose out men and fight against Amalek. Moses will be on top of the hill with the rod of God in his hand.

1: God's power is evident when we trust in him and rely on his strength.

2: We are called to boldly follow God's instructions and trust in his wisdom.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Exodus 17:10 So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

Joshua followed the instructions of Moses and fought against Amalek. Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

1. God's faithfulness and trustworthiness in leading us and providing us with victory.

2. The importance of humility and obedience to God's will.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 121:1-2 - I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

Exodus 17:11 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

When Moses held his hand up, Israel was victorious in battle against Amalek, and when he let his hand down, Amalek was victorious.

1. Relying on God s Strength for Victory

2. The Power of Persistence in Prayer

1. 1 Chronicles 5:20 - And they were helped against them, and the Hagarites were delivered into their hand, and all that were with them; for they cried to God in the battle, and he was intreated of them; because they put their trust in him.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:17 - Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you.

Exodus 17:12 But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

Moses' hands became heavy during battle, so Aaron and Hur helped support his hands until the sun went down.

1. The importance of supporting each other through difficult times.

2. How God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

1. Ephesians 4:16 - "From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

2. Psalm 121:3-4 - "He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Exodus 17:13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with a sword.

1. The Power of Faith: How Joshua Overcame Amalek

2. The Strength of the Sword: Victory Through Force

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 40:30-31 - Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Exodus 17:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

This passage highlights God's promise of deliverance from Amalek, a plague of the Israelites.

1: God's promises are faithful and unending.

2: We must have faith in God and His promises.

1: Psalm 33:4 "For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does."

2: Romans 10:17 "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Exodus 17:15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi:

Moses built an altar and named it Jehovahnissi.

1. The importance of having a foundation of faith in our lives.

2. The power of a meaningful name.

1. Psalm 20:1-2 - May the Lord answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

2. Isaiah 25:1 - Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things.

Exodus 17:16 For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.

This passage from Exodus 17:16 describes how God has declared an everlasting war against the Amalekites.

1. Understanding God's Eternal War

2. The Meaning of God's Declaration of War

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. 1 Peter 3:9 - Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

Exodus 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 18:1-12, Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, hears about all the wonders God has done for the Israelites and comes to visit Moses in the wilderness. Jethro brings Moses' wife, Zipporah, and their two sons with him. Upon meeting Moses, Jethro rejoices and offers sacrifices to God. The next day, seeing that Moses is overwhelmed with judging disputes among the people from morning till evening, Jethro advises him to appoint capable leaders who can assist in resolving minor issues while leaving major cases for Moses to handle.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 18:13-26 , following Jethro's advice, Moses appoints trustworthy men from among the Israelites as leaders over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. These leaders help judge the people's disputes according to God's laws and commandments. They handle smaller matters themselves while bringing more significant cases before Moses. This delegation of responsibilities lightens Moses' burden and ensures a more efficient system of governance.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 18:27 , after implementing Jethro's counsel regarding leadership structure within the community of Israelites during their wilderness journey towards promised land Moses bids farewell to his father-in-law who returns to his own land a departure marked by mutual respect, affection reflecting positive relationship between two individuals representing different cultural backgrounds united through shared faith or recognition concerning divine acts performed by Yahweh throughout liberation journey against oppressive pharaonic rule an event highlighting importance placed upon wise counsel, advice often sought within ancient Near Eastern context shaped by cultural practices involving communal decision-making processes where experienced elders play significant roles providing guidance or support based upon accumulated wisdom, knowledge often associated with maintaining social cohesion, order amidst challenges encountered during formative stages within biblical history encompassing themes like leadership, governance tied closely with covenantal relationship between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel) exemplified by figures such as Moses, Jethro serving as examples of collaboration across generational, cultural boundaries aimed at achieving common goals centered around fulfilling divine purposes shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period

Exodus 18:1 When Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father in law, heard of all that God had done for Moses, and for Israel his people, and that the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt;

Jethro rejoices at God's deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt.

1: Rejoice in the Lord for all that He has done.

2: God is the deliverer, and He is faithful to His people.

1: Psalm 118:24 - This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2: Isaiah 12:2 - Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.

Exodus 18:2 Then Jethro, Moses' father in law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife, after he had sent her back,

Moses' father-in-law Jethro reunited Moses and his wife Zipporah after sending her away.

1: Marriage is a covenant relationship, and should never be entered into lightly.

2: No matter the circumstance, God is ultimately in control and will bring about the right outcome.

1: Malachi 2:14-16 But you say, Why does he not? Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring.

2: Ephesians 5:22-33 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word.

Exodus 18:3 And her two sons; of which the name of the one was Gershom; for he said, I have been an alien in a strange land:

Moses' father-in-law Jethro welcomed him and his family into his home and gave them a place of refuge.

1. The Power of Hospitality: Welcoming Strangers into our Lives

2. Embracing the Stranger: A Look at Moses' Example

1. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

2. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Exodus 18:4 And the name of the other was Eliezer; for the God of my father, said he, was mine help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh:

Moses' father-in-law Jethro had two grandsons, one named Gershom and the other named Eliezer. Eliezer's name was given to him because God had been a help to him in delivering him from the sword of Pharaoh.

1. God is Our Help in Times of Trouble

2. The Greatest Deliverance: Freedom from Sin

1. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Exodus 18:5 And Jethro, Moses' father in law, came with his sons and his wife unto Moses into the wilderness, where he encamped at the mount of God:

Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, arrives with his family to visit Moses in the wilderness at the mountain of God.

1. The Power of Relationships: The Importance of Family

2. Following God's Call Even in the Wilderness

1. Matthew 19:5 - "And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh."

2. Exodus 3:1 - "Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb."

Exodus 18:6 And he said unto Moses, I thy father in law Jethro am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her.

Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, visited him with his wife and two sons.

1. Welcoming Others with Kindness: A Lesson from Moses

2. The Importance of Family: Reflections from the Story of Moses

1. Exodus 18:6

2. Matthew 10:34-37 Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.

Exodus 18:7 And Moses went out to meet his father in law, and did obeisance, and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare; and they came into the tent.

Moses meets his father-in-law and greets him with respect.

1. Respect for our elders

2. The importance of family

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 23:22 - Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

Exodus 18:8 And Moses told his father in law all that the LORD had done unto Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, and all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and how the LORD delivered them.

Moses recounts the Lord's deeds for Israel to his father-in-law.

1. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times

2. The Lord's Provision for His People

1. Deuteronomy 7:8 - "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples."

2. Psalm 107:6 - "Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses."

Exodus 18:9 And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

Jethro rejoiced for God's goodness to Israel in delivering them from the Egyptians.

1. God's Deliverance: A Call to Praise and Thanksgiving

2. The Power and Love of God: A Source of Joy

1. Psalm 34:1-3 - "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!"

2. Isaiah 12:2-6 - "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Exodus 18:10 And Jethro said, Blessed be the LORD, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

Jethro blessed the Lord for delivering the people of Israel from the Egyptians and Pharaoh.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Deliverance

2. Trusting in the Lord's Protection

1. Psalm 34:2-3 - My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice. O magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together.

2. Deuteronomy 6:23 - So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

Exodus 18:11 Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly he was above them.

God is greater than any other gods.

1: We can find strength and security in God because He is greater than any of the other gods.

2: It is important to trust in the Lord because He is superior to all other gods.

1: Isaiah 40:25-26 To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

2: Psalm 135:5-6 For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.

Exodus 18:12 And Jethro, Moses' father in law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God: and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses' father in law before God.

Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, offered burnt offerings and sacrifices to God, and Aaron and the elders of Israel gathered together with him to share a meal before God.

1. The Power of Fellowship: How Coming Together to Worship Unites Us

2. The Significance of Sacrifice: Understanding the Meaning Behind the Offering

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2. Leviticus 1:1-3 - The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting. He said, Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When any of you brings an offering to the Lord, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock.

Exodus 18:13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.

The next day, Moses judged the people from morning until evening.

1. The importance of patience in seeking justice.

2. The need for a just and impartial judge.

1. Proverbs 18:17 - "The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him."

2. Leviticus 19:15 - "You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor."

Exodus 18:14 And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What is this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even?

Moses' father in law saw all the work Moses was doing for the people and questioned why he was sitting alone while everyone else had to stand.

1. The Importance of Delegating Work - Exodus 18:14

2. The Need for Rest in Service - Exodus 18:14

1. Proverbs 12:24 - The hand of the diligent will rule, while the slothful will be put to forced labor.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 18:15 And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to enquire of God:

Moses was consulted by the people of Israel for matters of faith.

1. The Importance of Faith and Trust in God

2. Knowing When to Seek Guidance from Others

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Exodus 18:16 When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws.

Jethro advised Moses to appoint men of truth and wisdom to judge the people and teach them the laws of God.

1. The Wisdom of Jethro: Appointing Judges in the Church

2. The Godly Leadership Model: Teaching the Law of God

1. Deuteronomy 16:18-20 - Appointing judges and officers in all your gates.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 - And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Exodus 18:17 And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good.

Moses was advised against his actions by his father-in-law.

1: We should always take wise counsel from others.

2: We should be willing to accept criticism for our own good.

1: Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2: Proverbs 19:20 - Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

Exodus 18:18 Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.

Moses was overwhelmed with the responsibility of leading the Israelites and was advised by his father-in-law to delegate tasks to others.

1. Delegating responsibility in times of overwhelm 2. Being humble and recognizing our own limitations

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." 2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

Exodus 18:19 Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:

This passage emphasizes the importance of guidance and counsel from God.

1. "The Source of Guidance: Seek God's Counsel"

2. "Finding Direction: Trusting in God's Wisdom"

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Exodus 18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

Moses was instructed to teach the Israelites God's ordinances and laws and to show them the way they must go and the work they must do.

1. Living Out the Law: Obeying God's Commandments

2. Finding Direction in Life: Following God's Path

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. But the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Exodus 18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

Moses was instructed by God to choose leaders who were godly, truthful and not greedy to lead the people.

1. The Qualities of a Godly Leader

2. The Need for Righteousness in Leadership

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2. Isaiah 33:15 - He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil.

Exodus 18:22 And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

Moses was instructed to appoint judges to help him with carrying out the laws of God and making decisions. The judges were responsible for judging smaller matters, while Moses would make the final decision on more important matters.

1. The importance of delegating responsibility to help carry out God s work.

2. Learning to trust the judgement of others when making important decisions.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Exodus 18:23 If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.

Moses is instructed to choose capable men to serve as leaders and judges in order to help him govern the people of Israel, so that they may live in peace.

1. The Importance of Leadership and Good Judgement

2. The Power of Unity and Working Together

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Exodus 18:24 So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.

Moses listened to his father-in-law's advice and did everything he said.

1. A lesson in obedience: How Moses trusted and followed the advice of his father-in-law.

2. The importance of listening to wise counsel: Following the example of Moses.

1. Proverbs 19:20-21 Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2. 1 Peter 5:5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Exodus 18:25 And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

Moses appointed wise and capable men from all of Israel to serve as rulers of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.

1. The Value of Wise Leadership: How We Can Learn from Moses

2. Appointing Leaders in the Church: The Example of Moses

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Exodus 18:26 And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

The Israelites appointed judges who were responsible for adjudicating all legal matters, with serious cases being brought to Moses and less serious cases being dealt with by the judges.

1. "Responding to the Call: The Role of Leadership in the Church"

2. "The Responsibility of Discernment: Learning from the Israelite Judges"

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Exodus 18:27 And Moses let his father in law depart; and he went his way into his own land.

Moses showed humility and kindness by releasing his father-in-law.

1. The Power of Humility

2. Kindness in Action

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

2. Matthew 7:12 - "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Exodus 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 19:1-9, the Israelites arrive at Mount Sinai three months after leaving Egypt. God instructs Moses to tell the people that He has brought them out of Egypt and made them His treasured possession, a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Moses relays this message to the people, and they respond with obedience and readiness to do all that God commands. Moses then conveys their response to God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 19:10-15, God instructs Moses to consecrate the people and have them wash their garments in preparation for His appearance on Mount Sinai. Boundaries are set around the mountain, warning the people not to approach it or touch its base on pain of death. They are instructed to purify themselves for two days before witnessing God's presence.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 19:16-25 , on the third day after their consecration, thunderings, lightnings, a thick cloud, and a loud trumpet sound accompany God's descent upon Mount Sinai. The mountain is covered in smoke as it quakes violently. The people tremble with fear as Moses leads them towards the presence of God while warning them not to break through the boundaries set by Yahweh. Moses ascends further up the mountain where he speaks with God.

In summary:

Exodus 19 presents:

Israelites arriving at Mount Sinai;

God declaring their special status as His treasured possession;

People responding with obedience, readiness.

Preparation for God's appearance on Mount Sinai;

Instructions for consecration, washing garments;

Setting boundaries around mountain; purification required.

God's descent upon Mount Sinai amidst thunder, lightning, smoke, quaking;

People trembling in fear; Moses leading them towards presence of God;

Moses ascending further up mountain for communication with Yahweh.

This chapter marks a significant moment in Israelite history the arrival at Mount Sinai where they encounter divine revelation amidst ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing sacred encounters often associated with mountains or elevated locations symbolizing divine presence or communication highlighting themes like covenantal relationship between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel) exemplified by figures such as Moses serving as mediator, intermediary conveying divine messages, instructions shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture of awe, fear experienced by Israelites during encounters involving supernatural phenomena evoking responses tied closely with reverence, obedience while underscoring importance placed upon ritual purity, preparation associated with approaching divine presence often characterized by symbolic acts like washing garments or setting boundaries aimed at maintaining proper decorum, respect within sacred contexts tied closely with worshipful acts reflecting cultural practices prevalent during ancient Near Eastern worldview informing biblical narrative framework concerning relationship between humanity, divinity within broader cosmic order encompassing themes like holiness, separation tied closely with covenantal obligations binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to priesthood, nationhood serving as representatives bearing witness concerning faithfulness towards deity revered within religious traditions prevalent among Hebrew community seeking fulfillment regarding land inheritance promised throughout generations

Exodus 19:1 In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

The children of Israel left Egypt and arrived in the wilderness of Sinai on the same day.

1. The Power of God's Timing - How God perfectly orchestrated the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt.

2. The Journey Through the Wilderness - Reflection on the journey of the Israelites from Egypt to Sinai.

1. Psalm 81:10 - I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

2. Matthew 19:26 - With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

Exodus 19:2 For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount.

Israel journeyed from Rephidim to the desert of Sinai and camped before the mountain.

1: Even in times of hardship, God will always provide a way for His people.

2: Have faith that God will lead you to the place He has chosen for you.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Matthew 6:26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Exodus 19:3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel;

Moses was called by the Lord out of the mountain to tell the people of Israel what the Lord commanded.

1. The Lord Calls Us to His Will

2. Obedience to the Lord s Commands

1. Matthew 28:19 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

2. Romans 10:14-15 - How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Exodus 19:4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

The Lord provided protection and guidance to the Israelites as He brought them to Himself.

1. God's Provision: The Power of His Protection

2. An Eagle's Wings: Experiencing the Faithfulness of God

1. Deuteronomy 32:10-12 - He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; He led him about, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

The Lord calls the Israelites to obey His voice and keep His covenant so they can be a special treasure to Him.

1. God's Covenant: A Special Treasure

2. Obeying God's Voice: The Path to God's Favor

1. Psalm 135:4 - For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession

2. Isaiah 43:21 - This people I have formed for myself; They shall declare my praise.

Exodus 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

God called the Israelites to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

1. God's call to holiness: Living a life of devoted service to God

2. God's faithfulness: A call to be faithful to Him in all we do

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

2. Revelation 1:5-6 - And from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Exodus 19:7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him.

Moses called together the elders of the people and shared with them all of the Lord's commands.

1. God's Commands: Obeying God's Instructions with Obedience and Humility

2. The Importance of Listening: Understanding the Lord's Voice through Discernment

1. Jeremiah 7:23 - Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Exodus 19:8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

The people of Israel responded in agreement to God's commands, and Moses relayed the people's words to the Lord.

1. Obedience to God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Power of United Commitment

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33, You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Joshua 24:14-15, Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Exodus 19:9 And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee for ever. And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD.

The Lord spoke to Moses and promised to come to him in a thick cloud so that the people may hear and believe.

1. The Power of God's Presence

2. The Benefits of Faithful Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

2. Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Exodus 19:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes,

The LORD instructed Moses to sanctify the people and have them wash their clothes.

1. The Power of Sanctification: How We can be Set Apart for the Lord

2. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: The Importance of Washing Our Clothes

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Titus 2:11-12 - For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

Exodus 19:11 And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

The Lord will come down to Mount Sinai on the third day.

1. Our Lord s presence is a blessing to us all.

2. The Lord s promise of His presence is a source of hope.

1. Psalm 121:1-2 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Exodus 19:12 And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death:

God called the Israelites to be a holy people, and to demonstrate this holiness, God set boundaries that the Israelites were not to cross.

1. God calls us to holiness and obedience, with the promise of life if we follow Him.

2. Our faithfulness is demonstrated in our respect and submission to God's boundaries.

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 - For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Exodus 19:13 There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount.

The Israelites were commanded to keep the mountain of God holy and not touch it, otherwise they will be stoned or shot.

1: Holiness is the path to life, and it is important to give priority to God's laws and commandments.

2: We must take care of God's holy mountain and respect the limits set by Him, and not to transgress them.

1: Matthew 5:17-20 - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

2: Hebrews 12:18-24 - "For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned. Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, I tremble with fear. But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel."

Exodus 19:14 And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes.

The people of Israel were sanctified and purified through washing their clothes in preparation for meeting with God.

1. "Washing Ourselves Before Meeting with God"

2. "Purifying Ourselves Through Repentance"

1. Matthew 3:4-6 - And John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Exodus 19:15 And he said unto the people, Be ready against the third day: come not at your wives.

God commanded the people of Israel to prepare for the third day and told them not to come near their wives.

1. Living a Life of Holiness: Learning from the People of Israel

2. Obedience to God and Its Importance

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

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

Exodus 19:16 And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

The third day of the Exodus brought thunders, lightnings, a thick cloud, and a loud trumpet call that caused all in the camp to tremble.

1. God's Voice: Listening and Responding to His Call

2. The Power of God and the Fear of His Presence

1. Deuteronomy 4:24, "For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God."

2. Psalm 29:3-9, "The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the Lord is upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars; yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn. The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness; the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory."

Exodus 19:17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

Moses led the people out of the camp to the foot of Mount Sinai to meet with God.

1. Obeying God's Call: The Example of Moses

2. Trusting God's Guidance in the Wilderness

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Hebrews 12:18-19 - "You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them."

Exodus 19:18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

The Lord descended on Mount Sinai in fire and smoke, causing the mountain to quake.

1. God's Presence is Powerful and Unstoppable

2. A Call to Stand in Awe of the Lord

1. Isaiah 64:1-3

2. Psalm 18:7-15

Exodus 19:19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

Moses spoke to God and God answered him through a loud and powerful trumpet sound.

1. The Power of Prayer: Understanding the Strength of Our Voice with God

2. Receiving God's Call: Listening for His Voice Amidst the Noise

1. James 5:16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Psalm 95:6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Exodus 19:20 And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up.

God's presence was revealed to Moses atop Mount Sinai.

1. The power of God's presence in our lives

2. The significance of Mount Sinai in God's plan

1. Isaiah 6:1-5 - The prophet Isaiah's vision of the LORD in the temple

2. Psalm 11:4 - The LORD is in His holy temple; the LORD s throne is in heaven.

Exodus 19:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go down, charge the people, lest they break through unto the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish.

The Lord commanded Moses to warn the people not to come too close to the mountain or else they would die.

1. Do Not Test God's Patience

2. The Lord is a God of Mercy and Justice

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Exodus 19:22 And let the priests also, which come near to the LORD, sanctify themselves, lest the LORD break forth upon them.

The Lord commands the priests to sanctify themselves in order to prevent the Lord from breaking forth upon them.

1. The Importance of Sanctification

2. The Power of God's Wrath

1. Hebrews 12:14 - Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:11 - Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

Exodus 19:23 And Moses said unto the LORD, The people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it.

The Lord commanded Moses to set boundaries around Mount Sinai and to sanctify it.

1. The Importance of Boundaries in Our Lives

2. The Holiness of Setting Apart a Place for Worship

1. Psalm 99:5 - "Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! He is holy!"

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Exodus 19:24 And the LORD said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the LORD, lest he break forth upon them.

God instructs Moses and Aaron to ascend Mount Sinai, but warns them not to let the people and priests break through to the Lord's presence.

1. Obeying God's commands: A lesson from Exodus 19:24

2. Being Faithful to God's Instructions: An example from Exodus 19:24

1. Deuteronomy 5:22-24 These words the Lord spoke to your whole assembly on the mountain out of the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and he added no more. And he wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. And as soon as you heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes, and your elders.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Exodus 19:25 So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.

Moses spoke to the people to tell them the Lord's commands.

1. Obey the Lord and His Commands

2. Listen to Those Who Speak in the Lord's Name

1. John 14:15-17 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.

Exodus 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 20:1-11, God speaks to Moses and the Israelites from Mount Sinai. He begins by proclaiming the Ten Commandments, which serve as foundational moral laws for His people. The commandments include instructions to worship only Yahweh, not to make or worship idols, not to take God's name in vain, and to observe the Sabbath day as a day of rest and worship. These commandments emphasize the importance of exclusive devotion to God and proper reverence for His name.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 20:12-17, God gives further commandments that pertain to human relationships. He instructs the Israelites to honor their parents, forbids murder, adultery, theft, false witness against others, and coveting what belongs to others. These commandments establish principles of justice and integrity within society promoting respect for authority figures such as parents while prohibiting harmful actions towards others such as lying or desiring what rightfully belongs to someone else.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 20:18-26 , after hearing the thunderings and seeing the lightning on Mount Sinai during God's revelation of the Ten Commandments the people are filled with fear and ask Moses to serve as an intermediary between them and God. They express their desire for Moses alone to receive divine instructions since they fear direct contact with Yahweh may lead to their destruction. Moses reassures them that this display of power is meant to instill reverence but not harm them. Additionally, God provides instructions regarding altars made for Him ensuring they are built without using tools made by humans so as not to defile them.

In summary:

Exodus 20 presents:

God proclaiming Ten Commandments from Mount Sinai;

Emphasis on exclusive worship of Yahweh;

Instructions regarding Sabbath observance.

Commandments concerning human relationships;

Promoting honor towards parents; prohibition against murder, adultery, theft, false witness, coveting;

Establishment of principles guiding just behavior within society.

Fearful response of people witnessing divine manifestation at Mount Sinai;

Request for Moses' intermediary role between them and God;

Reassurance from Moses regarding purpose behind display; instructions regarding altars.

This chapter marks a pivotal moment in Israelite history the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai where divine moral laws are revealed amidst ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing covenantal obligations tied closely with ethical conduct often associated with sacred encounters involving communication between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel) exemplified by figures like Moses serving as mediator, intermediary shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture of awe, fear experienced by Israelites during encounters involving supernatural phenomena evoking responses tied closely with reverence, obedience while underscoring importance placed upon adherence towards moral principles governing both religious devotion, worship practices alongside social interactions within broader community encompassing themes like monotheism, exclusivity tied closely with covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to justice, righteousness serving as pillars supporting communal well-being amidst broader cosmic order reflecting ancient Near Eastern worldview informing biblical narrative framework concerning relationship between humanity, divinity

Exodus 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying,

God gave the Ten Commandments to the people of Israel to help them live righteously.

1: The Ten Commandments are still relevant today and can be used as a guide for living a righteous life.

2: We must strive to live in accordance with the Ten Commandments so that we can better understand God's will.

1: Matthew 22:37-40 - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.

God gave the Ten Commandments to the people of Israel to provide guidance on how to live a righteous life.

Exodus 20:2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

God has delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and reminded them of the importance of honoring Him.

1: We must always remember the Lord's faithfulness to His people and strive to obey Him in all we do.

2: We must be thankful for God's deliverance of us from our bondage and give Him the praise and glory He deserves.

1: Deuteronomy 6:20-22 - And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you? Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh s bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes.

2: Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour.

Exodus 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

This passage is a commandment from God to not worship any other gods besides Him.

1. "The Importance of Staying Faithful to God"

2. "Recognizing God as the Only God"

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Psalm 96:5 - "For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens."

Exodus 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

The Bible warns us against creating physical representations of God.

1. Worship only God and not idols.

2. Do not be deceived by false gods.

1. Jeremiah 10:5 - For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the axe.

2. Matthew 4:10 - Then Jesus said to him, Away with you, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.

Exodus 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

God commands us not to bow down or serve idols, and he is a jealous God who punishes the sins of the fathers onto their children.

1. God desires our hearts and nothing should come before Him.

2. We must be mindful of our actions and the consequences they can have on our families.

1. Matthew 22:37-38 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment.

2. 1 John 4:20-21 - If anyone says, I love God, yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Exodus 20:6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

This passage from the Bible speaks of God's loving mercy towards those that love Him and keep His commandments.

1: God's Loving Mercy - Exodus 20:6

2: The Joy of Keeping God's Commandments - Exodus 20:6

1: Deuteronomy 5:10 - "And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."

2: Matthew 22:37-40 - "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Exodus 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

This passage from Exodus emphasizes the importance of respecting God's name and not using it lightly.

1. The Power of a Name: Respect the Name of the Lord

2. What Does it Mean to Take God's Name in Vain?

1. Leviticus 19:12 - "And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.

2. Psalm 111:9 - "He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name."

Exodus 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy.

1: When we remember to keep the Sabbath day holy, we honor God and give ourselves a day of rest.

2: Taking one day each week to rest and honor God is essential for our spiritual, mental, and physical health.

1: Hebrews 4:9-11 - There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.

2: Colossians 2:16-17 - So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

Exodus 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

Six days of work should be done each week with diligence and dedication.

1. Work hard and faithfully, for that is what God requires of us.

2. Resting in the Lord is essential, but so is working diligently.

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom."

Exodus 20:10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

The seventh day is a Sabbath day to be kept holy for the Lord. All work should be abstained from on this day, including by family members, servants, and even livestock.

1. "The Sacredness of the Sabbath: Keeping the Day Holy"

2. "The Significance of the Sabbath: A Day of Rest for All"

1. Isaiah 58:13 - "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable;"

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 - "So then there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience."

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

God created the world in six days and blessed and hallowed the seventh day (the Sabbath).

1. The Sabbath: A Day of Rest and Reflection

2. The Creation Story: An Inspiration to Us All

1. Genesis 2:1-3

2. Matthew 11:28-30

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Honour parents and obey God to be blessed.

1. The Importance of Honoring Parents

2. Obedience to God is a Blessing

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Colossians 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

This passage from Exodus emphasizes the importance of respecting life and not taking it away from another.

1. Respect Life: How to have Compassion for Others

2. The Sacredness of Life: The Power of Forgiveness

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. Matthew 5:21-26 - You have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.

Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

This passage stresses the importance of remaining faithful in a marriage, reminding us of God's commandment to not commit adultery.

1. "Commitment in Marriage: Keeping Our Vows"

2. "God's Promise of Faithfulness: An Example to Follow"

1. Hebrews 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

Exodus 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

This passage from Exodus reminds us that stealing is wrong and goes against God's commands.

1. The Sin of Stealing: Examining the Consequences of Disobedience

2. Living a Life of Integrity: Understanding the Importance of Honesty

1. Proverbs 28:24: Whoever robs his father or his mother and says, That is no transgression, is a companion to a man who destroys.

2. Ephesians 4:28: Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Exodus 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

God commands us not to lie or spread rumors about our neighbors.

1. The Danger of Lying: Why We Must Not Bear False Witness Against Our Neighbors

2. The Power of Honesty: Keeping Our Word to Our Neighbors

1. Proverbs 12:17-22 - He who speaks truth tells what is right, but a false witness, deceit.

2. Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Exodus 20:17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

God commands us not to covet our neighbor's possessions, including their house, spouse, servants, or animals.

1. Our Hearts Belong to God - Not to Covetousness

2. Contentment in All Things - Giving up the Urge to Take What Is Not Ours

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

2. Romans 7:7-8 - "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet."

Exodus 20:18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.

The people of Israel witnessed God's power and majesty as He descended upon Mt. Sinai, and they stood in awe and reverence.

1. God is sovereign and calls us to revere Him.

2. Obedience is an act of reverence and respect for God.

1. Deuteronomy 5:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Psalm 33:8 - Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

Exodus 20:19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

The Israelites were afraid to directly hear from God, fearing that it would be too much for them to bear.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Should be Respected

2. Trusting in God Despite Fear

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 56:3 - When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

Exodus 20:20 And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.

Moses tells the people not to be afraid, as God has come to test them and wants them to avoid sinning.

1. The Power of Fear in Avoiding Sin

2. Heed God's Warning to Avoid Sin

1. Proverbs 16:6 - "By the fear of the Lord one turns away from evil."

2. Psalm 34:11 - "Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord."

Exodus 20:21 And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.

This passage describes the moment when Moses approached the thick darkness where God was located.

1. God is often found in the darkness; He is still present even when it seems like He is hidden.

2. We can learn to trust God even when we can't see Him, for He will provide the answers we need in His own time.

1. Psalm 139:12 - Even the darkness is not dark to You; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to You.

2. Isaiah 45:3 - I will give you the treasures of darkness and the riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the Lord, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel.

Exodus 20:22 And the LORD said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.

God spoke to Moses from heaven and told him to tell the people of Israel what he had said.

1. "God Speaks to Us through His Word"

2. "God Is Always with Us"

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Exodus 20:23 Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold.

This passage instructs us not to make idols of silver or gold.

1. Idolatry: The Danger of Placing Things Above God

2. The Blessing of Serving God Alone

1. Deuteronomy 5:7-10 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Isaiah 44:9-20 - Do not fear, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.

Exodus 20:24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.

This passage describes God's commandment to build an altar and sacrifice offerings.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Learning to Give Up and Let God

2. God's Promise of Blessing: Celebrating God's Provision

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Isaiah 1:11-17 - What are your multiplied sacrifices to me? says the Lord. I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

Exodus 20:25 And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.

The Lord instructs the Israelites to not build an altar with hewn stones, as using tools to shape stones will pollute it.

1. Learning to Submit to God's Will

2. The Holiness of God and the Need for Reverence

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Psalm 111:9 - "He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!"

Exodus 20:26 Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon.

This passage refers to the commandment given by God to the Israelites, to not go up steps to the altar in the Tabernacle, so as to avoid exposing themselves.

1. "Love and Respect for God: The Importance of Modesty and Reverence in Worship"

2. "The Purpose of the Tabernacle: Understanding God's Instructions for Worship"

1. Leviticus 19:30 - You shall reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 22:30 - A man shall not take his father s wife, nor uncover his father s skirt.

Exodus 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 21:1-11, God provides laws and regulations regarding the treatment of Hebrew slaves. If a Hebrew slave serves for six years, they are to be set free in the seventh year without payment. However, if the slave chooses to remain with their master because of love or attachment, their ear is to be pierced as a sign of lifelong servitude. If a master mistreats their slave by causing serious injury or death, strict punishment is imposed. These regulations aim to ensure fair treatment and protect the rights of slaves within the Hebrew community.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 21:12-27, various laws are given concerning acts that cause harm or loss of life. The principle of "an eye for an eye" is established meaning that punishment should be proportional to the offense committed. The laws address cases such as murder, assault resulting in injury, harm caused by an ox or other livestock animals, and injuries caused during fights between men. Compensation and restitution are prescribed depending on the severity and circumstances of each case.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 21:28-36 , laws are provided regarding property damage caused by animals. If an ox gores someone to death due to its owner's negligence, both the owner and the ox are held responsible the owner may face capital punishment while the ox is put to death. Compensation is required if an animal causes injury or death to another person's property or livestock due to its owner's negligence. These regulations establish accountability for damages caused by domesticated animals.

In summary:

Exodus 21 presents:

Laws governing treatment of Hebrew slaves;

Provisions for freedom after six years; lifelong servitude if desired;

Punishment for mistreatment; protection of slaves' rights.

Regulations concerning acts causing harm or loss of life;

Principle of proportionate punishment; compensation prescribed;

Addressing cases like murder, assault, animal-related injuries.

Laws regarding property damage caused by animals;

Responsibility for negligence leading to harm; compensation required;

Establishment of accountability for damages inflicted by domesticated animals.

This chapter continues with God providing detailed instructions concerning societal order within Israelite community addressing specific scenarios involving matters like slavery, indentured servitude alongside principles guiding just behavior tied closely with ethical conduct often associated with sacred encounters involving communication between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel) exemplified through figures like Moses serving as mediator, intermediary shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture between preservation, restoration reflecting divine concern towards vulnerable members present within broader social fabric encompassing themes like justice, righteousness tied closely with covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to social equity, compensation serving as pillars supporting communal well-being amidst broader cosmic order reflecting ancient Near Eastern worldview informing biblical narrative framework concerning relationship between humanity, divinity

Exodus 21:1 Now these are the judgments which thou shalt set before them.

The Lord gives instructions to Moses regarding the laws and judgments to be set before the Israelites.

1. The Lord's Commands: Obedience and Respect

2. Understanding the Power of Law in the Bible

1. Galatians 5:13-14 - For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Exodus 21:2 If thou buy an Hebrew servant, six years he shall serve: and in the seventh he shall go out free for nothing.

This passage explains that if a Hebrew is purchased, they must serve for six years before being released for free in the seventh year.

1. The importance of freedom and how it can be achieved through commitment.

2. The value of service and the rewards it can bring.

1. Matthew 10:10 - "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you."

2. Galatians 5:13 - "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

Exodus 21:3 If he came in by himself, he shall go out by himself: if he were married, then his wife shall go out with him.

This passage emphasizes the importance of marriage in the life of an Israelite, as it states that a married man s wife must go out with him if he is set free from slavery.

1. God s plan for marriage: A reflection on Exodus 21:3

2. The importance of companionship in marriage: Exploring Exodus 21:3

1. Genesis 2:18-24 - God's plan for marriage

2. Ruth 1:16-17 - The importance of companionship in marriage

Exodus 21:4 If his master have given him a wife, and she have born him sons or daughters; the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself.

This passage speaks of a slave who has been given a wife by his master, and has had children with her. The wife and children remain the property of the master, and the slave is to leave them behind when his freedom is granted.

1. Living in Freedom: Learning to Let Go of What We Think Is Ours

2. The Blessing and Responsibility of Being a Master

1. Luke 4:18-19 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free.

2. Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Exodus 21:5 And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free:

The servant has declared their love for their master, wife, and children, and is willing to remain a servant.

1: True love is demonstrated by sacrifice.

2: Our love for God should be reflected in our obedience.

1: John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2: Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Exodus 21:6 Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him for ever.

The passage speaks of a master who will bring his slave to the judges and then pierce his ear with an aul, so that he will serve his master forever.

1. Accepting our Life as it is and Serving God Faithfully

2. The Covenant of Eternal Loyalty and Obedience

1. Galatians 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

2. Ephesians 6:5-7 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

Exodus 21:7 And if a man sell his daughter to be a maidservant, she shall not go out as the menservants do.

A daughter who is sold as a maidservant cannot leave the same way as a menservant.

1. The Power of Unconditional Love: The Dignity of Women in the Bible

2. The Value of Women in the Bible

1. Proverbs 31:10-31

2. Galatians 3:28-29

Exodus 21:8 If she please not her master, who hath betrothed her to himself, then shall he let her be redeemed: to sell her unto a strange nation he shall have no power, seeing he hath dealt deceitfully with her.

If a master betroths a slave and she does not please him, he is not allowed to sell her to a foreign nation, as he has been deceitful in his dealings with her.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion for the Oppressed

2. The Sin of Deceit and its Consequences

1. Isaiah 1:17: Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Luke 6:36: Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Exodus 21:9 And if he have betrothed her unto his son, he shall deal with her after the manner of daughters.

A father must treat a female servant who is betrothed to his son in the same manner as a daughter.

1. "The Duties of Fathers: Treating a Female Servant as a Daughter"

2. "Love and Respect: The Treatment of Female Servants"

1. Luke 6:31-36 - "Do to others as you would have them do to you."

2. Ephesians 6:5-9 - "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ."

Exodus 21:10 If he take him another wife; her food, her raiment, and her duty of marriage, shall he not diminish.

The passage states that if a man takes another wife, he must not diminish the provisions given to her such as food, clothing, and marital duties.

1. A Husband's Responsibility: Fulfilling the Essential Needs of Your Spouse

2. Marriage: A Covenant of Love and Respect

1. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

2. Ephesians 5:25 - Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Exodus 21:11 And if he do not these three unto her, then shall she go out free without money.

Exodus 21:11 states that if a man does not fulfill three conditions to a woman, then she shall be able to leave him free of charge.

1. The Power of Freedom: Examining the Biblical Mandate of Exodus 21:11

2. The Paradox of Equality: A Study of the Significance of Exodus 21:11

1. Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. Deuteronomy 10:17-19 - "For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt."

Exodus 21:12 He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death.

This passage states that anyone who kills a person should be put to death.

1. The Consequences of Taking a Human Life

2. God's Judgement on Murder

1. Genesis 9:6 - "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image."

2. Matthew 5:21-22 - "You have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment. But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment."

Exodus 21:13 And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee.

God can deliver people into the hands of their enemies, but He also provides a place of refuge for them.

1. God is our Refuge in Times of Trouble - Psalm 46:1

2. The Power of God to Deliver - Exodus 14:14

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

Exodus 21:14 But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die.

If someone intentionally kills another, they should be taken from the altar and put to death.

1. The Danger of Presumption

2. The Consequences of Intentional Killing

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

2. James 4:11-12 - Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

Exodus 21:15 And he that smiteth his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death.

Anyone who strikes their father or mother must be put to death according to Exodus 21:15.

1. God's Standards of Righteousness: An Overview of Exodus 21-23

2. The Holiness of Family: What Exodus 21-23 Teaches Us About Parental Respect

1. Deuteronomy 5:16 - "Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. "

Exodus 21:16 And he that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death.

This passage from Exodus 21:16 states that stealing a person and selling them or being found in possession of them will result in the death penalty.

1. God's Law: Justice, Mercy, and Redemption

2. Understanding the Difference Between Sin and Crime

1. Proverbs 11:1-3 - A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight. When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom. The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Exodus 21:17 And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be put to death.

Anyone who curses their father or mother will be put to death according to Exodus 21:17.

1. Honoring Parents: A Lesson from Exodus 21:17

2. The Power of Words: A Look at Exodus 21:17

1. Leviticus 20:9 - "For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him."

2. Ephesians 6:2-3 - "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

Exodus 21:18 And if men strive together, and one smite another with a stone, or with his fist, and he die not, but keepeth his bed:

Two men fought and one of them was injured but did not die.

1. "The Power of Forgiveness"

2. "The Strength of Mercy"

1. Matthew 18:21-35 (context of forgiveness and mercy)

2. Luke 23:32-34 (context of Jesus's mercy on the cross)

Exodus 21:19 If he rise again, and walk abroad upon his staff, then shall he that smote him be quit: only he shall pay for the loss of his time, and shall cause him to be thoroughly healed.

If someone is injured and rises again and can walk with a staff, the person who inflicted the injury is acquitted, but must pay for the time lost and the medical costs.

1. Doing Right in the Face of Wrong: How God Commands Us to Respond

2. Restoration: God s Plan for Healing and Renewal

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. James 5:13-16 - Pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

Exodus 21:20 And if a man smite his servant, or his maid, with a rod, and he die under his hand; he shall be surely punished.

If a man hits his servant or maid and they die, the man will be punished.

1. The importance of treating everyone with respect and dignity.

2. The consequences of mistreating and abusing those in our care.

1. Ephesians 6:9 "And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him."

2. Matthew 7:12 "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

Exodus 21:21 Notwithstanding, if he continue a day or two, he shall not be punished: for he is his money.

This passage states that if a master keeps his slave for more than one or two days, then he will not be punished for it.

1. God gives us freedom to choose how we treat others

2. We are all equal in the eyes of God

1. Ephesians 6:5-9 - "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free."

2. James 2:1-4 - "My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, Here s a good seat for you, but say to the poor man, You stand there or Sit on the floor by my feet, have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?"

Exodus 21:22 If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her, and yet no mischief follow: he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine.

If men hurt a pregnant woman so that her child is harmed or miscarried, the husband of the woman can choose the punishment for the men and the judges will determine the payment.

1. The importance of protecting life from conception to natural death.

2. God's justice and mercy in punishing and forgiving.

1. Psalm 139:13-16

2. Exodus 22:22-24

Exodus 21:23 And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life,

This passage reinforces the Old Testament law of 'an eye for an eye' by stating that if one causes harm, they should suffer an equal amount of harm in return.

1. The importance of justice and upholding God's law.

2. The consequences of causing harm to others.

1. Matthew 5:38-42 - Jesus Christ teaching on the law of 'an eye for an eye'.

2. Proverbs 17:15 - He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous, both alike are an abomination to the Lord.

Exodus 21:24 Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

The passage is about a law of retribution, known as the lex talionis, which states that punishment should be proportional to the crime.

1. "The Justice of Retribution: The Principle of Lex Talionis"

2. "Justice and Mercy: Balancing the Scale of Retribution"

1. Leviticus 24:19-20 - "If anyone injures his neighbor, whatever he has done must be done to him: fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. As he has injured the other, so he is to be injured."

2. Deuteronomy 19:15-21 - "One witness is not enough to convict anyone accused of any crime or offense they may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If anyone wrongs their neighbor and is given a penalty, they must pay back whatever they took by robbery or whatever wrong they did."

Exodus 21:25 Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

This passage is about the justice of restitution, that one should receive the same penalty for their wrong-doings as they inflicted upon another.

1. "The Balance of Justice: Restitution and Retribution in Exodus 21:25"

2. "The Power of Forgiveness: Overcoming the Urge for Retaliation"

1. Matthew 5:38-39 - You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Exodus 21:26 And if a man smite the eye of his servant, or the eye of his maid, that it perish; he shall let him go free for his eye's sake.

If a man injures the eye of their servant or maid, they must set them free in recompense.

1. The Power of Compassion: How We Can Learn from Exodus 21:26

2. The Responsibility of Employers: The Importance of Freedom and Safety in the Workplace

1. Colossians 4:1 - Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Exodus 21:27 And if he smite out his manservant's tooth, or his maidservant's tooth; he shall let him go free for his tooth's sake.

The passage states that if someone knocks out a servant's tooth, they must be set free.

1. Compassion for Others: A Call to Letting Go of Our Injustices

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Setting Others Free

1. Matthew 18:23-35 - Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Living in Harmony and Forgiveness with Others

Exodus 21:28 If an ox gore a man or a woman, that they die: then the ox shall be surely stoned, and his flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be quit.

The owner of an ox is not responsible if it gores and kills a man or a woman.

1. God is the ultimate judge and protector of justice

2. The importance of loving and caring for animals

1. Proverbs 12:10 - "Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel."

2. Romans 13:10 - "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."

Exodus 21:29 But if the ox were wont to push with his horn in time past, and it hath been testified to his owner, and he hath not kept him in, but that he hath killed a man or a woman; the ox shall be stoned, and his owner also shall be put to death.

This passage describes the consequences for an ox that kills a man or woman: it shall be stoned and its owner shall be put to death.

1. God's justice is perfect and impartial - Exodus 21:29

2. Responsibility for our actions - Exodus 21:29

1. Deuteronomy 17:2-7 - The need for proper justice in Israel.

2. Romans 13:1-7 - The importance of submitting to governing authorities.

Exodus 21:30 If there be laid on him a sum of money, then he shall give for the ransom of his life whatsoever is laid upon him.

A ransom must be given for a man's life if he has been accused of a crime and a sum of money has been set.

1. The Value of Life: Examining the Significance of Ransom in Exodus 21:30

2. The Redemption of Sin: Understanding the Need for Ransom in Exodus 21:30

1. Matthew 20:28 - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

2. 1 Timothy 2:5-6 - For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

Exodus 21:31 Whether he have gored a son, or have gored a daughter, according to this judgment shall it be done unto him.

This passage states that any person who has gored a son or daughter should be judged according to the same standards.

1. The Consequences of Our Actions: A Study of Exodus 21:31

2. God's Justice: The Implications of Exodus 21:31

1. Proverbs 24:12 - "If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"

2. Matthew 16:27 - "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works."

Exodus 21:32 If the ox shall push a manservant or a maidservant; he shall give unto their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.

This verse from the book of Exodus states that if an ox pushes a servant, the owner must pay their master thirty shekels of silver and the ox must be stoned.

1. The Value of a Human Life: A Study of Exodus 21:32

2. The Responsibility of Ownership: The Implications of Exodus 21:32

1. Deuteronomy 24:14-15 - "You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brothers or one of the sojourners who are in your land within your towns. You shall give him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets (for he is poor and counts on it), lest he cry against you to the Lord, and you be guilty of sin.

2. Jeremiah 22:13 - "Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, and his upper rooms by injustice, who makes his neighbor serve him for nothing and does not give him his wages."

Exodus 21:33 And if a man shall open a pit, or if a man shall dig a pit, and not cover it, and an ox or an ass fall therein;

The passage describes a law from the book of Exodus in which a man is responsible for any animal that falls into a pit he has opened.

1: Our responsibility to care for others.

2: The consequences of neglecting our duties.

1: Luke 10:25-37 - The Parable of the Good Samaritan.

2: Proverbs 12:10 - Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast.

Exodus 21:34 The owner of the pit shall make it good, and give money unto the owner of them; and the dead beast shall be his.

The owner of a pit is responsible for any animal that dies in it, and must provide compensation to the owner of the animal.

1. The Responsibility of Ownership - How the Ownership of a Pit Translates to Ownership of our Actions

2. Taking Responsibility for Ourselves - How God Expects Us to Take Ownership of Ourselves and Our Actions

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Exodus 21:35 And if one man's ox hurt another's, that he die; then they shall sell the live ox, and divide the money of it; and the dead ox also they shall divide.

When two people's oxen fight, the live ox must be sold and the money divided, while the dead ox must also be divided.

1. Living in harmony with our neighbors

2. The consequences of conflict

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Romans 12:18 "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

Exodus 21:36 Or if it be known that the ox hath used to push in time past, and his owner hath not kept him in; he shall surely pay ox for ox; and the dead shall be his own.

The owner of an ox that has been known to cause damage in the past is responsible for the damage it causes, and must pay with an ox of equal value.

1. God holds us responsible for our actions, even when we may not have intended harm.

2. We must take ownership of our actions and be willing to accept the consequences.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. James 1:12-13 "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one."

Exodus 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 22:1-15, laws and regulations are provided regarding theft and property damage. If a thief is caught breaking into someone's house at night and is killed in the process, there is no guilt for the one defending their home. However, if the theft occurs during daylight, the thief must make restitution for what was stolen. If an animal causes damage to another person's field or vineyard, compensation must be given from the best of one's own produce.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 22:16-31 , laws are given concerning matters of sexual ethics and religious obligations. If a man seduces a virgin who is not betrothed, he must pay a dowry to her father and marry her unless her father refuses. Witchcraft and bestiality are strictly forbidden under penalty of death. The Israelites are commanded not to mistreat or oppress foreigners residing among them since they themselves were once foreigners in Egypt. Laws regarding lending money, returning borrowed items, showing kindness to the poor, honoring God with offerings of firstborn animals and firstfruits are also outlined.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 22:31 , instructions are given regarding dietary laws and consecration to God. The Israelites are prohibited from eating meat torn by wild beasts but can give it to dogs instead. They are also called to be holy people set apart for God's service by abstaining from eating any flesh torn by birds of prey.

In summary:

Exodus 22 presents:

Laws concerning theft; different circumstances determining guilt;

Compensation required for stolen property; restitution for damages caused.

Regulations related to sexual ethics; dowry payment; prohibitions against witchcraft, bestiality;

Commandments against mistreatment, oppression of foreigners;

Instructions regarding lending money, returning borrowed items, showing kindness, honoring God with offerings.

Prohibitions on eating meat torn by wild beasts;

Call for holiness through dietary restrictions;

Emphasis on consecration as a holy people set apart for divine service.

This chapter continues with God providing detailed instructions encompassing various aspects of societal order within Israelite community addressing specific scenarios involving matters like theft, property damage alongside principles guiding just behavior tied closely with ethical conduct often associated with sacred encounters involving communication between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel) exemplified through figures like Moses serving as mediator, intermediary shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture between preservation, restoration reflecting divine concern towards social equity, vulnerable members present within broader social fabric encompassing themes like justice, righteousness tied closely with covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to ethical conduct, social responsibility serving as pillars supporting communal well-being amidst broader cosmic order reflecting ancient Near Eastern worldview informing biblical narrative framework concerning relationship between humanity, divinity

Exodus 22:1 If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.

This passage speaks of restitution for theft of livestock.

1: We should always strive to make restitution for our wrongdoings.

2: We are called to be honest in our dealings with others.

1: Luke 6:37 - "Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven".

2: Matthew 7:12 - "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets".

Exodus 22:2 If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him.

If a thief is caught breaking in, they can be killed without being held accountable for their death.

1. "Lessons of Justice from Exodus 22:2"

2. "Understanding the Authority of God's Word in Exodus 22:2"

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Deuteronomy 19:15-21

Exodus 22:3 If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him; for he should make full restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.

The passage states that if a thief is caught in the act of stealing, he must make full restitution for what he has stolen or be sold as a slave.

1. The Consequences of Stealing: A Study on Exodus 22:3

2. The Price of Theft: A Reflection on the Cost of Sin

1. Proverbs 6:30-31 - People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger when he is starving. Yet if he is caught, he must pay sevenfold, though it costs him all the wealth of his house.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Exodus 22:4 If the theft be certainly found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep; he shall restore double.

This passage speaks of a person being required to repay double if they are found to have stolen property.

1. The Lord rewards those who do right and punishes those who do wrong, even in seemingly small matters.

2. We must be mindful of our actions and keep ourselves from stealing, for the Lord will judge us accordingly.

1. Proverbs 6:30-31 People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry, but if he is caught, he must pay back sevenfold, though it costs him all the wealth of his house.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Exodus 22:5 If a man shall cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, and shall put in his beast, and shall feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, shall he make restitution.

If someone's livestock damages another person's field or vineyard, the livestock owner must repay with the best of their own field or vineyard.

1. The importance of taking responsibility for our actions

2. The importance of restoring what has been taken

1. Proverbs 6:30-31 - "People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger when he is starving. Yet if he is caught, he must pay back sevenfold, though it costs him all the wealth of his house."

2. Leviticus 19:13 - "Do not defraud or rob your neighbor. Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight."

Exodus 22:6 If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field, be consumed therewith; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution.

This passage speaks of a person who starts a fire which causes damage to property and makes restitution for the damage done.

1. The Power of Responsibility: Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

2. Caring for the Belongings of Others: A Reflection on the Importance of Restitution

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. Luke 19:8 - But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.

Exodus 22:7 If a man shall deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, let him pay double.

If an item is stolen out of a neighbor's house, the thief must pay double the value of the stolen item when caught.

1. The Consequences of Stealing: A on Exodus 22:7

2. The Power of Reparations: A On Exodus 22:7

1. Luke 19:8-10 - Jesus teaches the parable of the nobleman who entrusts his servants with his wealth and rewards those who were faithful with it.

2. Proverbs 6:30-31 - People are warned against stealing and the consequences of doing so.

Exodus 22:8 If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall be brought unto the judges, to see whether he have put his hand unto his neighbour's goods.

When a thief is not found, the master of the house must appear before the judges to determine if he has stolen from his neighbor.

1. The Consequences of Stealing: Examining Exodus 22:8

2. The Value of Honesty: Learning from Exodus 22:8

1. Psalm 15:2-3 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; he who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor.

2. Proverbs 11:1 A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight.

Exodus 22:9 For all manner of trespass, whether it be for ox, for ass, for sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing, which another challengeth to be his, the cause of both parties shall come before the judges; and whom the judges shall condemn, he shall pay double unto his neighbour.

God demands accountability and justice in all cases of dispute.

1: We must always seek justice and show mercy to those in need.

2: Do not take advantage of others in any situation, as God will judge your actions.

1: James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2: Matthew 7:12 - So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Exodus 22:10 If a man deliver unto his neighbour an ass, or an ox, or a sheep, or any beast, to keep; and it die, or be hurt, or driven away, no man seeing it:

A man is responsible for any animal that he entrusts to his neighbor, even if it dies, is hurt, or goes missing without anyone seeing it.

1. The importance of responsibility in our relationships with others.

2. The power of entrusting our possessions to our neighbors.

1. Galatians 6:5 - "For each will have to bear his own load."

2. Luke 16:10 - "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much."

Exodus 22:11 Then shall an oath of the LORD be between them both, that he hath not put his hand unto his neighbour's goods; and the owner of it shall accept thereof, and he shall not make it good.

The passage emphasizes the importance of honesty between two parties regarding their possessions.

1. "Honesty is the Best Policy" - Proverbs 16:13

2. "The Value of Integrity" - Proverbs 20:7

1. Proverbs 16:11 - "A just balance and scales belong to the LORD; all the weights of the bag are His concern."

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - "By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

Exodus 22:12 And if it be stolen from him, he shall make restitution unto the owner thereof.

The Bible encourages people to make restitution if something is stolen from them.

1. The Blessing of Restitution: God's Plan for Repaying What We Owe

2. The Power of Restitution: How Restitution Heals and Restores

1. Luke 19:8-9 "And Zacchaeus stood and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

2. James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Exodus 22:13 If it be torn in pieces, then let him bring it for witness, and he shall not make good that which was torn.

People must bring torn items to court as evidence and not try to restore them.

1. God cares for justice, and we should too.

2. We should uphold truth and honesty in all our dealings.

1. Proverbs 20:23 - "Different weights and different measures the Lord detests them both."

2. Psalm 15:1-2 - "O Lord, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill? He whose walk is blameless and who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from his heart."

Exodus 22:14 And if a man borrow ought of his neighbour, and it be hurt, or die, the owner thereof being not with it, he shall surely make it good.

A person must compensate their neighbor for any damage caused to borrowed items when the owner is not with it.

1. "The Responsibility of Ownership: Our Duty to Care for Others' Possessions"

2. "The Importance of Honesty and Accountability in Our Relationships"

1. Matthew 22:36-40 - "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

2. Ephesians 4:25 - "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body."

Exodus 22:15 But if the owner thereof be with it, he shall not make it good: if it be an hired thing, it came for his hire.

The owner of a hired animal or object is not responsible for damages caused by it.

1. The Lord's Provision for Hired Help

2. The Responsibility of Ownership

1. Matthew 22:21 - Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's

2. Deuteronomy 24:14 - Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates.

Exodus 22:16 And if a man entice a maid that is not betrothed, and lie with her, he shall surely endow her to be his wife.

Maids should be protected from enticement.

1: God's word is firm and clear on protecting maids from enticement.

2: Do not be tempted by the worldly enticement of maids, but instead honor and respect them.

1: Proverbs 6:27-28 - Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?

2: 1 Corinthians 6:18 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

Exodus 22:17 If her father utterly refuse to give her unto him, he shall pay money according to the dowry of virgins.

The passage discusses the dowry of virgins in the event that their father refuses to give them away.

1. The Importance of Godly Fathers in Marriage

2. The Power of Financial Commitment in Marriage

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Proverbs 18:22

Exodus 22:18 Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

This passage is a commandment from God found in the Bible in the book of Exodus to not allow witches to live.

1. "The Power of God's Word: Trusting in God's Authority"

2. "The Danger of Witchcraft: Resisting Temptations to Follow"

1. 1 John 4:1 - "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world."

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Exodus 22:19 Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

Anyone who has sexual intercourse with an animal is to be put to death according to Exodus 22:19.

1. The Sin of Bestiality: An In-Depth Look at Exodus 22:19

2. The Danger of Unnatural Desires: A Study of Prohibitions in Exodus 22:19

1. Leviticus 18:23 - "Neither shall you lie with any beast to defile yourself with it, neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion."

2. Romans 1:26-27 - "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly."

Exodus 22:20 He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed.

Those who offer sacrifices to any god other than the LORD will be destroyed.

1. Trust in the LORD for salvation, not in other gods.

2. Reject false gods and follow the LORD.

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-14 - "You shall fear the LORD your God, you shall serve him, and you shall hold fast to him, and you shall swear by his name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you."

2. Isaiah 45:22 - "Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other."

Exodus 22:21 Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

God commands us to treat strangers with kindness and respect, for we were once strangers in Egypt ourselves.

1. The Golden Rule: Treating Strangers With Compassion

2. Seeing God's Love Through Compassionate Treatment of Strangers

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

2. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."

Exodus 22:22 Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child.

Widows and fatherless children should not be mistreated.

1. How We Should Treat the Vulnerable in Our Society

2. The Power of Love and Compassion in the Bible

1. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

2. James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Exodus 22:23 If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry;

God commands us to care for the most vulnerable and to treat them with justice and mercy.

1. God's heart is for the vulnerable - how can we follow His example?

2. Standing with the oppressed: a call to justice and mercy.

1. Psalm 82:3-4 - "Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

2. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

Exodus 22:24 And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.

God will punish those who disobey him severely with death.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning from Exodus 22:24

2. Reaping What We Sow: Understanding the Severity of Disobedience

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 28:9 - If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

Exodus 22:25 If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury.

God commands that money should not be loaned to the poor with interest.

1. God's Grace: Lending to Those in Need without Interest

2. Generosity and Compassion: Lending to Those in Need without Profit

1. Luke 6:30-36 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, and lend expecting nothing in return.

2. Proverbs 19:17 - He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.

Exodus 22:26 If thou at all take thy neighbour's raiment to pledge, thou shalt deliver it unto him by that the sun goeth down:

The Bible encourages us to be generous to our neighbors and to restore what we have taken from them.

1. Generosity: A Biblical Perspective

2. The Power of Restoration

1. Luke 6:27-36 - Love Your Enemies

2. Psalm 112:5 - Good Will Come to Those Who Are Generous

Exodus 22:27 For that is his covering only, it is his raiment for his skin: wherein shall he sleep? and it shall come to pass, when he crieth unto me, that I will hear; for I am gracious.

God is gracious to those who cry out to Him and He will provide for their needs.

1. The Graciousness of God

2. Cry Out To God in Need

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 41:13 - "For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, Fear not, I am the one who helps you.

Exodus 22:28 Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people.

The passage states that people should not insult or curse their leaders.

1. The importance of respecting authority.

2. The power of our words and the impact they have.

1. Proverbs 15:1-4: A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly. The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

2. Romans 13:1-3: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad.

Exodus 22:29 Thou shalt not delay to offer the first of thy ripe fruits, and of thy liquors: the firstborn of thy sons shalt thou give unto me.

God commands the Israelites to offer their first fruits and the firstborn of their sons to Him as an offering.

1. Offering Our Best to God - Exodus 22:29

2. The Blessing of Obedience - Exodus 22:29

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Exodus 22:30 Likewise shalt thou do with thine oxen, and with thy sheep: seven days it shall be with his dam; on the eighth day thou shalt give it me.

God asks us to treat our animals well, and give them proper care.

1. Caring for Creation: The Responsibilities of Animal Ownership

2. Showing Mercy and Compassion to the Animals We Possess

1. Proverbs 12:10 - A righteous man cares for the needs of his animal, but the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel.

2. Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

Exodus 22:31 And ye shall be holy men unto me: neither shall ye eat any flesh that is torn of beasts in the field; ye shall cast it to the dogs.

This passage speaks of the Israelites being set apart from their neighbours by abstaining from the consumption of animal flesh that has been torn by beasts.

1: God calls us to be holy and to lead a life that sets us apart from the world.

2: We can honour God by living according to His standards of holiness.

1: 1 Peter 1:16 - For it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2: Leviticus 11:44 - For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Exodus 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 23:1-9, God provides laws and regulations concerning justice and fairness within the community. The Israelites are instructed not to spread false reports or join in with the wicked to pervert justice. They are called to speak up for truth and not show favoritism towards the poor or the rich. Justice should prevail even towards one's enemies. Laws are given regarding returning lost property, helping an enemy's animal in distress, and not oppressing foreigners since the Israelites themselves were once foreigners in Egypt.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 23:10-19, instructions are given regarding agricultural practices and religious festivals. The Israelites are commanded to observe a Sabbath year of rest for their fields every seventh year, allowing the land to lie fallow and providing sustenance for the poor and animals. They are also instructed to work for six days but rest on the seventh day honoring the pattern set by God during creation. Regulations regarding three annual feasts the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Feast of Harvest (Pentecost), and Feast of Ingathering (Tabernacles) are provided.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 23:20-33 , God promises to send an angel ahead of the Israelites as they journey towards Canaan. This angel will guide them safely into their promised land while protecting them from their enemies along the way. The Israelites are warned against making covenants or alliances with other nations that could lead them astray from worshiping Yahweh alone their commitment should be solely devoted to Him.

In summary:

Exodus 23 presents:

Laws promoting justice, fairness; prohibition against spreading false reports;

Call for impartiality; assistance towards enemies; protection of foreigners' rights.

Instructions concerning agricultural practices; observance of Sabbath year, rest;

Commandments related to weekly Sabbath observance;

Regulations governing annual feasts commemorating significant events within Israelite history.

Promise of divine guidance, protection through an angel during journey;

Warning against forming alliances that compromise exclusive worship of Yahweh;

Emphasis on covenantal loyalty, devotion towards God alone as chosen people journey toward promised land.

This chapter continues with God providing detailed instructions encompassing various aspects related to societal order within Israelite community addressing matters like justice, fairness alongside principles guiding ethical conduct often associated with sacred encounters involving communication between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel) exemplified by figures like Moses serving as mediator, intermediary shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture between preservation, restoration reflecting divine concern towards social equity, vulnerable members present within broader social fabric encompassing themes like justice, righteousness tied closely with covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to ethical conduct, social responsibility serving as pillars supporting communal well-being amidst broader cosmic order reflecting ancient Near Eastern worldview informing biblical narrative framework concerning relationship between humanity, divinity

Exodus 23:1 Thou shalt not raise a false report: put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.

Do not spread false information or join with the wicked to do evil.

1: Do not be a part of spreading lies and falsehoods.

2: Do not join forces with the wicked to do wrong.

1: Psalm 15:3 He who does not slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend

2: Proverbs 19:5 A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies will not escape.

Exodus 23:2 Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment:

Do not follow the crowd when doing something wrong, and do not twist justice when speaking out in a cause.

1. The Power of the Crowd: How to Resist Negative Peer Pressure

2. Standing for Justice: How to Speak Out Against Injustices

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

2. Ephesians 4:15 - "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

Exodus 23:3 Neither shalt thou countenance a poor man in his cause.

This passage teaches us that we should not show partiality when it comes to helping people in need.

1: We should not discriminate or show favoritism when it comes to helping those in need.

2: We should practice justice and fairness by helping all those who are in need regardless of who they are.

1: James 2:1-13 - Do not show favoritism when it comes to helping the needy.

2: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do what is right and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Exodus 23:4 If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again.

God commands people to be kind and to help their enemies by bringing their animals back if found wandering.

1. Doing Good to Others: The example of returning a lost animal.

2. Love Your Enemies: Practicing kindness even towards those we may not like.

1. Luke 6:27-36 - Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you.

2. Romans 12:20-21 - Do not repay evil for evil, but instead bless those who persecute you and overcome evil with good.

Exodus 23:5 If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help with him.

We should not withhold help to those who need it, even if they are our enemies.

1. "The Power of Mercy: Showing Compassion to Our Enemies"

2. "Love Your Enemies: Practicing Kindness to Those Who Hate Us"

1. Luke 6:27-35

2. Romans 12:14-21

Exodus 23:6 Thou shalt not wrest the judgment of thy poor in his cause.

God commands us to not mistreat or take advantage of those who are less fortunate than us.

1. God's Justice: The Need for Compassion and Fairness

2. The Golden Rule: Treating Others as We Wish to Be Treated

1. Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2. Proverbs 31:8-9 - Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Exodus 23:7 Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked.

God has commanded us to be truthful and to protect the innocent. He will not condone wickedness.

1. The importance of truth in our lives

2. The power of God s justice

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. Psalm 37:27-29 - Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.

Exodus 23:8 And thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous.

Gifts can blind the wise and pervert the words of the righteous.

1. The Danger of Accepting Gifts

2. The Corrupting Power of Greed

1. Proverbs 15:27 - He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

2. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 - But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Exodus 23:9 Also thou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

God commands us not to oppress strangers, as we know their hearts, having experienced the same in Egypt.

1. Loving and Welcoming the Stranger: God s Call to Show Compassion

2. The Stranger in Our Midst: Learning to Live Together in Harmony

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

2. Matthew 25:35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Exodus 23:10 And six years thou shalt sow thy land, and shalt gather in the fruits thereof:

The passage from Exodus 23:10 encourages people to take care of their land by sowing it for six years and gathering the fruits of their labor.

1. The Blessings of Working Hard: A Study of Exodus 23:10

2. The Joy of Reaping the Benefits of Your Labor: An Exploration of Exodus 23:10

1. Proverbs 10:4, "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich."

2. Colossians 3:23-24, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

Exodus 23:11 But the seventh year thou shalt let it rest and lie still; that the poor of thy people may eat: and what they leave the beasts of the field shall eat. In like manner thou shalt deal with thy vineyard, and with thy oliveyard.

The seventh year should be kept as a Sabbath year, allowing the poor of the people to eat and allowing the beasts of the field to eat the leftovers. The same should be done with vineyards and oliveyards.

1. God commands us to care for the poor and the animals.

2. God's promise of a Sabbath year teaches us to rest and be thankful.

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words".

2. Proverbs 14:31 - "He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, but he who honors Him has mercy on the needy".

Exodus 23:12 Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.

God commands us to work six days and rest on the seventh day in order to provide rest for our animals, servants, and strangers.

1. The Unseen Blessing of Sabbath Rest

2. The Compassionate Care of God

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly.

Exodus 23:13 And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.

God commands his people to be careful and not mention any other gods.

1. The Power of God's Name: Understanding the Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. Put God First: The Blessing of Keeping God's Word

1. Psalm 34:3 - "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."

2. Matthew 4:10 - "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

Exodus 23:14 Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.

The Lord commands the Israelites to celebrate three feasts each year.

1. The Importance of Celebrating God's Feasts

2. The Blessing of Keeping God's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

2. Leviticus 23:4 - These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.

Exodus 23:15 Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

God commands the Israelites to celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread in the month of Abib in remembrance of their deliverance from Egypt.

1. Living a Life of Gratitude for God's Deliverance

2. The Importance of Remembering God's Faithfulness

1. Psalm 105:1-5 - Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

2. 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 - Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Exodus 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

Passage The feast of harvest and the feast of ingathering are two celebrations of the firstfruits of one's labor and the end of the year harvest.

1. Rejoice in the Harvest: Celebrating the Fruits of Your Labors; 2. The End of the Year: Reflecting on Your Blessings.

1. Psalm 65:11 - Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths dropping fatness. 2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Exodus 23:17 Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the LORD God.

All males of Israel are commanded to present themselves before the Lord three times a year.

1. "A Time to Worship: The Significance of Appearing Before the Lord"

2. "The Spiritual Benefits of Appearing Before the Lord"

1. Deuteronomy 16:16 - "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty."

2. Hebrews 10:22 - "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Exodus 23:18 Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the fat of my sacrifice remain until the morning.

God commands that sacrifices should not be offered with leavened bread and the fat of the sacrifice should not remain until the morning.

1. Sacrifice: A Godly Act of Worship

2. The Power of God's Holy Commandments

1. Leviticus 2:11 - No grain offering which ye shall bring unto the LORD shall be made with leaven: for ye shall burn no leaven, nor any honey, in any offering of the LORD made by fire.

2. Psalm 40:7-8 - Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

Exodus 23:19 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.

God commands His people to bring the first of the firstfruits of their land to His house, and not to boil a kid in its mother's milk.

1. Cultivating a Generous Heart: Learning to Give the First Fruits of our Labor to God

2. Keeping the Commandments: Obedience to God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-26 - Instructions to set aside the first of the firstfruits of the land for the Lord.

2. Leviticus 27:30-32 - Laws regarding the firstfruits offerings to the Lord.

Exodus 23:20 Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

God is sending an angel before us to guide and protect us in our journey.

1. God will always provide a way and a path for us to follow.

2. We can trust in God's protection and guidance.

1. Psalm 23:3 - He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Exodus 23:21 Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.

Be mindful of the Lord and listen to His commandments, for He will not forgive any transgressions.

1. Relying on the Lord's Mercy - Exodus 23:21

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Word - Exodus 23:21

1. Micah 6:8 - He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Exodus 23:22 But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.

The passage emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's voice.

1: Obeying God's Voice Brings Protection

2: The Benefits of Obedience

1: James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2: Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known."

Exodus 23:23 For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.

God's angel will lead the Israelites to Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites, and Jebusites, and God will bring judgement upon them.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Recognizing the Power of God in Our Lives

2. God's Faithfulness: How God Fulfills His Promises

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever

Exodus 23:24 Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images.

The passage is a warning against worshipping foreign gods and idols.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Why We Must Not Bow Down to False Gods

2. The Power of Obedience: Overthrowing False Idols

1. Deuteronomy 6:14-15 - You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you 15 for the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

2. Colossians 3:5 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Exodus 23:25 And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

God will provide for and protect us if we serve Him faithfully.

1. Faithful Service Brings Blessings

2. Trust in God for Provision and Protection

1. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

2. Philippians 4:19 - But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Exodus 23:26 There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

This verse speaks of God's promise to provide fertility and abundance in the land of Israel.

1: God's Blessing of Fertility and Abundance

2: Trusting God's Promise of Provision

1: Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

Exodus 23:27 I will send my fear before thee, and will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs unto thee.

God promises to protect his people from their enemies by sending fear before them and causing their enemies to turn away.

1. God's Protection: How God Protects His People from Their Enemies

2. Fear Not: How to Overcome Fear and Trust in God's Protection

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.

Exodus 23:28 And I will send hornets before thee, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before thee.

God promised to drive out the Hivite, Canaanite, and Hittite nations from the Israelites' land by sending hornets before them.

1. The power of God to drive out the enemy.

2. Nothing is impossible for God.

1. Joshua 24:12 - "And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow."

2. Psalm 10:12 - "Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble."

Exodus 23:29 I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee.

God instructs not to drive out those who inhabit the Promised Land in one year to prevent the land from becoming desolate and the beasts of the field multiplying against them.

1. God has a plan for us and cares for us by providing guidance on how to succeed.

2. When living in God s Promised Land, be mindful of the land s inhabitants and the environment.

1. Deuteronomy 7:22 - "And the Lord thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee."

2. Leviticus 25:18 - "Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety."

Exodus 23:30 By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land.

God will drive out the enemies of His people and guide them to success and prosperity.

1. God is the Ultimate Provider and Protector

2. The Promise of God's Providential Care

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Exodus 23:31 And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee.

God promises to help the Israelites conquer the land of Canaan by driving out the inhabitants and setting boundaries from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines and from the desert to the river.

1. God provides for His people and keeps His promises.

2. We must trust in God to give us strength for conquering our enemies.

1. Joshua 1:5-9 - Be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 33:18-22 - The Lord looks down from heaven and sees all mankind; from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth.

Exodus 23:32 Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods.

God commands the Israelites not to make any covenants with the people of the land they were entering or their gods.

1. The Danger of Making Unholy Alliances

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Exodus 23:33 They shall not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee.

God warns us of the dangers of serving other gods.

1: Let us not be deceived by false gods, but rely on the one true God.

2: Serving other gods may seem appealing, but it can lead to destruction.

1: Deuteronomy 4:23-24 - Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the Lord thy God hath forbidden thee. For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

2: Jeremiah 10:2-4 - Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.

Exodus 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 24:1-8, Moses is summoned by God to come up to the mountain along with Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy elders of Israel. They are instructed to worship from a distance while Moses alone approaches closer to God. Moses relays God's laws and regulations to the people, and they respond with a unified voice affirming their commitment to obey all that Yahweh has commanded. Moses then writes down the words of the covenant in a book and builds an altar at the foot of the mountain. He offers burnt offerings and peace offerings on behalf of the people, sprinkling half of the blood on the altar and reading aloud from the Book of the Covenant.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 24:9-14 , Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy elders ascend further up Mount Sinai. They have a remarkable encounter with God as they see Him standing on a paved work of sapphire stone a clear indication of His divine presence. Though they do not eat or drink during this encounter that lasts for forty days and nights their experience reaffirms their faithfulness towards Yahweh.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 24:15-18 , after spending forty days and nights on Mount Sinai receiving instructions from God Moses descends back down carrying two tablets containing written commandments given by Yahweh the Ten Commandments inscribed by divine hand upon stone tablets symbolizing covenantal relationship between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel). As he returns to camp Moses witnesses idolatrous actions involving golden calf constructed by Israelites led astray during his absence prompting him to shatter tablets representing broken covenant caused by Israel's disobedience.

In summary:

Exodus 24 presents:

Summoning of key figures; worship from afar; Moses' approach;

Affirmation of commitment towards obedience; writing down covenant;

Offerings made at altar; sprinkling blood; reading aloud from Book.

Remarkable encounter with divine presence atop Mount Sinai;

Visual manifestation seen by select individuals affirming faithfulness.

Return journey after forty days, nights receiving instructions;

Carrying Ten Commandments inscribed upon stone tablets;

Witnessing idolatrous actions leading to shattering tablets symbolizing broken covenant.

This chapter marks a significant moment in Israelite history the establishment of a formal covenant between Yahweh and His chosen people amidst ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing sacred encounters often associated with mountains or elevated locations symbolizing divine presence or communication highlighting themes like fidelity, obedience exhibited through figures such as Moses serving as mediator, intermediary conveying divine messages, instructions shaping communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture between awe, fear experienced during encounters involving supernatural phenomena evoking responses tied closely with reverence, obedience while underscoring importance placed upon written documentation, covenantal obligations binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to priesthood, nationhood serving as representatives bearing witness concerning faithfulness towards deity revered within religious traditions prevalent among Hebrew community seeking fulfillment regarding land inheritance promised throughout generations

Exodus 24:1 And he said unto Moses, Come up unto the LORD, thou, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship ye afar off.

God commands Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy elders of Israel to go up and worship Him from a distance.

1. The Power of Obedience: We must obey God s commands no matter how difficult they may seem.

2. The Importance of Worship: Worship is essential in our relationship with God.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 12:28-29 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Exodus 24:2 And Moses alone shall come near the LORD: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him.

Moses was instructed to approach the Lord alone, and the people were not allowed to come with him.

1. We must be willing to approach God alone and without the support of other people.

2. The importance of trusting God's instructions and not allowing fear to keep us from obeying.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Exodus 24:3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do.

The people of Israel listened to Moses and agreed to follow all the words of the Lord.

1. The importance of listening to God and following His commands

2. Obedience to God brings blessings

1. Deuteronomy 11:27-28 - "And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones. For through the voice of the LORD shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod."

2. Matthew 7:21 - "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Exodus 24:4 And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.

Moses wrote the words of the Lord and built an altar and twelve pillars in accordance with the twelve tribes of Israel.

1. Overcoming Challenges with Faith: Learning from Moses' Example

2. God's Covenant with Israel: A Covenant of Love and Commitment

1. Romans 10:17: "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20: "For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory."

Exodus 24:5 And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD.

Moses sent young men to offer burnt offerings and sacrifices to the Lord.

1. The importance of sacrificial offerings to God.

2. Giving of one's best to serve the Lord.

1. Psalm 50:14-15 "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Exodus 24:6 And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

Moses divided the blood of the sacrificed animals and placed half of it in basins and sprinkled the other half on the altar as an offering to God.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How the Blood of Jesus Saved Us

2. Offerings of Love: How We Can Show Our Gratitude to God

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."

2. Leviticus 17:11 - "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."

Exodus 24:7 And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.

The people of Israel agreed to follow and obey the Lord's commands.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. Heeding the Word of the Lord is Essential

1. Joshua 24:15 But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-27 See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God.

Exodus 24:8 And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.

Moses sprinkled the blood of the covenant on the people to signify the agreement between them and the Lord.

1. The Significance of Covenant: What it Means to Follow God

2. Blood of the Covenant: Obedience and Loyalty to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 5:2-3 - "The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The LORD did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, who are all of us here alive today."

2. Hebrews 9:20-22 - "This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. When Moses had proclaimed every command of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, along with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people."

Exodus 24:9 Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel:

Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and 70 elders of Israel went up to Mount Sinai.

1. Going Upward: When God Calls Us To Higher Heights

2. Taking the Leap of Faith: A Study on the Obedience of Moses and the Elders of Israel

1. Exodus 24:9

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise."

Exodus 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.

The Israelites saw God and noticed that beneath His feet appeared to be a sapphire stone that had the appearance of the sky.

1. Seeing God: Appreciating His Majesty

2. The Splendor of Heaven on Earth

1. Psalm 97:2 Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.

2. Ezekiel 1:22 And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the color of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above.

Exodus 24:11 And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink.

The Israelites were not subject to God's hand but were allowed to see Him and eat and drink with Him.

1. Awe and Gratitude: Experiencing God's Love in the Midst of His Majesty

2. Accepting God's Grace: How to Receive a Blessing Even When We Don't Deserve it

1. Psalm 34:8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 24:12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

The Lord commanded Moses to ascend the mountain in order to receive the Ten Commandments.

1. Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice - 1 Samuel 15:22

2. Love Is The Greatest Commandment - Mark 12:30-31

1. Revelation 11:19 - And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

2. Hebrews 8:10 - For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people.

Exodus 24:13 And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Moses and Joshua ascend the mountain of God.

1.God can be found in the most unexpected of places.

2.The power of faith and companionship.

1. Psalm 121:1-2: "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. Hebrews 11:6: "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Exodus 24:14 And he said unto the elders, Tarry ye here for us, until we come again unto you: and, behold, Aaron and Hur are with you: if any man have any matters to do, let him come unto them.

Moses asked the elders to stay put while he ascended the mountain, with Aaron and Hur accompanying him for any matters that may arise.

1. Trusting in God's appointed leaders.

2. The importance of companionship in times of need.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Exodus 24:15 And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount.

Moses ascended Mount Sinai and a cloud covered the mountain.

1. The Faithfulness of God's Promises: A Study of Exodus 24:15

2. God's Presence in the Midst of Our Struggles: Examining Exodus 24:15

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 18:9 - He bowed the heavens also, and came down: and darkness was under his feet.

Exodus 24:16 And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

The Lord's glory descended upon Mount Sinai and remained there for six days, followed by God calling out to Moses from the cloud on the seventh day.

1. God's Glory: A Call to Receive His Presence

2. Responding to God's Voice in the Midst of the Cloud

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Psalm 29:3 - The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the Lord is upon many waters.

Exodus 24:17 And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

The glory of the Lord appeared to the Israelites as a devouring fire on top of Mt. Sinai.

1: We can learn from the example of the Israelites and seek to experience the glory of the Lord in our own lives.

2: The glory of the Lord is revealed to us in a variety of ways, and we should be ready to recognize and respond to them.

1: Isaiah 6:1-7 - In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2: Hebrews 12:18-29 - You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them.

Exodus 24:18 And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.

Moses ascended Mount Sinai to speak with God for forty days and forty nights.

1. Keeping Our Focus in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Dedication and Perseverance

1. Hebrews 11:24-27 - By faith, Moses chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Exodus 25 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 25:1-9, God instructs Moses to gather offerings from the Israelites for the construction of a sanctuary. The people are called to willingly contribute materials such as gold, silver, and precious stones for the construction of a tabernacle a portable dwelling place for God's presence among His people. God emphasizes that the offerings should come from those with willing hearts and that they should construct the tabernacle according to the specific pattern revealed to Moses on Mount Sinai.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 25:10-22, detailed instructions are given regarding the construction of the Ark of the Covenant. This sacred chest is to be made of acacia wood overlaid with pure gold and adorned with cherubim crafted from beaten gold. Inside the Ark, two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments are to be placed as a testimony of God's covenant with Israel. The Ark is considered holy and serves as a focal point for worship and communication between Yahweh and His people.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 25:23-40 , instructions are provided for constructing other elements within the tabernacle. These include a table made of acacia wood overlaid with gold for displaying twelve loaves of bread the Bread of Presence as an offering before God. Additionally, instructions are given regarding a golden lampstand known as the Menorah with seven branches representing divine light that is never extinguished. Finally, details are provided concerning curtains, frames, and coverings that form various compartments within the tabernacle structure.

In summary:

Exodus 25 presents:

Call for voluntary offerings; materials gathered for constructing tabernacle;

Emphasis on willing hearts; adherence to specific pattern revealed by God.

Detailed instructions regarding construction of Ark of Covenant;

Use of acacia wood, gold; cherubim adornment; placement of stone tablets;

Significance as holy vessel representing covenantal relationship between deity (Yahweh) represented through chosen people (Israel).

Instructions concerning additional elements within tabernacle;

Table displaying Bread of Presence; golden lampstand symbolizing divine light;

Construction details related to curtains, frames, coverings forming sacred space.

This chapter marks an important phase in Israelite history the establishment and construction plans for a sanctuary where Yahweh's presence would dwell among His chosen people amidst ancient Near Eastern context emphasizing sacred spaces, temples often associated with divine encounters or worship practices highlighting themes like reverence, sacrifice exhibited through contributions offered by individuals embodying communal identity rooted within ancient religious traditions observed throughout region at that time period depicting mixture between awe, fear experienced during encounters involving supernatural phenomena evoking responses tied closely with devotion, willingness while underscoring importance placed upon physical representations, architectural components serving as reminders, preservers reflecting covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to priesthood, nationhood serving as representatives bearing witness concerning faithfulness towards deity revered within religious traditions prevalent among Hebrew community seeking fulfillment regarding land inheritance promised throughout generations

Exodus 25:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. God's Word: Obedience is key for our success.

2. The Lords' Commandments: A blueprint for living a Godly life.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Joshua 1:7-8 - Be strong and very courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

Exodus 25:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

God asks the people of Israel to bring offerings to Him willingly and from the heart.

1. The Heart of Giving - How Generosity Can Bring Closer to God

2. The Power of an Offering - How the Right Gift Can Change Our Lives

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Exodus 25:3 And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass,

This passage states that gold, silver, and brass are offerings to God.

1: We can show our love for God by offering Him our best resources - gold, silver, and brass.

2: Even our most valuable possessions are nothing compared to the greatness of God, and we should be willing to offer Him what we can.

1: Luke 12:13-21 - The Parable of the Rich Fool.

2: 1 Chronicles 29:1-9 - David's offering of the resources of Israel to the Lord.

Exodus 25:4 And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair,

God calls for donations to build the tabernacle in the form of materials such as blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen, and goats' hair.

1. God calls us to build His Church through sacrificial giving.

2. The beauty of the Tabernacle was made possible through the generous donations of God's people.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Exodus 35:21-22 - "Everyone whose heart stirred him and everyone whose spirit moved him came and brought an offering of the LORD for the work on the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the holy garments. They came, both men and women; all who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and armlets, all sorts of gold objects, every man dedicating an offering of gold to the LORD."

Exodus 25:5 And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood,

The Lord commanded the Israelites to build the tabernacle with rams' skins dyed red, badgers' skins, and shittim wood.

1: We must be obedient to God's commands, even when they seem strange or difficult.

2: We must be willing to give sacrificially to build God's kingdom.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2: 1 Peter 4:10 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God s grace in its various forms.

Exodus 25:6 Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense,

God commands us to seek out the best offerings to give to Him.

1: We must strive to give our best to God in every aspect of our lives.

2: God shows us his love and grace by asking us to give our best to Him.

1: Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2: Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, And He will give you the desires of your heart.

Exodus 25:7 Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate.

This passage refers to the stones that were to be used for the ephod and breastplate of the High Priest in the Israelite tabernacle.

1. The Power of Stones: How Stones Represent Our Faithful Obedience

2. Connecting with God Through the Ephod and Breastplate: The Priestly Garments as a Sign of Covenant

1. Matthew 17:2 - And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Exodus 25:8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

God commanded the Israelites to build a sanctuary so that He could dwell among them.

1. The Dwelling Place of God: How Our Faithful Obedience Ensures His Presence

2. The Call to Build a Sanctuary: Understanding Our Need to Follow God's Commandments

1. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Do you not know that you are God s temple and that God s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God s temple, God will destroy him. For God s temple is holy, and you are that temple.

2. 2 Corinthians 6:16 For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Exodus 25:9 According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

God instructed Moses to build a tabernacle and its instruments according to the pattern that He showed him.

1. Obeying God's Instructions: The example of Moses and the Tabernacle

2. Following God's Instructions: How to Make the Tabernacle according to the Pattern

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commands."

2. Ephesians 5:1-2 - "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Exodus 25:10 And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.

God commands the Israelites to make the Ark of the Covenant for the Tabernacle.

1. God's instructions are to be followed to the letter.

2. Obedience to God is essential to showing our faith.

1. Deuteronomy 10:5 - And I will give you commandments and statutes and judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them.

2. Joshua 1:7 - Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

Exodus 25:11 And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it, and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about.

This passage speaks of overlaying the ark of the covenant with pure gold, both inside and out, and making a crown of gold around it.

1. The beauty of holiness: the importance of honouring God through our works.

2. God's glory revealed: how we can make His presence known through our lives.

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Exodus 25:12 And thou shalt cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in the four corners thereof; and two rings shall be in the one side of it, and two rings in the other side of it.

God instructed Moses to build a table for the tabernacle and attach four rings of gold to the corners, with two on each side.

1. The Importance of Dedication in our Lives

2. The Power of Following God's Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 5:33 - "You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Exodus 25:13 And thou shalt make staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold.

God commands Moses to make staves out of shittim wood and cover them with gold.

1. The Beauty of Obedience: How God Rewards Faithfulness

2. The Power of Commitment: Staying True to God's Word

1. Exodus 25:13

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Exodus 25:14 And thou shalt put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, that the ark may be borne with them.

God commands the Israelites to place staves into rings on the sides of the Ark in order to transport it.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The responsibility of carrying God's word.

1. Matthew 7:24 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."

2. Romans 6:16 - "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

Exodus 25:15 The staves shall be in the rings of the ark: they shall not be taken from it.

The staves of the Ark of the Covenant should remain in their rings and not be removed.

1. The importance of obedience and faithfulness to the Lord's commands.

2. The symbolic significance of the Ark of the Covenant.

1. Deuteronomy 10:2-5 The Lord's commandment to make the Ark of the Covenant.

2. Hebrews 9:4 The Ark of the Covenant representing the presence of God.

Exodus 25:16 And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee.

God instructs Moses to put the testimony He gives him into the Ark of the Covenant.

1. The Power of Testimony - How Our Experiences with God Can Impact Others

2. The Power of Obedience - How Following God's Instructions Leads to His Blessing

1. Hebrews 10:1-22 - The Perfect Sacrifice of Jesus

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Living a Life of Sacrifice and Service to God

Exodus 25:17 And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof.

Mercy Seat is a symbol of God's grace and mercy.

1. The Mercy Seat: A Reminder of God's Unconditional Love

2. The Beauty of the Mercy Seat: A Reflection of God's Holiness

1. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed.

2. Hebrews 9:11-15 - But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Exodus 25:18 And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

God commanded Moses to make two cherubims of beaten gold for the mercy seat.

1. God's Mercy: Understanding the Significance of the Mercy Seat

2. The Beauty of Obedience: Craftsmanship in the Tabernacle

1. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Hebrews 9:24 - For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.

Exodus 25:19 And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof.

God commands the people of Israel to make two cherubim, one on either end of the mercy seat.

1. The Mercy of God: A Study of the Cherubim

2. Seeing God's Mercy: A Reflection on the Mercy Seat

1. Psalm 103:8-13

2. Hebrews 4:14-16

Exodus 25:20 And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be.

The cherubim have wings that spread out over the mercy seat, facing each other.

1. The Mercy of God: How Cherubim Point Us to the Throne of Grace

2. The Beauty of God's Mercy: The Significance of the Cherubim

1. Isaiah 6:1-2 - In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

2. Psalm 103:11-12 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Exodus 25:21 And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee.

God commanded Moses to place a mercy seat above the Ark of the Covenant and to put the testimony of God inside the Ark.

1. The Power of Mercy: What It Means for Our Lives

2. The Covenant of God: Its Significance in Our Lives

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

2. Romans 5:8 - God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 25:22 And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

God promised to meet with Moses and have communion with him from between the two cherubim above the mercy seat on the ark of the testimony, and to give him commandments for the children of Israel.

1.God's Mercy Seat: A Place of Intimacy With the Lord

2.God's Covenant With the Children of Israel: An Act of Divine Love

1.Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2.Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 25:23 Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.

God commanded Moses to build a table of shittim wood according to the measurements given.

1. God's instructions are perfect and should be followed without question.

2. We should be mindful of the details in our lives and strive to be obedient to God.

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Exodus 25:24 And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about.

God commanded that a gold crown be made and placed around the Ark of the Covenant.

1. The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant and its Crown in Biblical History

2. God's Instruction: Obeying God's Commands and Finding Our Own Crown

1. Hebrews 9:4 - "Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant."

2. 1 Peter 5:4 - "And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

Exodus 25:25 And thou shalt make unto it a border of an hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about.

God instructed Moses to make a golden crown with a handbreadth border around it.

1. The Beauty of Obedience: How Following God s Instructions Can Lead to Unexpected Results

2. Living a Life of Generosity: How God s Call to Generous Living Honors His Presence

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Exodus 25:26 And thou shalt make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on the four feet thereof.

God instructed Moses to make four gold rings and attach them to the four feet of the Ark of the Covenant.

1. God's instructions show His order and care for us.

2. The Ark of the Covenant is a reminder of God's faithfulness and loving protection.

1. Psalm 37:5-6 "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

2. Isaiah 40:31 "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Exodus 25:27 Over against the border shall the rings be for places of the staves to bear the table.

The rings of the table of the Lord shall be placed in line with the border, and the staves will be placed in the rings to hold up the table.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness - Exodus 25:27

2. Taking Care of God's House - Exodus 25:27

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then approach God s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Exodus 25:28 And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them.

The Lord commanded Moses to make the staves for the table of the Tabernacle out of shittim wood and cover them with gold.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Instructions Reaps Rewards

2. The Beauty of Holiness: How God Uses the Ordinary to Create Something Special

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Exodus 25:29 And thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover withal: of pure gold shalt thou make them.

The Lord commands to make vessels from pure gold.

1: God's commands are never to be taken lightly, let us strive to obey them fully.

2: The Lord's commands are a source of blessing, let us humbly accept them with joy.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2: Rom. 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Exodus 25:30 And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway.

God commanded Moses to set out the showbread on the table before Him at all times.

1. God's Provision: The Significance of the Showbread

2. God's Presence: Honoring His Glory through Worship

1. Hebrews 9:3-4 - And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant.

4. John 6:35 - And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Exodus 25:31 And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same.

God commands Moses to make a candlestick of pure gold with beaten work, including a shaft, branches, bowls, knops, and flowers, all of the same material.

1. The Light of God: Illuminating Our Lives With Faith

2. The Beauty of the Lord: Crafting a Life of Holiness

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. Hebrews 13:20-21 - May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Exodus 25:32 And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side:

The passage describes the instructions for making the menorah for the tabernacle.

1. Shining a Light: How Our Lives Can be Used to Illuminate God's Glory

2. Many Aspects, One Flame: Finding Unity in Variety

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

2. John 8:12 - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Exodus 25:33 Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick.

The passage describes a candlestick with six branches, each with three bowls shaped like almonds and a knop and flower.

1. God can use us to be a light for others.

2. We should use our gifts to bring beauty and joy to the world.

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit."

Exodus 25:34 And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers.

This verse describes the candlestick in the tabernacle, which was to have four bowls shaped like almonds with knops and flowers.

1. The Beauty of the Tabernacle: Exploring the Significance of the Candlestick

2. The Art of Obedience: Examining the Command to Construct the Tabernacle

1. 1 Chronicles 28:19 - And all this, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern.

2. Exodus 37:17-22 - And he made the candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft, and his branch, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, were of the same: And six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof: Three bowls made after the fashion of almonds in one branch, a knop and a flower; and three bowls made like almonds in another branch, a knop and a flower: so throughout the six branches going out of the candlestick.

Exodus 25:35 And there shall be a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches that proceed out of the candlestick.

God commanded the Israelites to create a candlestick that had six branches with a knop under each pair.

1. The importance of following God's instructions to the letter

2. The symbolism of the candlestick

1. Exodus 25:35

2. John 8:12 - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Exodus 25:36 Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: all it shall be one beaten work of pure gold.

This passage is describing the construction of the golden lampstand in the tabernacle.

1. God's work is perfect and should be done with the same level of excellence.

2. The beauty of the Lord's tabernacle is a reflection of His holiness.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Exodus 25:37 And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it.

God instructed Moses to make seven lamps and to light them, which would provide light to the Tabernacle.

1: God is our light in the darkness.

2: We should have faith that God will provide us with light in our lives.

1: John 8:12 - Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

2: Psalm 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Exodus 25:38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuffdishes thereof, shall be of pure gold.

God commanded the Israelites to make tongs and snuffdishes out of pure gold.

1. The Value of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Results in Blessings

2. The Beauty of Holiness: Why We Should Strive to Make Everything We Do Holy and Pure

1. Isaiah 6:3, And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

2. Leviticus 11:44, For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy.

Exodus 25:39 Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it, with all these vessels.

This passage discusses the creation of a tabernacle and its vessels using a talent of pure gold.

1. The Tabernacle: A Symbol of Our Relationship with God

2. The Value of Giving to God

1. Hebrews 9:1-3 - Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place.

2. Exodus 35:4-7 - Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, This is the thing that the Lord has commanded. Take from among you a contribution to the Lord. Whoever is of a generous heart, let him bring the Lord's contribution: gold, silver, and bronze; blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen; goats' hair, tanned rams' skins, and goatskins; acacia wood, oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, and onyx stones and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

Exodus 25:40 And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.

The Lord commanded Moses to make items according to the pattern that was shown to him on the mountain.

1. The Lord Expects Us to Follow His Pattern

2. The Importance of Obedience to the Lord's Commandments

1. Hebrews 8:5 - "See, says he, that you make all things according to the pattern shewed to you in the mount."

2. Romans 6:17 - "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you."

Exodus 26 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 26:1-14, God provides detailed instructions for the construction of the tabernacle's innermost covering the Tabernacle Curtains. These curtains are to be made of fine linen and adorned with artistic designs of cherubim. The curtains are to be joined together with loops and clasps made of gold, forming a large tent-like structure. The tabernacle is to have eleven curtains in total, each measuring a specific length and width. Additionally, there are instructions for making coverings of goat hair that will serve as an outer layer for the tabernacle.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 26:15-30 , God gives instructions regarding the construction of the framework for the tabernacle. This framework is composed of upright boards made from acacia wood overlaid with gold. These boards are to be held in place by silver bases and joined together by bars inserted into rings along their sides. The veil that separates the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place is also described made from blue, purple, and scarlet yarns woven with fine linen.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 26:31-37 , God instructs Moses regarding additional elements within the tabernacle structure. A curtain made of blue, purple, and scarlet yarns woven with fine linen is to hang at the entrance of the tabernacle a barrier between its outer courtyard and inner chambers. Golden hooks attached to pillars support this entrance curtain. Lastly, there are directions for constructing an altar for burnt offerings using acacia wood overlaid with bronze.

In summary:

Exodus 26 presents:

Detailed instructions concerning Tabernacle Curtains;

Use of fine linen; artistic designs; joining methods using gold loops, clasps;

Coverings made from goat hair serving as outer layer.

Instructions regarding construction framework;

Upright boards made from acacia wood overlaid with gold;

Silver bases; bars inserted into rings holding boards together;

Description of veil separating Holy Place, Most Holy Place.

Instructions concerning entrance curtain at tabernacle's entrance;

Use of blue, purple, scarlet yarns woven with fine linen;

Golden hooks supported by pillars;

Construction details related to altar for burnt offerings using acacia wood overlaid with bronze.

This chapter continues detailing plans for constructing sacred space, tabernacle where Yahweh's presence would dwell among chosen people emphasizing architectural components, architectural features often associated with ancient Near Eastern religious traditions highlighting themes like reverence, sacrifice exhibited through physical representations serving as reminders, preservers reflecting covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to priesthood, nationhood serving as representatives bearing witness concerning faithfulness towards deity revered within religious traditions prevalent among Hebrew community seeking fulfillment regarding land inheritance promised throughout generations

Exodus 26:1 Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them.

God commands Moses to build the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, blue, purple, and scarlet, and to decorate them with cherubim.

1. The Tabernacle: A Symbol of God's Faithfulness

2. The Tabernacle: An Image of Redemption

1. Exodus 26:1

2. Revelation 21:2-3 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Exodus 26:2 The length of one curtain shall be eight and twenty cubits, and the breadth of one curtain four cubits: and every one of the curtains shall have one measure.

This passage describes the measurements for one of the curtains of the tabernacle in the book of Exodus.

1. The Measure of a Man: Understanding the Standards of God

2. Living a Life of Measurement: Living up to God's Standards

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Colossians 3:13-15 - Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Exodus 26:3 The five curtains shall be coupled together one to another; and other five curtains shall be coupled one to another.

Five curtains are to be coupled together, and another five curtains are to be coupled together as well.

1. God's Perfection: The beauty of the tabernacle was in its perfect symmetry and its attention to detail.

2. The Power of Unity: While two is always better than one, in the tabernacle, five was the number of strength and community.

1. Colossians 2:2-3: That their hearts might be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ.

2. Ephesians 4:11-13: And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Exodus 26:4 And thou shalt make loops of blue upon the edge of the one curtain from the selvedge in the coupling; and likewise shalt thou make in the uttermost edge of another curtain, in the coupling of the second.

Moses instructed the Israelites to attach loops of blue thread to the edges of two curtains in order to couple them together.

1. God's instructions often seem small and insignificant, but they are important and should be followed.

2. Obedience to God is necessary for His blessings to be received.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love Me, you will obey My commands."

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - "But Samuel replied, What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to His voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams."

Exodus 26:5 Fifty loops shalt thou make in the one curtain, and fifty loops shalt thou make in the edge of the curtain that is in the coupling of the second; that the loops may take hold one of another.

The instructions given to Moses for making the tabernacle in the wilderness include making fifty loops in the edge of each of the two curtains to be coupled together.

1. The importance of following divine instructions with exactness.

2. The divine design of unity and connection.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

2. James 1:22, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Exodus 26:6 And thou shalt make fifty taches of gold, and couple the curtains together with the taches: and it shall be one tabernacle.

God instructed Moses to make fifty taches of gold to couple the curtains together for the tabernacle.

1. The Beauty of Unity: How God s Purpose Unites Us

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God s Instructions

1. John 17:21-23 - That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Exodus 26:7 And thou shalt make curtains of goats' hair to be a covering upon the tabernacle: eleven curtains shalt thou make.

God instructs Moses to make eleven curtains from goats' hair to be used as a covering for the tabernacle.

1. The Tabernacle: God's Provision of Protection

2. The Significance of the Covering of the Tabernacle

1. Hebrews 9:1-5 - God's plan for the tabernacle and its symbolic meaning

2. Isaiah 54:5 - God's promise of protection for His people

Exodus 26:8 The length of one curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the breadth of one curtain four cubits: and the eleven curtains shall be all of one measure.

The eleven curtains for the Tabernacle shall be the same size, 30 cubits long and 4 cubits wide.

1. God's Perfect Design: The Tabernacle as a Model for Us

2. God's Unfailing Measure: The Tabernacle as a Symbol of Faithfulness

1. Hebrews 10:20 - "By a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body"

2. Romans 12:2 - "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Exodus 26:9 And thou shalt couple five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and shalt double the sixth curtain in the forefront of the tabernacle.

The instruction given to Moses in Exodus 26:9 was to couple five curtains together and six curtains together, and to double the sixth curtain in the front of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Instructions

2. The Significance of the Tabernacle in the Bible

1. Matthew 5:17-19 - Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

2. Hebrews 10:1-4 - For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

Exodus 26:10 And thou shalt make fifty loops on the edge of the one curtain that is outmost in the coupling, and fifty loops in the edge of the curtain which coupleth the second.

This passage discusses the instructions on how to make fifty loops on each edge of two curtains for coupling.

1. "The Power of Unity: How Working Together Creates a Stronger Whole"

2. "The Details Matter: Balancing Precision and Perfection in Every Task"

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

Exodus 26:11 And thou shalt make fifty taches of brass, and put the taches into the loops, and couple the tent together, that it may be one.

God instructed Moses to make fifty small pieces of brass and join them together to form one complete tent.

1. The Power of Unity: How coming together can make us stronger

2. The Strength of Small Parts: How even the smallest pieces can have a big impact

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; he gives names to all of them.

Exodus 26:12 And the remnant that remaineth of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remaineth, shall hang over the backside of the tabernacle.

This passage discusses the instructions for the remaining fabric of the tent to be hung on the backside of the tabernacle.

1. "The Beauty of Restraint" - Exploring how we can be wise and disciplined in our use of resources.

2. "The Beauty of Awe" - Examining the power of living in anticipation of God's presence.

1. 1 Peter 1:13-16 - "Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

2. Psalm 29:2 - "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness."

Exodus 26:13 And a cubit on the one side, and a cubit on the other side of that which remaineth in the length of the curtains of the tent, it shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle on this side and on that side, to cover it.

The curtains of the tabernacle were to be hung over the sides from one cubit on each side of the length of the curtains of the tent.

1. The Importance of Covering: Understanding the Need for Protection in Our Lives

2. Uncovering the Beauty of the Tabernacle: Revealing the Splendor of God's House

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength

2. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Exodus 26:14 And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins.

The Lord instructed Moses to make a tent with a covering of rams' skins dyed red and a covering of badgers' skins.

1. The Lord's Provision: How God Supports Us in Difficult Times

2. Redeemed and Covered: How God Makes Us New Again

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Romans 8:31-34 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Exodus 26:15 And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood standing up.

The Lord commanded Moses to make boards for the tabernacle with shittim wood.

1. The Lord's Command to Obedience: Understanding the Significance of Building the Tabernacle in Exodus 26

2. The Godly Attributes of Shittim Wood in Exodus 26

1. Deuteronomy 10:3-5 - For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.

2. Hebrews 9:11 - But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building.

Exodus 26:16 Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board.

The boards used to build the tabernacle were to be ten cubits long and one cubit and a half wide.

1. Building a Foundation on Solid Ground - Taking the time to plan and prepare in order to build something lasting.

2. The Uniqueness of the Tabernacle - God's specific instructions for a special place of worship.

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Exodus 26:17 Two tenons shall there be in one board, set in order one against another: thus shalt thou make for all the boards of the tabernacle.

The instructions for making the boards of the tabernacle include two tenons on each board.

1. God's detailed instructions for creating the tabernacle reveal the importance of following His plans to the letter.

2. We must be faithful in carrying out God's will, even if it requires a painstaking attention to detail.

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

Exodus 26:18 And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward.

The boards for the tabernacle of the Lord are to be twenty in number, on the south side.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promise to Build a Tabernacle

2. Faithful Obedience to God's Commandments

1. Hebrews 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. James 4:17 "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Exodus 26:19 And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons.

The Lord instructs Moses to make forty silver sockets to attach the twenty boards of the tabernacle together, with two sockets under each board for the two tenons.

1. God's Instructions to Moses: Following God's Instructions for Our Lives

2. The Tabernacle: A Physical Representation of Our Relationship with God

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commandments."

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

Exodus 26:20 And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side there shall be twenty boards:

The passage describes that twenty boards were used for the north side of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Dedication: Using the Tabernacle as an Example

2. The Power of God: How He Used a Tabernacle to Connect with His People

1. Exodus 26:20

2. Hebrews 9:1-5 (For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:)

Exodus 26:21 And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

The passage discusses the instructions for constructing the tabernacle, which includes forty silver sockets to be placed in pairs under each board.

1. God's instructions for the tabernacle are a reflection of His perfect order and design.

2. We are called to obey God's instructions and follow His perfect plan for our lives.

1. Exodus 26:21 - And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

2. Isaiah 40:28 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

Exodus 26:22 And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards.

The Lord instructed Moses to make six boards for the sides of the tabernacle westward.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions

2. The Power of Obedience

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Exodus 26:23 And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides.

The instructions for the tabernacle in Exodus 26 include the making of two boards for the corners.

1: We must seek to build a strong and secure foundation for our faith, just as the Lord commanded the Israelites to build a strong foundation for the tabernacle.

2: We should strive to live in harmony with the Lord's will, just as the Israelites followed the Lord's instructions to build the tabernacle.

1: Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it."

2: Matthew 7:24-27 - "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock."

Exodus 26:24 And they shall be coupled together beneath, and they shall be coupled together above the head of it unto one ring: thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners.

This passage discusses the connection of two corners of a structure by a single ring.

1. God calls us to bind together in unity and strength.

2. We can learn from the structures of the world around us and how they are connected.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Exodus 26:25 And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

This verse in Exodus describes the construction of the tabernacle, which consisted of 8 boards and 16 sockets made of silver.

1. The Tabernacle: A Symbol of Obedience and Faith in God

2. The Tabernacle: A Symbol of God's Providence

1. Deuteronomy 10:1-5

2. Hebrews 9:1-5

Exodus 26:26 And thou shalt make bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,

The Lord commanded Moses to make five bars of shittim wood for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle.

1: Jesus is the living tabernacle and we must build our lives around Him.

2: We must be like shittim wood, strong and firm, in our faith and commitment to the Lord.

1: Hebrews 11:10 - For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2: 1 Corinthians 3:11 - For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Exodus 26:27 And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward.

The passage describes the construction of the tabernacle, with five bars for each side.

1. The Power of Building Together: Working Together to Create a Place of Worship

2. The Strength of Five: Finding Support in Unifying Structures

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Exodus 26:28 And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end.

The middle bar in the Ark of the Covenant must reach from one end of the boards to the other.

1. The Strength of Unity - How the Ark of the Covenant exemplifies the power of having a unified purpose.

2. The Meaning of the Middle Bar - Exploring the symbolism of the middle bar in Exodus 26:28.

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Exodus 26:29 And thou shalt overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold for places for the bars: and thou shalt overlay the bars with gold.

The instructions for building the tabernacle direct that the boards and bars be overlaid with gold.

1. The Splendor of Obedience: Understanding the Beauty of Following God's Instructions

2. The Gift of Generosity: The Blessing of Giving to God's House

1. Romans 6:17-18 - But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

2. 2 Samuel 7:1-2 - And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies; That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.

Exodus 26:30 And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.

God instructed Moses to build the tabernacle according to the pattern He had revealed to him on the mountain.

1. Faithful Obedience: Learning from Moses' Example

2. The Blessings of Obeying God's Instructions

1. Hebrews 11:7-8 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Exodus 26:31 And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made:

The instructions from God to Moses for constructing the tabernacle include creating a veil from blue, purple, scarlet and fine twined linen. It was to be crafted with skill and decorated with cherubim.

1. The Veil of the Tabernacle: A Picture of Christ's Sacrifice

2. The Skill and Craftsmanship of the Tabernacle: A Reflection of God's Perfection

1. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

2. Isaiah 6:1-3 - In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

Exodus 26:32 And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.

This passage describes the construction of the tabernacle, which requires four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold and four sockets of silver to which the pillars are attached with gold hooks.

1. The beauty of God's tabernacle reveals God's glory.

2. Our commitment to God's tabernacle is a reflection of our commitment to Him.

1. Exodus 25:8 - "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them."

2. Psalm 84:1 - "How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!"

Exodus 26:33 And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.

The passage from Exodus 26:33 talks about hanging up a veil in the tabernacle to separate the holy place from the most holy place, and to bring the Ark of the Testimony into the most holy place.

1. The Veil of Separation: Understanding the Significance of the Veil in the Tabernacle

2. His Presence is Holy: The Meaning of the Ark of the Testimony in the Most Holy Place

1. Hebrews 10:19-20 - Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Exodus 26:34 And thou shalt put the mercy seat upon the ark of the testimony in the most holy place.

The mercy seat was placed upon the Ark of the Testimony in the Most Holy Place.

1. God's Mercy: The Foundation of Our Relationship with Him

2. The Significance of the Mercy Seat in the Most Holy Place

1. Psalm 103:11-14 - "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust."

2. Hebrews 4:14-16 - "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Exodus 26:35 And thou shalt set the table without the vail, and the candlestick over against the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south: and thou shalt put the table on the north side.

God instructs Moses to place the table and candlestick inside the tabernacle, with the table on the north side and the candlestick on the south side.

1. The Symbolic Meaning of the Tabernacle Furniture

2. Living in the Presence of God: A Study of the Tabernacle

1. Hebrews 9:1-5 - The tabernacle is a symbol of the heavenly reality of the presence of God.

2. John 1:14 - Jesus, the Word of God, came to dwell among us, making it possible for us to dwell in the presence of God.

Exodus 26:36 And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework.

An elaborate hanging was to be created for the entrance of the tent of meeting, using a combination of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.

1: God desires us to be creative and express our faith through our works.

2: When we create something special for God, it should be done with excellence and the best materials.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward.

2: Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Exodus 26:37 And thou shalt make for the hanging five pillars of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, and their hooks shall be of gold: and thou shalt cast five sockets of brass for them.

This passage from the Bible instructs the reader to make five pillars of shittim wood and overlay them with gold, and to cast five sockets of brass for the pillars.

1. The Beauty of Obedience - How following God's instructions can bring beauty and glory

2. The Power of a Promise - How God's promises in our lives give us strength and hope

1. Deuteronomy 10:1-5 - The Lord's instructions for obedience

2. Psalm 119:105 - God's promise of guidance and truth

Exodus 27 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 27:1-8, God provides instructions for the construction of the altar of burnt offering. The altar is to be made of acacia wood and overlaid with bronze. It is to have a square shape, with horns on its four corners. A bronze grating is to be placed inside the altar, and it should also have rings and poles for carrying. This altar will serve as a place for offering sacrifices to Yahweh.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 27:9-19, instructions are given regarding the construction of the courtyard surrounding the tabernacle. The courtyard is to be rectangular in shape and enclosed by curtains made of fine linen. The curtains are supported by pillars set in bronze bases and connected by silver hooks and rods. The entrance to the courtyard is on one side, where there will be a screen made of blue, purple, and scarlet yarns woven with fine linen.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 27:20-21 , God instructs Moses regarding the care of the lampstand inside the tabernacle the Menorah. Aaron and his sons are commanded to keep its lamps burning continually from evening until morning before Yahweh a perpetual light symbolizing divine presence among His people.

In summary:

Exodus 27 presents:

Instructions for constructing altar of burnt offering;

Use of acacia wood overlaid with bronze; square shape; horns on corners;

Bronze grating; rings, poles for carrying; purpose as a place for sacrifices.

Instructions concerning construction of courtyard around tabernacle;

Fine linen curtains supported by pillars set in bronze bases;

Silver hooks, rods connecting pillars; entrance screen woven from colorful yarns.

Commandment regarding care, continual burning of lampstand (Menorah);

Aaron and his sons responsible for maintaining the lamps;

Symbolic representation of perpetual light before Yahweh's presence.

This chapter continues with instructions related to the construction of sacred space, tabernacle emphasizing architectural components, architectural features often associated with ancient Near Eastern religious traditions highlighting themes like reverence, sacrifice exhibited through physical representations serving as reminders, preservers reflecting covenantal relationship binding chosen people together under divine authority aimed at fulfilling purposes shaping collective destiny encompassing concepts related to priesthood, nationhood serving as representatives bearing witness concerning faithfulness towards deity revered within religious traditions prevalent among Hebrew community seeking fulfillment regarding land inheritance promised throughout generations

Exodus 27:1 And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits.

Instructions are given to build an altar out of shittim wood, five cubits long and five cubits broad, foursquare in shape and three cubits high.

1. The Holiness of God: The Significance of the Altar in Exodus 27:1

2. Building a Foundation of Faith: Lessons from the Altar in Exodus 27:1

1. Genesis 8:20-22 - The Altar: A Symbol of Worship and Thanksgiving

2. Exodus 20:24-25 - Building an Altar to Serve as a Reminder of God's Greatness

Exodus 27:2 And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass.

God instructs Moses to build an altar with four horns on each corner, all to be made out of the same material and overlaid with brass.

1. The Power of Unity: How God's Design of the Altar Teaches Us the Value of Working Together

2. Overcoming Fear: How the Horns of the Altar Remind Us of God's Protection and Provision

1. Psalm 118:6-7: "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? The Lord taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me."

2. Romans 8:31: "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Exodus 27:3 And thou shalt make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basons, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans: all the vessels thereof thou shalt make of brass.

Instructions are given by God to make various items of brass for use in the tabernacle.

1. The Power of God's Instructions - How we can make something beautiful from following God's commands.

2. The Value of Obedience - The importance of following God's words to the letter.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Exodus 27:4 And thou shalt make for it a grate of network of brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brasen rings in the four corners thereof.

God instructs Moses to build a grating of brass with four rings at the corners.

1. The Power of Dedication: How to Commit to God's Plans

2. The Strength of Structure: The Benefits of Following God's Design

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Exodus 27:5 And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar.

God commands Moses to place a net underneath the altar for the purpose of making it even.

1. The Need for Perfection in Our Walk With God

2. God Can Take Any Situation and Make it Perfect

1. Isaiah 26:3-4 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way.

Exodus 27:6 And thou shalt make staves for the altar, staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with brass.

This passage reveals that the staves for the altar were to be made of acacia wood and overlaid with brass.

1: The Altar Staves: A Symbol of Strength and Beauty

2: The Altar Staves: A Sign of God's Covenant

1: Hebrews 9:4 - The altar of burnt offering with its bronze grating, its poles, and all its utensils.

2: Exodus 25:31-37 - And you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand shall be made of hammered work; its base, its stem, its cups, its calyxes, and its flowers shall be of one piece with it.

Exodus 27:7 And the staves shall be put into the rings, and the staves shall be upon the two sides of the altar, to bear it.

The staves of the altar are to be placed through the rings and then placed on either side of the altar to carry it.

1. Bearing the Burden of Service: How We Carry Our Cross

2. Recognizing the Support of Others: The Strength of Community

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus said to His disciples, Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

2. Galatians 6:2-5 - Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For each one shall bear his own load. Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

Exodus 27:8 Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: as it was shewed thee in the mount, so shall they make it.

The Lord commanded Moses to make a Tabernacle according to the pattern he was shown on the mountain.

1. The Lord's Pattern for Perfection

2. Following God's Plan for Our Lives

1. Exodus 25:9 - According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

2. Hebrews 8:5 - Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Exodus 27:9 And thou shalt make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined linen of an hundred cubits long for one side:

The Lord instructed Moses to make a court for the tabernacle with fine twined linen hangings that were a hundred cubits long on the south side.

1. Living in the Presence of the Lord - How the Tabernacle and its court are a reminder of God's presence in our lives.

2. The Beauty of Holiness - The importance of maintaining beauty and holiness in the house of the Lord.

1. Revelation 21:21 - And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Exodus 27:10 And the twenty pillars thereof and their twenty sockets shall be of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver.

This passage speaks of the construction of the altar of burnt offering in the tabernacle of the Lord.

1: We can learn from the construction of the tabernacle that we should put God at the center of our lives.

2: We should strive to be as dedicated to God as the Israelites were in the construction of the tabernacle.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: Deuteronomy 6:5 - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Exodus 27:11 And likewise for the north side in length there shall be hangings of an hundred cubits long, and his twenty pillars and their twenty sockets of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver.

The Lord commanded twenty pillars and their sockets to be set up on the north side of the tabernacle, each pillar being a cubit in length and with hooks and fillets of silver.

1. The Lord's Perfection in Commanding the Tabernacle

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle and its Significance to Believers

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

2. Hebrews 9:11-12 - But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Exodus 27:12 And for the breadth of the court on the west side shall be hangings of fifty cubits: their pillars ten, and their sockets ten.

The court of the tabernacle had hangings of fifty cubits on the west side, with ten pillars and ten sockets.

1: God calls us to be generous in our giving, even to the point of making great sacrifices.

2: Our devotion to the Lord should be reflected in our physical actions, such as building the tabernacle according to God's instructions.

1: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2: 1 Chronicles 29:2-3 - Then King David said to the whole assembly: My son Solomon, whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the Lord God.

Exodus 27:13 And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits.

This passage speaks about the length of the court of the tabernacle, which was fifty cubits on the east side.

1. The Tabernacle: A Monument to God's Holiness

2. The Importance of Setting Boundaries in Our Lives

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - Make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Exodus 27:14 The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three.

The passage describes the dimensions of the hangings and pillars of the gate of the tabernacle.

1: We too can build our lives on a strong foundation just like the gate of the tabernacle was built on a strong foundation.

2: The tabernacle gate was built to last, and our lives too should be built to last.

1: Proverbs 10:25 As the whirlwind passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation.

2: Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Exodus 27:15 And on the other side shall be hangings fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three.

The instructions in Exodus 27:15 describe the construction of a tabernacle, including the measurements of the linings and the number of pillars and sockets.

1. God's design for the tabernacle in Exodus 27 teaches us about the importance of precision and detail in our service to God.

2. The tabernacle in Exodus 27 shows us that the Lord values our commitment and obedience in fulfilling His purposes.

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. 2 Timothy 2:15 - Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Exodus 27:16 And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four.

The court of the tabernacle was to have an ornamental hanging that was twenty cubits long, made from blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen, and adorned with needlework. It was to have four pillars and four sockets.

1. The Decoration of the Court: A Lesson in Beauty and Holiness

2. The Tabernacle: A Symbol of God's Presence with His People

1. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

2. Psalm 84:1-2 - How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Exodus 27:17 All the pillars round about the court shall be filleted with silver; their hooks shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass.

The court of the tabernacle was to be surrounded by pillars filleted with silver, with silver hooks and brass sockets.

1. The beauty of holiness: God's design for the tabernacle and its court.

2. The importance of stewardship: The care and reverence given to the things of God.

1. 1 Chronicles 22:14 Now, behold, in my trouble I have prepared for the house of the Lord an hundred thousand talents of gold, and a thousand thousand talents of silver; and of brass and iron without weight; for it is in abundance: timber also and stone have I prepared; and thou mayest add thereto.

2. Isaiah 40:18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

Exodus 27:18 The length of the court shall be an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits of fine twined linen, and their sockets of brass.

This passage describes the measurements of the court of the Tabernacle, which is to be 100 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 5 cubits high, made of fine twined linen and with brass sockets.

1. Seeing the Unseen: How God's Plans Unfold Over Time

2. Building the House of God: The Importance of Dedicating Resources to God

1. Hebrews 11:10: For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

2. Colossians 3:17: And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Exodus 27:19 All the vessels of the tabernacle in all the service thereof, and all the pins thereof, and all the pins of the court, shall be of brass.

The tabernacle and its components were to be made of brass.

1. The Importance of Purity in Worship

2. The Holiness of God and the Necessity of Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 9:1-7

2. Exodus 25:1-9

Exodus 27:20 And thou shalt command the children of Israel, that they bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always.

God commanded the Israelites to bring pure, beaten olive oil to keep the lamp continually burning.

1. The Need for Faithfulness in Obedience - Exodus 27:20

2. The Power of God's Providence - Exodus 27:20

1. Proverbs 21:20 - "There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise"

2. Isaiah 45:7 - "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things."

Exodus 27:21 In the tabernacle of the congregation without the vail, which is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall order it from evening to morning before the LORD: it shall be a statute for ever unto their generations on the behalf of the children of Israel.

This passage from Exodus states that Aaron and his sons are responsible for tending to the tabernacle of the congregation from evening to morning before the Lord as a permanent statute for the Israelites.

1: God's faithfulness in appointing Aaron and his sons to tend to the tabernacle and serve Him faithfully each day.

2: The importance of remaining devoted to the Lord in our everyday lives.

1: 1 Chronicles 28:20 - "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD."

2: Psalm 84:10-11 - "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

Exodus 28 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 28:1-5, God instructs Moses to bring Aaron, his brother, and his sons Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar to serve as priests before Him. These priests are to be set apart and consecrated for the sacred duties of ministering in the tabernacle. They are to wear special garments that reflect their position and honor. The garments include a breastpiece adorned with precious stones representing the twelve tribes of Israel.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 28:6-30 , detailed instructions are given regarding the specific design of the priestly garments. The high priest's ephod is made from gold, blue, purple, and scarlet yarns woven with fine linen. It is adorned with shoulder pieces that hold two onyx stones engraved with the names of the twelve tribes. The breastpiece is intricately crafted with gold settings holding twelve gemstones representing each tribe.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 28:31-43 , further instructions are provided for additional priestly attire. The high priest is to wear a robe made entirely of blue fabric with an opening for his head and bells attached to its hem so that their sound will be heard when he enters or exits the Holy Place. A golden plate engraved with "Holy to Yahweh" is placed on a turban worn by Aaron as a symbol of his consecration.

In summary:

Exodus 28 presents:

Instructions for consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests;

Special garments reflecting their position, honor;

Breastpiece adorned with precious stones representing tribes.

Detailed instructions concerning design of priestly garments;

High priest's ephod made from various materials; shoulder pieces bearing engraved stones;

Intricately crafted breastpiece with gemstones representing tribes.

Instructions for additional priestly attire;

Robe made of blue fabric with bells on hem;

Golden plate engraved with "Holy to Yahweh" on the turban worn by the high priest.

This chapter highlights the establishment of a distinct priesthood within Israelite society, emphasizing their role as mediators between God and the people. The detailed instructions for the priestly garments reflect their consecration and signify their unique position in serving before Yahweh. The garments, including the breastpiece and ephod, are adorned with precious stones representing each tribe, symbolizing unity and connection between God's chosen people. The attire serves as a visual reminder of their sacred duties and reinforces their authority in carrying out worship rituals within the tabernacle a physical representation of Israel's covenantal relationship with Yahweh reflecting ancient Near Eastern religious traditions prevalent during that time period.

Exodus 28:1 And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

God commands Moses to take Aaron and his sons to serve as priests in the office of the Lord.

1. The Blessing of Serving the Lord: A Study of Exodus 28:1

2. The Faithfulness of Aaron: An Examination of Exodus 28:1

1. Hebrews 5:1-4 - The High Priesthood of Jesus

2. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - The Royal Priesthood of Believers

Exodus 28:2 And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

God commands the Israelites to make holy garments for Aaron, for the purposes of glory and beauty.

1. The Strength of the Priesthood: How God Empowers His Servants to Lead the People

2. Beauty and Holiness: The Meaning Behind God's Commandment to Make Priestly Garments

1. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

2. Ephesians 4:24 - and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Exodus 28:3 And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

God has filled wise-hearted people with the spirit of wisdom to make garments for Aaron, so that he can serve as a priest.

1. The Value of Wisdom: How to Use What God Has Given Us

2. God's Calling: Receiving the Blessing of Serving the Lord

1. Proverbs 8:11 - For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 - But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

Exodus 28:4 And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

This passage describes the garments that were to be made for Aaron and his sons in order for them to fulfill the priestly office.

1. The Symbolic Significance of Clothes: A Study from Exodus 28:4

2. A Closer Look at the Priestly Garments: Examining the Details of Exodus 28:4

1. Matthew 22:1-14 - The Parable of the Wedding Garment

2. Leviticus 8:7-9 - The Anointing of Aaron and His Sons with the Priestly Garments

Exodus 28:5 And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen.

In Exodus 28:5, instructions are given for the priests to take gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine linen for making garments.

1. The Priestly Garments: An Illustration of Holiness

2. The Meaning of the Colors of the Priestly Garments

1. Leviticus 21:10 - And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes

2. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Exodus 28:6 And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, and of purple, of scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work.

This passage describes the instructions for the construction of the ephod, composed of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: Crafting a Life of Faith

2. The Call to Excellence: Working with Diligence and Skill

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

24 Since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Exodus 28:7 It shall have the two shoulderpieces thereof joined at the two edges thereof; and so it shall be joined together.

This passage describes the detailed instructions given by God to Moses regarding the making of the priestly garments.

1: When we follow God's instructions, we have His blessing and protection.

2: We must show obedience to God in all matters, even the little ones.

1: 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - "And Samuel said, Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."

2: Isaiah 1:19-20 - "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

Exodus 28:8 And the curious girdle of the ephod, which is upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; even of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.

The ephod of the Israelites had a girdle that was made of gold, blue, purple, scarlet and fine twined linen.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: How the New Testament Teaches Us to Adorn Ourselves in God s Love

2. The Significance of the Ephod in Ancient Israel: How Its Meaning Transcends Time

1. Romans 13:14 - And put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

Exodus 28:9 And thou shalt take two onyx stones, and grave on them the names of the children of Israel:

The Lord commanded Moses to take two onyx stones and engrave the names of the children of Israel on them.

1. The Power of Names: How Our Identity Has Been Given to Us by God

2. Engraving God s Promises: Remembering Who We Are and Who We Belong To

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

2. Psalm 139:13-14, For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Exodus 28:10 Six of their names on one stone, and the other six names of the rest on the other stone, according to their birth.

Exodus 28:10 describes a method of engraving the names of twelve sons of Israel on two stones, with six names on each stone in the order of their birth.

1. The Unity Of The Sons Of Israel: Examining Exodus 28:10

2. The Importance Of Individual Identity In The Bible: Exploring Exodus 28:10

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-21 - Examining the unity of the body of Christ

2. Ephesians 4:3-7 - Exploring the importance of maintaining unity in the body of believers

Exodus 28:11 With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, shalt thou engrave the two stones with the names of the children of Israel: thou shalt make them to be set in ouches of gold.

God commanded the Israelites to make two stones engraved with the names of their children and set them in gold ouches.

1. The Significance of Ouches and Engravings in Ancient Israel

2. The Importance of Seeing the Names of Our Children and Knowing Their Value

1. Isaiah 49:16 - "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

Exodus 28:12 And thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod for stones of memorial unto the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD upon his two shoulders for a memorial.

Aaron was to wear two stones on the shoulders of the ephod as a memorial to the children of Israel.

1. Bearing Our Burdens: Learning to Follow in Aaron's Footsteps

2. Memorializing Our Faith: Remembering the Legacy of the Children of Israel

1. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:7 - But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

Exodus 28:13 And thou shalt make ouches of gold;

The passage talks about making ouches of gold.

1: God's Blessings Come Through Obedience

2: The Significance of Gold in God's Kingdom

1: James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Exodus 28:14 And two chains of pure gold at the ends; of wreathen work shalt thou make them, and fasten the wreathen chains to the ouches.

God instructed Moses to make two wreathen chains of pure gold and attach them to the ouches.

1. The Beauty of Obedience: A Study of Exodus 28:14

2. The Power of Worship: The Significance of Wreathen Chains in Scripture

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 1 Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Exodus 28:15 And thou shalt make the breastplate of judgment with cunning work; after the work of the ephod thou shalt make it; of gold, of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine twined linen, shalt thou make it.

The Lord commanded Moses to make the breastplate of judgment according to the same pattern as the ephod, and it was to be made of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.

1. The Importance of Doing Work According to God's Command

2. The Beauty of Obedience to God's Will

1. Ephesians 2:10: For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:19: All this, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern.

Exodus 28:16 Foursquare it shall be being doubled; a span shall be the length thereof, and a span shall be the breadth thereof.

The description of the square breastplate is given, with its dimensions being a span in length and breadth.

1. God's Perfection in Creation: Examining the Details of the Breastplate

2. The Perfect Measurement: Understanding the Significance of the Span

1. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Exodus 28:17 And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row.

This passage describes the adornment of Aaron's breastplate with four rows of precious stones.

1. The Value of Beauty: Appreciating the Craftsmanship of God

2. Adorning Ourselves in God's Image: Living a Life of Beauty and Holiness

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.

2. Proverbs 31:25 - Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

Exodus 28:18 And the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond.

The second row of the breastplate of Aaron was to contain an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond.

1. The Beauty of God's Provision - Exodus 28:18

2. The Value of Holiness - Exodus 28:18

1. Proverbs 18:15 - An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Exodus 28:19 And the third row a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst.

This passage describes the third row of stones in the high priest's breastplate, which includes a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst.

1. The Priestly Breastplate: An Illustration of God's Provision

2. The High Priest: A Symbol of Our Access to God

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

2. 1 Peter 2:4-5 - "To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

Exodus 28:20 And the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be set in gold in their inclosings.

This passage describes the fourth row of stones in the priestly breastplate, which was to be set in gold: a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: How High Standards of Living Reflect God s Glory

2. Adorning the Temple of the Lord: The Role of Sacrifice in Spiritual Growth

1. 1 Peter 1:13-16 - Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

2. Exodus 28:2-3 - Tell all the skilled workers to whom I have given wisdom in such matters that they are to make garments for Aaron, for his consecration, so he may serve me as priest. 3 These are the garments they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash. They are to make these sacred garments for your brother Aaron and his sons, so they may serve me as priests.

Exodus 28:21 And the stones shall be with the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet; every one with his name shall they be according to the twelve tribes.

This passage describes how the twelve stones on the High Priest's breastplate were to be engraved with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel.

1. God values our uniqueness and individuality.

2. We are all part of one family in God's eyes.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

5. Ephesians 4:1-6 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Exodus 28:22 And thou shalt make upon the breastplate chains at the ends of wreathen work of pure gold.

God instructed Moses to make a breastplate for Aaron with wreathen chains of pure gold.

1. The Beauty of Obedience: How We Obey God's Instructions

2. Precious Gifts: The Value of Gold in God's Eyes

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Exodus 28:23 And thou shalt make upon the breastplate two rings of gold, and shalt put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate.

God commanded Aaron to make two rings of gold and attach them to the two ends of the breastplate.

1. God's Instructions: Following the Lord's Commands

2. God's Provision: Gifting us with Beautiful Things

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Exodus 28:24 And thou shalt put the two wreathen chains of gold in the two rings which are on the ends of the breastplate.

The Lord commanded Moses to make two wreathen chains of gold and attach them to the two rings on the ends of the breastplate.

1. The Value of Obedience: How Following God's Instructions Leads to Success

2. The Strength of the Breastplate: How Armor Can Protect Us in Times of Trouble

1. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

2. Isaiah 59:17 - For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

Exodus 28:25 And the other two ends of the two wreathen chains thou shalt fasten in the two ouches, and put them on the shoulderpieces of the ephod before it.

Passage The two wreathen chains on the ephod are to be fastened to two ouches on the shoulderpieces.

1. The Importance of Attaching Spiritual Gifts to Our Lives

2. The Significance of Wearing God's Armor

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the Armor of God

2. Isaiah 61:10 - God's Garment of Righteousness and Praise

Exodus 28:26 And thou shalt make two rings of gold, and thou shalt put them upon the two ends of the breastplate in the border thereof, which is in the side of the ephod inward.

God commanded Aaron to make two gold rings and attach them to the two ends of the breastplate that was part of the ephod.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Significance of Gold in the Bible

1. James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word and not just hearers.

2. 1 Peter 1:18-19 - You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ.

Exodus 28:27 And two other rings of gold thou shalt make, and shalt put them on the two sides of the ephod underneath, toward the forepart thereof, over against the other coupling thereof, above the curious girdle of the ephod.

God instructed Moses to make two gold rings and attach them to the sides of the ephod at the front, close to where the girdle was attached.

1. The importance of following God's instructions

2. The beauty of adorning ourselves with the Lord's commands

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

2. Matthew 28:20 - Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Exodus 28:28 And they shall bind the breastplate by the rings thereof unto the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it may be above the curious girdle of the ephod, and that the breastplate be not loosed from the ephod.

The breastplate is to be bound to the ephod with a blue lace, so that it is securely fastened above the ephod's girdle.

1. The importance of security in our faith

2. The significance of blue in the Bible

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn."

2. Ephesians 6:14 - "Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness"

Exodus 28:29 And Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon his heart, when he goeth in unto the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually.

The breastplate of judgment was to be worn by Aaron as a reminder of the children of Israel and their covenant with the Lord.

1. The importance of remembering our covenant with the Lord and honoring our commitments to Him.

2. The power of symbols in reminding us of our faith and our obligations to God.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

Exodus 28:30 And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim; and they shall be upon Aaron's heart, when he goeth in before the LORD: and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before the LORD continually.

Aaron was to wear the Urim and Thummim on his breastplate to bear the judgment of the Israelites before the Lord.

1. The Power of Bearing Judgment: Living Out God's Plan for Our Lives

2. Carrying the Heart of the People: The Responsibility of Representation

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Exodus 28:31 And thou shalt make the robe of the ephod all of blue.

The robe of the ephod was to be made entirely of blue.

1: The beauty of commitment - A study of Exodus 28:31

2: The meaning of blue - A study of Exodus 28:31

1: Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2: Romans 12:1-2 "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Exodus 28:32 And there shall be an hole in the top of it, in the midst thereof: it shall have a binding of woven work round about the hole of it, as it were the hole of an habergeon, that it be not rent.

The instructions for making the priestly ephod state that there should be a hole in the top of it with a binding of woven work around it to prevent it from tearing.

1. The Priestly Ephod: A Symbol of Strength and Permanence

2. The Significance of the Hole in the Priestly Ephod

1. Matthew 6:19 21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Exodus 28:33 And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about:

Instructions for making a garment for Aaron, the high priest of Israel, include pomegranates of blue, purple and scarlet and gold bells along the hem.

1. The Priestly Garment of Aaron: Spiritual Significance of its Design

2. Strengthened by the Lord: An Examination of the Significance of the Pomegranate and Bells in the Priestly Garment

1. Exodus 28:33

2. Luke 12:22-34 - Jesus speaks of the importance of being prepared and having faith in the Lord.

Exodus 28:34 A golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about.

This passage talks about the hem of the robe that was worn by the high priest in ancient Israel, which was adorned with a golden bell and a pomegranate.

1. The Symbolism of the Golden Bell and the Pomegranate How God Uses Symbolic Language to Teach Us

2. Putting On the Robe of Righteousness What It Means to Follow God's Will

1. Exodus 28:15-30 Context of the passage

2. Hebrews 9:14 How Christ is our High Priest and How He Intercedes for Us.

Exodus 28:35 And it shall be upon Aaron to minister: and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy place before the LORD, and when he cometh out, that he die not.

Aaron was to minister in the holy place of the Lord, and his sound would be heard both when he entered and when he left, so that he would not die.

1: The importance of ministering in the house of the Lord and of being heard by Him.

2: Following God s instructions so that we may live.

1: Hebrews 10:19-22 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

2: Exodus 25:8 And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

Exodus 28:36 And thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, like the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

God commanded Moses to make a plate of pure gold with the engraving "Holiness to the Lord" on it.

1. The Meaning and Significance of Holiness

2. Practicing Holiness in the Everyday

1. Isaiah 6:3 "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

Exodus 28:37 And thou shalt put it on a blue lace, that it may be upon the mitre; upon the forefront of the mitre it shall be.

God commanded that a plate of pure gold, inscribed with the words "Holy to the Lord," be placed on the forehead of the high priest's mitre and tied with a blue lace.

1. The Mitre of the High Priest: A Symbol of Holiness

2. Living a Life That is Pleasing to God

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

2. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Exodus 28:38 And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

This passage explains that Aaron was given a symbol to wear on his forehead, which would be a reminder to the Israelites to be holy and acceptable to the Lord.

1. "God's Holy Presence: The Symbol of Aaron's Forehead"

2. "Living Holy Lives: Acceptable to the Lord"

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Exodus 28:39 And thou shalt embroider the coat of fine linen, and thou shalt make the mitre of fine linen, and thou shalt make the girdle of needlework.

God instructed Moses to create priestly clothing for the high priest, which included a coat of fine linen, a mitre of fine linen, and a girdle of needlework.

1: We must be willing to do the work God has assigned to us.

2: Our sacrifices are not to be half-hearted, but must be made with our best efforts.

1: Ephesians 6:7-8 - Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.

2: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Exodus 28:40 And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty.

God instructs Moses to make coats, girdles, and bonnets for Aaron's sons for glory and beauty.

1. The Splendor of Holiness: A Study of God's Instruction to Moses in Exodus 28:40

2. The Power of Beauty: How God Uses Our Adornment to Glorify Himself

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

2. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Exodus 28:41 And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office.

God commands Moses to anoint, consecrate, and sanctify Aaron and his sons so that they can serve as priests.

1. The Power of Holiness: How Sanctification Enables Us To Serve God

2. God's Call to Priesthood: What It Means To Minister Unto Him

1. Exodus 28:41 - And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Exodus 28:42 And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach:

Instructions are given to make linen breeches to cover the nakedness of people from the loins to the thighs.

1. "Clothe Yourself In Righteousness"

2. "Cover Your Shame With Humility"

1. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."

2. Proverbs 16:19 - "Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud."

Exodus 28:43 And they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him.

Aaron and his sons must wear the priestly garments specified in Exodus 28:43 when they enter the tabernacle or approach the altar to minister, so that they do not incur iniquity and die.

1. The Power of God's Mercy in Saving Us from Iniquity

2. The Significance of Priestly Garments in Ministering to God

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Exodus 29 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 29:1-9, God provides instructions for consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests. The process involves washing them with water and dressing them in the priestly garments described in the previous chapter. They are then anointed with holy anointing oil, symbolizing their set-apart status for service to Yahweh. A bull is offered as a sin offering, and its blood is applied to the altar of burnt offering and to the horns of the altar. The remaining parts of the bull are burned outside the camp.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 29:10-28 , detailed instructions are given for offering a ram as a burnt offering. Its blood is sprinkled on all sides of the altar, signifying purification and atonement. The ram is then completely burned on the altar as a pleasing aroma to Yahweh. Another ram is presented as a consecration offering; its blood is placed on Aaron's right earlobe, thumb, and big toe, symbolizing his dedication to hear God's word, perform righteous acts, and walk in obedience.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 29:29-46 , God instructs Moses regarding further rituals related to consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests. The breastpiece worn by Aaron will be kept before Yahweh as a perpetual portion from Israel's offerings. Moses takes some of the anointing oil mixed with blood from the altar and sprinkles it upon Aaron and his sons' garments consecrating them for service before God. For seven days, they remain at the entrance of the tent of meeting while performing various offerings until their ordination is complete.

In summary:

Exodus 29 presents:

Instructions for consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests;

Washing, dressing in priestly garments, anointing with oil;

Offering a bull as a sin offering and burning its parts outside the camp.

Detailed instructions for offering a ram as a burnt offering;

Sprinkling blood on the altar; complete burning of the ram;

Presentation of another ram as a consecration offering.

Further rituals for consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests;

Perpetual portion from Israel's offerings kept before Yahweh;

Anointing with oil mixed with blood; seven days of ordination at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

This chapter emphasizes the process of consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests, highlighting their set-apart status and their role in mediating between God and His people. The rituals involve washing, anointing, and offering sacrifices to symbolize purification, atonement, dedication, and obedience. The priestly garments serve as visual reminders of their sacred duties. The consecration process spans several days and involves various offerings that solidify their role within Israelite worship practices a reflection of ancient Near Eastern religious traditions prevalent during that time period.

Exodus 29:1 And this is the thing that thou shalt do unto them to hallow them, to minister unto me in the priest's office: Take one young bullock, and two rams without blemish,

1: God commands us to serve Him with holiness and purity.

2: We should serve God with the best of our offerings.

1: Leviticus 1:3-5 If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD.

2: 1 Peter 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Exodus 29:2 And unleavened bread, and cakes unleavened tempered with oil, and wafers unleavened anointed with oil: of wheaten flour shalt thou make them.

This passage describes instructions for making unleavened bread, cakes, and wafers from wheaten flour.

1. The Bread of Life: Exploring the Symbolic Significance of Unleavened Bread in the Bible

2. The Power of Obedience: How following God's Commands Brings Blessing

1. John 6:35 - Jesus said, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - But Samuel replied: Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

Exodus 29:3 And thou shalt put them into one basket, and bring them in the basket, with the bullock and the two rams.

Moses is instructed to bring one basket containing the bullock and two rams as an offering to the Lord.

1. "The Power of Sacrifice: How Offering Something of Value to the Lord Brings Blessing"

2. "The Holiness of the Lord: Representing the Sanctity of God Through an Offering"

1. Leviticus 1:3-4 - "If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD."

2. Genesis 8:20 - "And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar."

Exodus 29:4 And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shalt wash them with water.

This passage instructs to bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tabernacle and wash them with water.

1. Jesus washes us clean - Revelation 1:5

2. The power of ritual - Leviticus 8:6

1. Ezekiel 36:25 - I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean.

2. Romans 6:3-4 - Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death.

Exodus 29:5 And thou shalt take the garments, and put upon Aaron the coat, and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the curious girdle of the ephod:

Moses instructed Aaron to put on the ceremonial garments of a priest, including a coat, robe, ephod, breastplate, and girdle.

1. The Significance of Priestly Garments: A Study of Exodus 29:5

2. Serving as a Priest: A Look at the Requirements of Exodus 29:5

1. Hebrews 10:19-22 entering into the holiest by the blood of Jesus

2. Leviticus 8:7-9 ordination of Aaron and his sons to the priesthood

Exodus 29:6 And thou shalt put the mitre upon his head, and put the holy crown upon the mitre.

The Lord commanded Moses to put a holy crown upon Aaron's head.

1. The Responsibility of Crowning God's Anointed Leaders

2. The Symbolism of the Crown in God's Kingdom

1. Psalm 8:5 - You have crowned him with glory and honor.

2. 1 Peter 5:4 - And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Exodus 29:7 Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him.

God instructs Moses to anoint Aaron with oil to consecrate him for his priestly duties.

1. God's Call to Service - Exploring the significance of anointing in the Bible.

2. The Power of Obedience - How following God's instructions can bring His blessings.

1. Exodus 29:7 - "Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him."

2. Leviticus 8:12 - "And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him."

Exodus 29:8 And thou shalt bring his sons, and put coats upon them.

Moses instructs Aaron to bring his sons and clothe them with coats.

1. Our Obedience to God's Instructions: A Study of Exodus 29:8

2. Dressing to Please God: What Clothing Does God Require?

1. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

2. Matthew 22:1-14 - And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast. But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ...

Exodus 29:9 And thou shalt gird them with girdles, Aaron and his sons, and put the bonnets on them: and the priest's office shall be theirs for a perpetual statute: and thou shalt consecrate Aaron and his sons.

God commands Moses to gird Aaron and his sons with girdles and put bonnets on them, making them priests for a perpetual statute.

1. The Priesthood of Aaron: A Perpetual Statute

2. The Symbolic Significance of the Girdles and Bonnets

1. Numbers 3:10, "And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death."

2. Leviticus 8:7-9, "And he put upon him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod upon him, and he girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him therewith. And he put the breastplate upon him: also he put in the breastplate the Urim and the Thummim. And he put the mitre upon his head; also upon the mitre, even upon his forefront, did he put the golden plate, the holy crown; as the Lord commanded Moses."

Exodus 29:10 And thou shalt cause a bullock to be brought before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the bullock.

God commanded Aaron and his sons to put their hands upon the head of a bullock that was brought before the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Following the Commandments of God

2. The Significance of Sacrifices: Acknowledging Our Sin and Need for Forgiveness

1. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Hebrews 9:22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Exodus 29:11 And thou shalt kill the bullock before the LORD, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The Lord commanded Moses to sacrifice a bullock at the door of the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the example of Moses

2. The Importance of Animal Sacrifice in Ancient Israelite Religion

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?

2. Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.

Exodus 29:12 And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put it upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar.

God commanded Moses to take the blood of the bullock and apply it to the horns of the altar with his finger and pour the rest of the blood at the bottom of the altar.

1. The Sacrifice of the Bullock and the Power of Obedience

2. The Significance of Blood and the Holiness of the Altar

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Leviticus 4:7 - And the priest shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which is in the tabernacle of the congregation; and shall pour all the blood of the bullock at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering.

Exodus 29:13 And thou shalt take all the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul that is above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and burn them upon the altar.

This passage from Exodus describes how to burn the fat from various organs of a sacrificial animal on the altar.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Obedience to God's Commands Results in Blessing

2. The Importance of Atonement: Understanding the Significance of Making Sacrifices

1. Leviticus 3:4-5: "And the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, which is by the flanks, and the caul that is above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away...And Aaron's sons shall burn it on the altar upon the burnt sacrifice, which is upon the wood that is on the fire: it is an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the Lord."

2. Hebrews 9:11-14: "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Exodus 29:14 But the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung, shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it is a sin offering.

New Line: God commanded the Israelites to burn the flesh, skin, and dung of a bullock for a sin offering outside the camp.

1. The importance of making offerings to God.

2. The power of repentance and forgiveness.

1. Leviticus 4:11-12 - The Lord spoke to Moses: This is the ritual law that the Lord has commanded: Tell the Israelites that when someone sins unintentionally in any of the Lord s commands and does something wrong,

2. Hebrews 13:11-13 - The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.

Exodus 29:15 Thou shalt also take one ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram.

This passage explains the procedure for a sacrificial offering of a ram in the book of Exodus.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: A Study of Exodus 29:15

2. The Holiness of Worship: Practicing Sacrificial Offerings According to Exodus 29:15

1. Hebrews 9:14 - How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. Leviticus 1:3-4 - If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord. He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.

Exodus 29:16 And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and sprinkle it round about upon the altar.

God's command to sprinkle the blood of the ram around the altar symbolizes the covenant between God and His people.

1. The Power of the Covenant: Understanding the Significance of the Blood of the Ram

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Appreciating the Importance of Blood in the Covenant

1. Genesis 17:7-14 - The Significance of Covenants in Scripture

2. Hebrews 9:22 - The Effectiveness of Blood in the Old Testament Covenant

Exodus 29:17 And thou shalt cut the ram in pieces, and wash the inwards of him, and his legs, and put them unto his pieces, and unto his head.

The ram is to be cut up into pieces, and its inwards and legs are to be washed and placed together with the pieces and its head.

1. God's Instructions: A Model of Obedience - Using the Lord's instructions in Exodus 29:17 as a model for how we should obey God in our daily lives.

2. Sacrifice and Service - Examining the sacrificial ram in Exodus 29:17 as a symbol of service and humility.

1. Leviticus 1:3-17 - Instructions for sacrifices and offerings to the Lord.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Encouragement to offer spiritual sacrifices to God.

Exodus 29:18 And thou shalt burn the whole ram upon the altar: it is a burnt offering unto the LORD: it is a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

The whole ram is to be burned on the altar as a burnt offering to the Lord, and it is a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

1. The Pleasing Aroma of an Offering to the Lord

2. The Significance of Burning a Whole Ram on the Altar

1. Leviticus 1:17 - And he shall cleave it with the wings thereof, but shall not divide it asunder: and the priest shall burn it upon the altar, upon the wood that is upon the fire: it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

2. Isaiah 43:24 - Thou hast bought me no sweet cane with money, neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices: but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins, thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities.

Exodus 29:19 And thou shalt take the other ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram.

Aaron and his sons are instructed to put their hands on the head of the second ram.

1. The Importance of Physical Touch in Worship

2. Obedience in Following God s Will

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commands.

Exodus 29:20 Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about.

The Lord instructed Moses to kill a ram and use its blood to anoint Aaron and his sons by placing it on their right ears, right thumbs, and right big toes before sprinkling it around the altar.

1. The importance of using God's instructions to anoint and serve in His house.

2. The significance of consecrating ourselves through the sprinkling of the blood of the ram.

1. 1 Peter 1:18-19 - Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

2. Hebrews 9:19-22 - For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Exodus 29:21 And thou shalt take of the blood that is upon the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon the garments of his sons with him: and he shall be hallowed, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him.

God commands Moses to sprinkle the blood of the altar and anointing oil onto Aaron, his garments, and his sons in order to hallow and consecrate them.

1. The Power of Consecration: How God's Anointing Can Transform Your Life

2. Called to Holiness: A Look at the Consecration of Aaron and His Sons

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. 1 Peter 1:13-14 - Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

Exodus 29:22 Also thou shalt take of the ram the fat and the rump, and the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and the right shoulder; for it is a ram of consecration:

The Lord commands Moses to take certain parts from a ram of consecration as an offering.

1. How We Can Offer Our Lives to the Lord

2. The Power of Consecration in Our Lives

1. Leviticus 3:3-5 - And he shall offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire unto the Lord; the fat thereof, and the whole rump, it shall he take off hard by the backbone; and the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

2. Philippians 2:17 - Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

Exodus 29:23 And one loaf of bread, and one cake of oiled bread, and one wafer out of the basket of the unleavened bread that is before the LORD:

The Lord commanded one loaf of bread, one cake of oiled bread, and one wafer out of the basket of unleavened bread to be brought before Him.

1. The Lord Demands the Best: Putting Your Whole Heart Into Worship

2. The Gift of Bread: A Symbol of Our Gratitude to God

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Exodus 29:24 And thou shalt put all in the hands of Aaron, and in the hands of his sons; and shalt wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.

The Lord instructs Moses to put all the sacrificial offerings into the hands of Aaron and his sons, and to wave them before the Lord as a wave offering.

1. Offerings of Praise: Offering a Sacrifice of Worship to the Lord

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God s Commands with Faith

1. Psalm 50:14-15 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Exodus 29:25 And thou shalt receive them of their hands, and burn them upon the altar for a burnt offering, for a sweet savour before the LORD: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

God commands Moses to take offerings from the people and burn them on the altar as a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Offering to the Lord Pleases Him

2. The Provision of God: How He Gives Us the Opportunity to Worship Him

1. Leviticus 1:1-17 - God's Instructions for Offerings

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Presenting Our Bodies as Living Sacrifices to God

Exodus 29:26 And thou shalt take the breast of the ram of Aaron's consecration, and wave it for a wave offering before the LORD: and it shall be thy part.

Aaron was instructed by God to take the breast of the ram of his consecration and wave it as an offering before the Lord, as it shall be his own part.

1. Learning to Offer What is Most Precious: A Study of Exodus 29:26

2. Giving to God from the Best We Have: Living in Obedience to Exodus 29:26

1. Philippians 4:18 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Malachi 3:10 - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Exodus 29:27 And thou shalt sanctify the breast of the wave offering, and the shoulder of the heave offering, which is waved, and which is heaved up, of the ram of the consecration, even of that which is for Aaron, and of that which is for his sons:

This passage describes the consecration of Aaron and his sons by offering the breast and shoulder of a ram to the Lord.

1. The Lord's Sacrifice: How the Consecration of Aaron and His Sons Teaches Us to Offer Ourselves to God

2. The Call of Holiness: What It Means to be Set Apart by the Lord

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Leviticus 10:10-11 - You must distinguish between the holy and the common, and between the unclean and the clean; and you must teach the people of Israel all the decrees that the Lord has spoken to them through Moses.

Exodus 29:28 And it shall be Aaron's and his sons' by a statute for ever from the children of Israel: for it is an heave offering: and it shall be an heave offering from the children of Israel of the sacrifice of their peace offerings, even their heave offering unto the LORD.

This passage states that Aaron and his sons will have a perpetual statute of the offering of the peace offering to God from the children of Israel.

1. The Significance of Offering Peace Offerings to God

2. Establishing a Perpetual Statute of Offering Peace Offerings to God

1. Psalm 107:22 - And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Exodus 29:29 And the holy garments of Aaron shall be his sons' after him, to be anointed therein, and to be consecrated in them.

God commanded Aaron to pass his holy garments to his sons, who were to be anointed and consecrated in them.

1. "A Legacy of Faith: Passing Down Our Holiness to Future Generations"

2. "Living the Legacy: Anointed and Consecrated in Our Lineage"

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Exodus 29:30 And that son that is priest in his stead shall put them on seven days, when he cometh into the tabernacle of the congregation to minister in the holy place.

The son of a priest that takes their place must wear the garments of the priesthood for seven days when they enter the tabernacle of the congregation to carry out their service in the holy place.

1. The Power of Priesthood: Recognizing the Divine Duty of Serving in the Holy Place

2. Dedication to the Ministry: Understanding the Significance of Wearing Priestly Garments

1. Hebrews 8:2-6 - A High Priest of Good Things to Come

2. 1 Peter 2:5, 9 - Being Built Up as a Spiritual House and a Royal Priesthood

Exodus 29:31 And thou shalt take the ram of the consecration, and seethe his flesh in the holy place.

This passage talks about the consecration of a ram and cooking its flesh in the holy place.

1. The Power of Consecration in the Work of God

2. A Holy Place to Celebrate God's Presence

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, confessing His name. Do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

2. Leviticus 1:3-4 - If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it, a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tabernacle of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord. He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.

Exodus 29:32 And Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram, and the bread that is in the basket, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Aaron and his sons are instructed to eat the flesh of a ram and the bread from a basket near the entrance to the Tabernacle.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Instructions Brings Blessing

2. The Holiness of Worship: Experiencing God's Presence Through Sacrifice

1. Psalm 51:17 - My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

2. Leviticus 1:1-2 - The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting. He said, Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When any of you brings an offering to the Lord, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock.

Exodus 29:33 And they shall eat those things wherewith the atonement was made, to consecrate and to sanctify them: but a stranger shall not eat thereof, because they are holy.

The Israelites were commanded to eat the offerings made for atonement to consecrate and sanctify them, but no strangers were allowed to eat the holy offerings.

1. The Holiness of Atonement: How the Sacrificial System Sanctified the People of Israel

2. The Power of Separation: Why the Holiness of Atonement Was Restricted

1. Leviticus 22:3-4 - Say to them, Whoever of all your descendants throughout your generations who goes near the holy things that the people of Israel dedicate to the Lord, while he has an uncleanness, that person shall be cut off from my presence: I am the Lord.

4 No one of the offspring of Aaron who has a leprous disease or a discharge may eat of the holy things until he is clean. Whoever touches anything that is unclean through contact with the dead or a man who has had an emission of semen,

2. Numbers 18:8-9 - And the Lord spoke to Aaron, Behold, I have given you charge of the contributions made to me, all the consecrated things of the people of Israel. I have given them to you as a portion and to your sons as a perpetual due. 9 This shall be yours of the most holy things, reserved from the fire: every offering of theirs, every grain offering of theirs and every sin offering of theirs and every guilt offering of theirs, which they render to me, shall be most holy for you and for your sons.

Exodus 29:34 And if ought of the flesh of the consecrations, or of the bread, remain unto the morning, then thou shalt burn the remainder with fire: it shall not be eaten, because it is holy.

The leftovers from the consecrations and bread offerings are to be burned in the morning and not eaten, as they are holy.

1. The Purpose of God's Offerings - Exploring why God's offerings are holy and should not be taken lightly.

2. The Holiness of God's Offerings - Understanding the significance of God's offerings and the gravity of not consuming them.

1. Leviticus 22:10-11 - No one outside the priesthood is allowed to eat from the holy offerings, so they must be burned and not consumed.

2. Numbers 18:9 - The priests are to take care of the offerings to the Lord, including the burning of the leftovers.

Exodus 29:35 And thus shalt thou do unto Aaron, and to his sons, according to all things which I have commanded thee: seven days shalt thou consecrate them.

God instructs Moses to consecrate Aaron and his sons for seven days according to His commands.

1. God's Commands are for Our Blessing and Protection

2. The Power of Seven

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

2. Leviticus 8:33 - "And ye shall not go out of the door of the tabernacle of the congregation in seven days, until the days of your consecration be at an end: for seven days shall he consecrate you."

Exodus 29:36 And thou shalt offer every day a bullock for a sin offering for atonement: and thou shalt cleanse the altar, when thou hast made an atonement for it, and thou shalt anoint it, to sanctify it.

Every day a bullock is to be sacrificed for the atonement of the altar and to sanctify it.

1. The Power of Atonement: How We Receive Forgiveness

2. The Holiness of the Altar: Keeping Sacred Spaces Sacred

1. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Exodus 29:37 Seven days thou shalt make an atonement for the altar, and sanctify it; and it shall be an altar most holy: whatsoever toucheth the altar shall be holy.

The altar is to be sanctified and made holy for seven days, and anything that touches it will become holy.

1. The Holiness of the Altar: How We Should Approach God's House.

2. Sanctifying Ourselves for Worship: Preparing to Encounter the Divine.

1. Leviticus 6:11 - And thus shall ye offer it (the grain offering) unto the Lord: of the best of the flour of your meal shall ye offer a cake for a heave offering: and the priest shall take it of thy hand, and shall wave it for a wave offering before the Lord.

2. Hebrews 13:10 - We have an altar, of which they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.

Exodus 29:38 Now this is that which thou shalt offer upon the altar; two lambs of the first year day by day continually.

This passage from Exodus describes the instructions for offering two lambs of the first year as a continual offering on the altar.

1. The Continual Offering of Sacrifice: A Study in Worshiping God

2. The Power of Giving: The Significance of the Offerings in Exodus

1. Hebrews 10:1-18: Understanding the Relationship Between the Old and New Covenants

2. Romans 12:1-2: Living a Life of Sacrifice and Worship to God

Exodus 29:39 The one lamb thou shalt offer in the morning; and the other lamb thou shalt offer at even:

The passage describes a sacrifice of two lambs, one in the morning and the other in the evening.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: A Biblical Perspective

2. The Importance of Obedience in the Old Testament

1. Isaiah 53:7 - He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 29:40 And with the one lamb a tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil; and the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering.

A tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil and the fourth part of an hin of wine were offered as a drink offering with one lamb in Exodus 29:40.

1. The Power of Offerings: An Examination of Exodus 29:40

2. The Holiness of Giving: A Study of Sacrifice in Exodus 29:40

1. Leviticus 2:1-2 And when any will offer a meat offering unto the Lord, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon: And he shall bring it to Aaron's sons the priests: and he shall take thereout his handful of the flour thereof, and of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof; and the priest shall burn the memorial of it upon the altar, to be an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the Lord.

2. Numbers 28:14 And their drink offerings shall be half an hin of wine unto a bullock, and the third part of an hin unto a ram, and a fourth part of an hin unto a lamb: this is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year.

Exodus 29:41 And the other lamb thou shalt offer at even, and shalt do thereto according to the meat offering of the morning, and according to the drink offering thereof, for a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

This passage discusses the offering of a lamb as a sweet savour, an offering made by fire to the Lord.

1. The Power of Offering: An Exploration of the Significance of the Lamb Offering

2. A Sweet Aroma: The Significance of the Sacrifice of the Lamb

1. Deuteronomy 16:2, You shall therefore sacrifice the Passover to the Lord your God, from the flock and the herd, in the place that the Lord will choose to place his name there.

2. Leviticus 1:9, But his inwards and his legs shall he wash in water: and the priest shall burn all on the altar, to be a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the Lord.

Exodus 29:42 This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee.

This passage describes a continual burnt offering to be presented at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation in the presence of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Sacrificing for God: Lessons from Exodus 29:42

2. The Importance of Worship and Awe in the Presence of the Lord

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. 1 Corinthians 9:25 - Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

Exodus 29:43 And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory.

God meets with the Israelites in the tabernacle, and it is sanctified by His glory.

1. The Sanctity of the Tabernacle: A Lesson in Holiness

2. How God's Glory Manifests in Our Lives

1. Psalm 29:2 - Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

2. Isaiah 60:1-2 - Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

Exodus 29:44 And I will sanctify the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar: I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to me in the priest's office.

God will sanctify the tabernacle and altar, as well as Aaron and his sons to minister him as priests.

1. The Call to Ministry: How Our Faith Impacts Our Service

2. The Holiness of God and Its Impact on Our Lives

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light

2. 1 Peter 4:10-11 - As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Exodus 29:45 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God.

God promises to live among the Israelites and be their God.

1. God's Promise to His People: How God Fulfills His Covenant with Israel.

2. The Power of Faith: Living with God's Presence.

1. Isaiah 43:3-4 - "For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life."

2. Jeremiah 31:33 - "But this is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Exodus 29:46 And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I am the LORD their God.

God reminds the Israelites of his power and love as their savior as He leads them out of Egypt and dwells among them.

1. The Power of God's Unending Love

2. Dwelling in the Presence of the Lord

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Psalm 23 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Exodus 30 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 30:1-10, God provides instructions for the construction of the altar of incense. The altar is to be made of acacia wood and overlaid with pure gold. It is to be placed in the Holy Place, before the veil that separates it from the Most Holy Place. Aaron, as the high priest, is to burn incense on this altar every morning and evening as a pleasing aroma to Yahweh. The altar of incense serves as a symbol of worship and prayer offered by the priests on behalf of Israel.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 30:11-16 , God commands Moses to take a census among the Israelites and collect a half-shekel from each person as an offering to Yahweh. This offering is called "atonement money" and serves as a means of redemption for their lives. The collected money will be used for various purposes related to maintaining the tabernacle and its services.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 30:17-38 , God gives instructions regarding other sacred items within the tabernacle. A bronze basin is to be made for Aaron and his sons to wash their hands and feet before entering or serving at the altar. Additionally, anointing oil made from specific ingredients is provided this oil is consecrated and reserved only for anointing priests and sacred objects within the tabernacle. Finally, instructions are given for making a fragrant incense blend using various spices a special formula reserved exclusively for use in worship.

In summary:

Exodus 30 presents:

Instructions for constructing altar of incense;

Use of acacia wood overlaid with gold; placement in Holy Place;

Burning incense every morning, evening; symbolizing worship, prayer.

Commandment to take a census and collect atonement money;

Half-shekel offering as redemption for lives;

Funds used for maintaining tabernacle and its services.

Instructions concerning bronze basin for washing, anointing oil, and fragrant incense blend;

Basin for priests' cleansing; anointing oil reserved for sacred purposes;

Special formula of spices used exclusively in worship.

This chapter focuses on additional elements within the tabernacle that are essential to the Israelite religious practices. The altar of incense serves as a place of worship and prayer, symbolizing the offering of sweet fragrance before Yahweh. The collection of atonement money emphasizes the concept of redemption and provides resources for sustaining the tabernacle. Instructions regarding the bronze basin, anointing oil, and fragrant incense highlight the importance of cleanliness, consecration, and creating a sacred atmosphere within the sanctuary a reflection of ancient Near Eastern religious traditions prevalent during that time period.

Exodus 30:1 And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: of shittim wood shalt thou make it.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to make an altar of acacia wood to burn incense.

1. The Power of Obedience - how God's commands lead to blessing and joy if followed.

2. Finding Strength and Comfort in God's Word - how to use Scripture to help us in our daily lives.

1. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Exodus 30:2 A cubit shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be: and two cubits shall be the height thereof: the horns thereof shall be of the same.

This passage states that the altar of incense is to be a square with sides of one cubit and a height of two cubits, with horns of the same material.

1. The Holiness of God: The Altar of Incense in Exodus 30.

2. Worshiping God with a Holy Offering: The Meaning of the Altar of Incense in Exodus 30.

1. Exodus 30:1-5

2. Leviticus 16:12-15

Exodus 30:3 And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a crown of gold round about.

This passage outlines instructions for creating a sacred altar of gold with a crown.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: How We Can Make Our Lives a Sacred Altar

2. The Power of Gold: The Importance of Investing in What Matters Most

1. 1 Peter 2:5- you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house.

2. Romans 12:1- I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Exodus 30:4 And two golden rings shalt thou make to it under the crown of it, by the two corners thereof, upon the two sides of it shalt thou make it; and they shall be for places for the staves to bear it withal.

This verse describes the instructions for making two golden rings to attach to the corners of a holy object, with staves to carry it.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: Appreciating the Value of God's Word

2. Carrying Out the Lord's Commands: Obeying God's Directions

1. Psalm 119:105: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Exodus 30:5 And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold.

God instructed Moses to make two staves of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.

1) The Beauty of Obedience: How God Rewards Our Faithful Service

2) The Value of Sacrifice: Learning to Trust God with What We Hold Most Dear

1) Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2) Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Exodus 30:6 And thou shalt put it before the vail that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee.

Moses was instructed to place the altar of incense in front of the veil that was located near the Ark of the Testimony in the Holy of Holies, which was where God would meet with him.

1. The Significance of the Veil in the Bible

2. The Holiness of the Ark of the Testimony

1. Hebrews 10:20 - By a new and living way, which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh

2. Exodus 25:22 - And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony.

Exodus 30:7 And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it.

Aaron was instructed to burn incense on the altar every morning when lighting the lamps.

1. The Power of Prayers: The Significance of Incense in Ancient Times

2. Cultivating a Morning Ritual: The Sacredness of Everyday Life

1. Psalm 141:2 - Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

2. James 5:13 - Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms.

Exodus 30:8 And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

God commanded Aaron to burn incense in the Tabernacle every evening as a perpetual offering to the Lord.

1. God's Instructions for Worship: How We Can Honor God Through Obedience

2. Why We Offer Incense to the Lord: A Study of Exodus 30:8

1. John 4:23-24 - "Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and truth."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Exodus 30:9 Ye shall offer no strange incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering; neither shall ye pour drink offering thereon.

The passage in Exodus 30:9 discourages the offering of strange incense, burnt sacrifice, meat offering, or drink offering to God.

1. God desires obedience, not sacrifice - 1 Samuel 15:22

2. Worship God with your whole heart - Deuteronomy 6:5

1. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Exodus 30:10 And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it is most holy unto the LORD.

Aaron was responsible for making atonement for the altar of the Lord once a year.

1: Our lives should be dedicated to continually making atonement for our sins so that we may remain in communion with God.

2: We are called to make atonement for one another, just as Aaron was commanded to make atonement for the altar of the Lord.

1: Hebrews 10:4-5 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me"

2: Romans 3:23-25 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

Exodus 30:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the Example of Moses

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Voice

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Exodus 30:12 When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number, then shall they give every man a ransom for his soul unto the LORD, when thou numberest them; that there be no plague among them, when thou numberest them.

This passage from Exodus describes how each Israelite was to give a ransom to the Lord when their population was counted in order to avoid a plague.

1. The Power of Giving: How God Provides for His People

2. The Significance of Ransoms: An Exploration of God's Love

1. 1 Peter 1:18-19 - Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

2. Isaiah 55:1 - Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Exodus 30:13 This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary: (a shekel is twenty gerahs:) an half shekel shall be the offering of the LORD.

God calls us to give a portion of our wealth to Him.

1: We must give generously to God of our time, money, and resources.

2: God desires us to share our blessings and show our faithfulness through our offerings.

Cross Ref 1: Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Cross Ref 2: 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Exodus 30:14 Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering unto the LORD.

This verse explains that all people twenty years and older must give an offering to the Lord.

1. The Gift of Gratitude: The Importance of Giving Back to God

2. The Power of Obedience: Following the Lord's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God at the place that he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks, and the Festival of Booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed;

2. Acts 5:1-2 - "But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; with his wife's full knowledge he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet."

Exodus 30:15 The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less than half a shekel, when they give an offering unto the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls.

This passage from Exodus states that when making an offering to the Lord, all must give the same amount, regardless of wealth.

1. The Equality of Sacrifice: Understanding God's Call to Give Generously in Exodus 30:15

2. Showing Generosity in the Face of Inequality: Practicing Fairness in Our Offerings to God

1. Leviticus 5:15-16 - "If anyone commits a breach of faith and sins unintentionally in any of the holy things of the Lord, he shall bring to the Lord as his compensation a ram without blemish out of the flock, valued in silver shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, for a guilt offering. He shall also make restitution for what he has done amiss in the holy thing and shall add a fifth to it and give it to the priest. The priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering, and he shall be forgiven."

2. 2 Corinthians 8:13-14 - "For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. As it is written, Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack.

Exodus 30:16 And thou shalt take the atonement money of the children of Israel, and shalt appoint it for the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; that it may be a memorial unto the children of Israel before the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls.

This verse from Exodus describes how the children of Israel were to use atonement money for the service of the tabernacle as a memorial before the Lord to make an atonement for their souls.

1. The Atonement of Jesus: The Ultimate Memorial

2. The Purpose of the Atonement: To Make Atonement for Our Souls

1. Hebrews 9:11-14 - Christ's sacrifice as a once-for-all atonement for our sins

2. Isaiah 53:5-6 - The Lord punishing our iniquity and bearing our sorrows for the atonement of our sins

Exodus 30:17 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. The Obedience of Moses: A Model for Us Today

2. God's Guidance: How to Receive and Follow His Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. John 14:15-17 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Exodus 30:18 Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot also of brass, to wash withal: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein.

God instructions Moses to make a brass laver with a brass foot, to be placed between the Tabernacle and the altar, and to be filled with water.

1. The Importance of Washing: A Study of Exodus 30:18

2. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: A Reflection on the Brass Laver

1. John 13:10 - "He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit."

2. Isaiah 1:16 - "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil."

Exodus 30:19 For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat:

Exodus 30:19 reminds us of the importance of keeping ourselves clean both physically and spiritually.

1: We must always strive to keep ourselves pure and undefiled, both physically and spiritually.

2: Cleansing ourselves of sin is a necessary step in our spiritual journey and can be done through prayer, repentance, and faith in Jesus Christ.

1: John 13:10 - He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit.

2: James 4:8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Exodus 30:20 When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD:

The Israelites are instructed to wash with water before they enter the tabernacle or approach the altar to make offerings to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Holiness and Cleanliness Before Entering into the Presence of God.

2. The Instruction to Wash: A Sign of God's Mercy and Love for His People.

1. Leviticus 8:6 - "And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water."

2. Ezekiel 36:25-27 - "Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."

Exodus 30:21 So they shall wash their hands and their feet, that they die not: and it shall be a statute for ever to them, even to him and to his seed throughout their generations.

This passage describes the ritual of washing hands and feet as an everlasting law given by God to Moses and the Israelites so that they may not die.

1. The Sanctity of Obedience: We must heed God's commands and obey His statutes so that we may continue to live in His grace.

2. The Power of Rituals: Washing hands and feet is a deeply meaningful ritual that can bring spiritual nourishment.

1. Matthew 15:1-20 - Jesus teaching on the importance of honoring God s law.

2. Psalm 119:9-16 - The psalmist s exaltation of God s laws and commands.

Exodus 30:22 Moreover the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord instructed Moses.

1. Following the Lord's Instructions

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13

2. Matthew 7:24-27

Exodus 30:23 Take thou also unto thee principal spices, of pure myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet cinnamon half so much, even two hundred and fifty shekels, and of sweet calamus two hundred and fifty shekels,

This passage talks about God's command to Moses to take five hundred shekels of pure myrrh, two hundred and fifty shekels of sweet cinnamon, and two hundred and fifty shekels of sweet calamus.

1: God calls us to bring our best and most precious possessions to Him.

2: When God gives us instructions, we should obey them and trust Him.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Romans 12:1-2 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Exodus 30:24 And of cassia five hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, and of oil olive an hin:

God instructed Moses to take five hundred shekels of cassia and one hin of olive oil for use in the sanctuary.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Holiness and Sanctity of the Sanctuary

1. Exodus 20:3-6 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me."

2. Leviticus 19:2 - Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.

Exodus 30:25 And thou shalt make it an oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary: it shall be an holy anointing oil.

God commanded Moses to make holy anointing oil according to the art of the apothecary.

1. The Power of Anointing: How God's Blessing Can Transform Your Life

2. Biblical Principles of Anointing: Understanding the Purpose of Anointing in Scripture

1. James 5:14 - Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

2. Psalm 23:5 - Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Exodus 30:26 And thou shalt anoint the tabernacle of the congregation therewith, and the ark of the testimony,

The Lord commanded that the tabernacle and the ark of the testimony should be anointed.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The power of anointing in God's service.

1. Exodus 30:26 - "And thou shalt anoint the tabernacle of the congregation therewith, and the ark of the testimony,"

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Exodus 30:27 And the table and all his vessels, and the candlestick and his vessels, and the altar of incense,

God commanded the Israelites to construct a table, vessels, a candlestick, and an altar of incense for the Tabernacle.

1: God cares about the details and commands us to do the same.

2: We must obey God's commands and be willing to construct what He has asked of us.

1: Proverbs 4:23 - Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2: Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Exodus 30:28 And the altar of burnt offering with all his vessels, and the laver and his foot.

This passage describes the altar of burnt offering and its related vessels, including the laver and its foot.

1. The importance of offering a sacrifice to the Lord.

2. The significance of the various items used in the offering.

1. Leviticus 1:3-9 - The instructions for bringing an offering to the Lord.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - The blood of Jesus, the perfect sacrifice.

Exodus 30:29 And thou shalt sanctify them, that they may be most holy: whatsoever toucheth them shall be holy.

God is calling us to be holy and set apart.

1: "Living a life of Holiness"

2: "Being Set Apart for God's Purposes"

1: 1 Peter 1:16 - Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2: Titus 2:11-14 - For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Exodus 30:30 And thou shalt anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office.

God commanded Moses to anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them so they could minister in the office of the priesthood.

1. The Calling of the Priests: A Study of Exodus 30:30

2. The Holiness of the Priesthood: How God Set Apart a Special People

1. Hebrews 5:1-4 - Christ's High Priestly Ministry

2. 1 Peter 2:5-9 - Living Stones of a Spiritual House

Exodus 30:31 And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, This shall be an holy anointing oil unto me throughout your generations.

God commands the children of Israel to prepare a holy anointing oil to be used as a sign of holiness throughout their generations.

1. "The Significance of the Anointing Oil: A Symbol of Holiness and Faithfulness"

2. "The Promise of God's Covenant: The Anointing Oil as a Sign of Blessing"

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The anointing of the Spirit to bring good news to the oppressed.

2. Hebrews 9:11-14 - The blood of Christ as the symbol of the new covenant.

Exodus 30:32 Upon man's flesh shall it not be poured, neither shall ye make any other like it, after the composition of it: it is holy, and it shall be holy unto you.

This passage instructs us to not pour the holy anointing oil on people's flesh and to not make any other oil like it.

1. The Holiness of the Anointing Oil: Understanding the Sacredness of God's Gifts

2. The Importance of Following God's Instructions: Following God's Word for Our Lives

1. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Exodus 30:33 Whosoever compoundeth any like it, or whosoever putteth any of it upon a stranger, shall even be cut off from his people.

This passage warns against adding any ingredients to the holy anointing oil or using it on anyone who is not of the Lord's people.

1. The Power of the Anointing Oil: God's Special Gift to His People

2. Why Obeying the Commandments of the Lord is Essential

1. Hebrews 13:20-21 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2. 1 John 2:27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Exodus 30:34 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take unto thee sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum; these sweet spices with pure frankincense: of each shall there be a like weight:

God instructs Moses to take specific spices and use them with frankincense to make a holy anointing oil.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. The Sacredness of Anointing Oil

1. Psalm 133:2 - It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments.

2. James 5:14 - Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

Exodus 30:35 And thou shalt make it a perfume, a confection after the art of the apothecary, tempered together, pure and holy:

God instructs Moses to make a special perfume according to the art of the apothecary, tempered together and kept pure and holy.

1. The Power of Perfume: How God Uses Sweet Aromas to Connect us to Him

2. The Art of the Apothecary: Understanding the Significance of God's Instructions

1. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

2. Revelation 8:3-4 - And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel.

Exodus 30:36 And thou shalt beat some of it very small, and put of it before the testimony in the tabernacle of the congregation, where I will meet with thee: it shall be unto you most holy.

God instructed Moses to take some of the incense, grind it into a powder, and place it in front of the Ark of the Testimony in the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions

2. The Holiness of God: Respect and Awe in His Presence

1. Luke 10:27: And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

2. James 1:22: But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Exodus 30:37 And as for the perfume which thou shalt make, ye shall not make to yourselves according to the composition thereof: it shall be unto thee holy for the LORD.

This verse from Exodus instructs us to not try to make the same perfume for ourselves, as it is to be holy for the LORD.

1. The importance of honoring God with our actions

2. Why it is important to keep special things for God

1. Deuteronomy 14:2 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.

2. Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Exodus 30:38 Whosoever shall make like unto that, to smell thereto, shall even be cut off from his people.

God's commands must be followed and those who disobey will be cut off from the people.

1. Obedience - The Blessing and Curse of Following God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Exodus 31 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 31:1-11, God appoints Bezalel and Oholiab as skilled craftsmen filled with the Spirit of God to oversee the construction of the tabernacle and its furnishings. They are gifted in various crafts such as carving, engraving, weaving, and working with gold, silver, and bronze. These artisans are entrusted with the responsibility to create all that is necessary for the worship and service within the tabernacle according to the specifications given by God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 31:12-17 , God emphasizes the importance of observing the Sabbath day as a sign between Him and His people. He commands them to keep it holy by refraining from work on that day. The observance of Sabbath is a perpetual covenant throughout their generations an acknowledgment of Yahweh's role as their Creator and their unique relationship with Him.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 31:18 , after speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai for forty days and nights, God gives him two stone tablets containing His commandments the Ten Commandments. These tablets serve as a written testimony of God's moral laws that govern Israel's relationship with Him and with one another.

In summary:

Exodus 31 presents:

Appointment of Bezalel and Oholiab as skilled craftsmen;

Gifted in various crafts for constructing tabernacle, furnishings;

Responsible for creating all necessary elements according to divine specifications.

Emphasis on observing Sabbath day;

Commandment to keep it holy; refrain from work;

Sabbath serves as a perpetual covenant acknowledging Yahweh's role as Creator.

God gives Moses two stone tablets containing Ten Commandments;

Written testimony of moral laws governing Israel's relationship with God, each other.

This chapter highlights the selection of skilled artisans to carry out the construction of the tabernacle, emphasizing the importance of craftsmanship and attention to detail in creating a sacred space for worship. The observance of the Sabbath is emphasized as a sign of their covenant relationship with God, reminding them to set aside time for rest and devotion. The giving of the stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments solidifies God's moral laws as a guiding framework for Israel's conduct and serves as a tangible reminder of their responsibilities within their covenantal relationship with Yahweh.

Exodus 31:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD spoke to Moses, giving him a message.

1. The Power of God's Word: How We Can Respond When The LORD Speaks

2. Obedience in Response to God's Call: What We Can Learn From Moses

1. Exodus 31:1 - And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

2. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Exodus 31:2 See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah:

God has chosen Bezaleel to be His servant.

1. God's Calling: The Journey of Following God's Will

2. God's Chosen People: Embracing Our Role As Servants of the Lord

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - "Make me to know thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day."

2. Isaiah 6:8 - "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

Exodus 31:3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

God has filled Bezalel with all the spirit of God to have wisdom, understanding, knowledge and skill in craftsmanship.

1: Never underestimate what God can do with one person when He fills them with the spirit of God.

2: With God's spirit, Bezalel was able to accomplish great things with wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and craftsmanship.

1: Isaiah 54:2 "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes"

2: Colossians 1:9-10 "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God"

Exodus 31:4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

The Lord instructed the Israelites to create works of art with gold, silver, and brass.

1. The Power of Creation: How Our Crafts Reflect the Image of God

2. The Beauty of Craftsmanship: Finding Meaning in the Process

1. Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Exodus 31:5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

God appointed Bezaleel and Aholiab to oversee the work of crafting and constructing items for the tabernacle and its furnishings.

1. The Power of Work: How Our Labor Can Build the Kingdom of God

2. The Call of Craftsmanship: Use Your Talents to Honor God

1. 1 Corinthians 3:9-11 - For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Exodus 31:6 And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;

God appointed Aholiab and gave him the wisdom to help Moses build the tabernacle.

1. The importance of wisdom in serving God

2. Appointed by God for a purpose

1. Proverbs 3:19-20 - The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew.

2. James 3:17-18 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Exodus 31:7 The tabernacle of the congregation, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is thereupon, and all the furniture of the tabernacle,

The tabernacle of the congregation was built and contained the ark of the testimony and the mercy seat.

1. The significance of the tabernacle of the congregation in Exodus.

2. The importance of the ark of the testimony and the mercy seat.

1. Psalm 78:60-61 - So he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men; and delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.

2. Numbers 7:89 - And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him.

Exodus 31:8 And the table and his furniture, and the pure candlestick with all his furniture, and the altar of incense,

The passage in Exodus 31:8 speaks of the furnishing of the tabernacle, namely the table and its furniture, the pure candlestick with its furniture, and the altar of incense.

1. "The Furnishing of the Tabernacle: A Lesson in Dedication"

2. "The Significance of the Tabernacle Furnishings: The Power of Symbolism"

1. Hebrews 9:1-2: "Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence."

2. 1 Chronicles 28:19: "All this," David said, "I have in writing as a result of the LORD's hand on me, to teach me all the details of the plan."

Exodus 31:9 And the altar of burnt offering with all his furniture, and the laver and his foot,

God's commands to make altar and laver of burnt offering were followed.

1: Following God's Commands Brings Blessings

2: Obedience Brings Reward

1: John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2: Joshua 1:8 - Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Exodus 31:10 And the cloths of service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office,

God commands the Israelites to make holy garments for Aaron and his sons to serve in the priesthood.

1. The importance of having a holy and obedient heart before God.

2. The call to serve God with a pure heart and a humble spirit.

1. Micah 6:8 - He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. Titus 2:14 - Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Exodus 31:11 And the anointing oil, and sweet incense for the holy place: according to all that I have commanded thee shall they do.

The Lord commanded Moses to bring anointing oil and sweet incense for the holy place.

1: We should seek to obey the Lord's commands, as He has our best interests in mind.

2: We should strive to be holy, by following the Lord's commands and seeking to do what is right.

1: 1 John 2:3-6 - And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says I know him but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in Him: whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked.

2: 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

Exodus 31:12 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving him instructions.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Relevant

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Instructions

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Exodus 31:13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.

This passage explains the importance of keeping the Sabbath as a sign between God and the Israelites, to show that He is the one who sanctifies them.

1. The Power of Sabbath: Understanding the Significance of Rest in the Life of a Believer

2. The Sanctification of the Sabbath: Experiencing the Holiness of the Day

1. Romans 6:19-22 - I am using my freedom to serve God with my whole life.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:30 - It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

Exodus 31:14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

The Sabbath is holy and should be kept; anyone who defiles it will be put to death.

1. The Importance of Keeping the Sabbath Holy

2. The Consequences of Breaking the Sabbath

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Exodus 31:15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

The Lord commands that work should only be done for six days and that the seventh day should be a day of rest and holiness. Those who disobey this commandment will be put to death.

1. The Lord's Commandment: A Call to Holiness and Rest

2. A Warning Against Disobeying the Lord's Commandment

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord s holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the Lord, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob.

2. Psalm 92:1-2 - It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.

Exodus 31:16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

The Israelites are commanded to observe the Sabbath as a perpetual covenant.

1. "The Lord's Day: The Significance of Sabbath Observance"

2. "A Perpetual Covenant: Why the Sabbath is Still Relevant Today"

1. Isaiah 58:13 - "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord s holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words,"

2. Hebrews 4:9 - "There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his."

Exodus 31:17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

God rested on the seventh day and this is a sign between Him and the children of Israel forever.

1. God is our source of rest and peace.

2. We can find joy in God's rest.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Exodus 31:18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

Moses received two tables of stone inscribed by the finger of God after speaking with God on Mount Sinai.

1. The Finger of God: An Exploration of Divine Authority

2. The Testimony of Stone: The Power of Scripture

1. Deuteronomy 4:13, And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

2. John 1:17, For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Exodus 32 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 32:1-6, while Moses is on Mount Sinai receiving instructions from God, the Israelites become impatient and approach Aaron, demanding him to make gods for them. Aaron collects their gold earrings and crafts a golden calf idol. The people worship the idol, attributing their deliverance from Egypt to it. They engage in revelry and offer sacrifices to the golden calf a clear violation of God's commandments.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 32:7-14 , God becomes angry with the Israelites for their idolatry. He informs Moses about their actions and expresses His intention to destroy them. However, Moses intercedes on behalf of the people, pleading with God not to bring disaster upon them. Moses appeals to God's covenant promises made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and implores Him to show mercy and remember His faithfulness.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 32:15-35 , Moses descends from Mount Sinai carrying the two stone tablets inscribed by God Himself the Ten Commandments. As he approaches the camp and witnesses the people's idolatrous behavior, he becomes furious. He throws down the tablets, breaking them as a symbolic act representing Israel's violation of God's covenant. Moses confronts Aaron about his role in making the golden calf; Aaron offers excuses but admits his wrongdoing.

In summary:

Exodus 32 presents:

Israelites' impatience during Moses' absence;

Demand for gods; crafting of golden calf idol by Aaron;

Worshiping of idol; revelry; offering sacrifices violating commandments.

God's anger towards Israelites; intent to destroy them;

Moses intercedes for mercy based on covenant promises;

Appeal for remembrance of God's faithfulness and sparing the people.

Moses descends with stone tablets; witnesses idolatrous behavior;

Breaks tablets symbolically; confronts Aaron about his involvement;

Aaron admits wrongdoing, offering excuses for his actions.

This chapter portrays a significant turning point in the Israelites' journey. In Moses' absence, they succumb to impatience and engage in idolatry by worshiping a golden calf. God's anger is kindled, but Moses intercedes on behalf of the people, appealing to God's covenant promises and mercy. The breaking of the stone tablets represents the breach of the covenant caused by Israel's disobedience. The consequences of their actions will unfold in subsequent chapters as they grapple with the aftermath of their rebellion against Yahweh.

Exodus 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

The people of Israel, frustrated with Moses' delay, decided to create their own gods.

1: We must always trust in the Lord and wait on His timing, even when it is hard.

2: We must not be tempted to turn away from God by our own desires and frustrations.

1: Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

2: James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Exodus 32:2 And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.

Aaron asked the people of Israel to take off the gold earrings from their wives, sons, and daughters and to bring them to him.

1. The Power of Obedience - Exodus 32:2

2. Cultivating a Heart of Generosity - Exodus 32:2

1. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Exodus 32:3 And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron.

The people of Israel gave their golden earrings to Aaron.

1. The Power of Giving: A Study on the Meaning of Exodus 32:3

2. The Significance of Sacrifices: A Study of the Israelites Obedience to God in Exodus 32:3

1. Acts 20:35 - "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

2. Mark 12:41-44 - And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.

Exodus 32:4 And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

The people of Israel built a molten calf and declared it their god, which had brought them out of the land of Egypt.

1. We must remember that God alone is our Savior and Deliverer.

2. Idolatry leads to spiritual destruction.

1. Exodus 3:13-15 - And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

Exodus 32:5 And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To morrow is a feast to the LORD.

Aaron announced a feast for the Lord to be held the next day.

1. What is the significance of celebrating the Lord's feasts?

2. How can we be more devoted in our worship to the Lord?

1. Psalm 95:6 - "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker."

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Exodus 32:6 And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

The people of Israel offered burnt and peace offerings and then enjoyed a meal together before rising up to play.

1. Our Need for God's Forgiveness and the Joy of His Redemption

2. The Danger of Idolatry and the Need for Godly Living

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Exodus 32:7 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves:

The people of Israel had corrupted themselves despite being brought out of Egypt by Moses.

1. The importance of faithfulness and obedience to God.

2. The consequences of straying from God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 8:11-20 - The Lord's warning against forgetting God and desiring the things of the world.

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - The choice between serving the Lord and serving idols.

Exodus 32:8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

The Israelites have worshipped a golden calf that they made, believing it to be their God who brought them out of Egypt.

1. How to Identify False Idols in Our Lives

2. The Danger of Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19

2. Romans 1:21-25

Exodus 32:9 And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people:

The LORD told Moses that the people of Israel were a stiffnecked people.

1: A Call to Righteousness - We must not be like the stiffnecked people of Israel, but instead seek to live righteously before the Lord.

2: The Power of God - Even when faced with an obstinate people, God can still bring about His will.

1: Jeremiah 7:23 - "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people."

2: 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

Exodus 32:10 Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation.

God warned Moses that if he did not stop the people from worshiping the golden calf, He would consume them.

1: God's Wrath and Mercy - We must choose between the consequences of wickedness and the blessings of obedience.

2: The Power of Prayer - Through prayer, we can often avert God's wrath and receive His mercy.

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2: James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Exodus 32:11 And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand?

Moses intercedes on behalf of God's people, questioning why the Lord's wrath is so strong against them.

1: God's Wrath is Justified - Why We Should Respect and Obey His Laws.

2: Having Faith in God Despite His Wrath - Knowing He Will Always Provide.

1: Isaiah 48:9-11 For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut not off. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another.

2: Psalm 103:8-14 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Exodus 32:12 Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people.

This passage is a plea from Moses to God to turn away from his wrath and to repent for the evil done to his people.

1. God's Mercy in Times of Trial

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Micah 7:18-19 - "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

Exodus 32:13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever.

The passage speaks of God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel to fulfill the promise of multiplying their seed and giving them the land they spoke of.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people

2. God's mercy and grace shown to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel

1. Genesis 12:2-3 - And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

2. Numbers 23:19 - God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Exodus 32:14 And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

God changed his mind about punishing his people.

1. God's Mercy: A Blessing for His People

2. How to Respond to God's Grace

1. Romans 5:20-21 - "But where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

2. Hebrews 4:15-16 - "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Exodus 32:15 And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written.

Moses returned from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony written on both sides.

1. The Power of Faithful Obedience

2. The Importance of Keeping the Covenant

1. Daniel 6:10-11 - Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

2. Colossians 2:2-3 - That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Exodus 32:16 And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.

This passage explains that the tables used in the Tabernacle were made by God and that the writing on them was also written by God.

1. God's Handiwork - How God's Artistry is Present in the Tabernacle

2. The Power of Written Word - Exploring the Significance of God's Writing

1. Isaiah 41:20 - "That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it."

2. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

Exodus 32:17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp.

Joshua heard a noise from the camp and informed Moses that it sounded like war.

1. Staying Aware: Learning to Listen

2. The Power of Our Choices

1. Ephesians 5:15-17 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2. Luke 12:35-36 Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

Exodus 32:18 And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear.

God hears the joyful singing of the people despite their shouting and cries of being overcome.

1. Rejoice in the Lord always: A on God's joy in our praising Him.

2. The Voice of Praise: A on the power of praising God in the midst of troubles.

1. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

2. Psalm 95:1-2 - Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Exodus 32:19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.

Moses was angered when he saw the Israelites worshipping the golden calf and threw down the tablets of the covenant.

1. God's wrath can be seen when we disobey His commands.

2. We must remain faithful to God despite the temptations of the world.

1. Galatians 5:16-17: So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

2. James 1:14-15: But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Exodus 32:20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it.

Moses burned the golden calf, ground it to powder, and made the Israelites drink it.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry

2. The Importance of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 9:7-21 - Moses' pleading with God for mercy on the Israelites

2. Isaiah 31:1-3 - God's warning against trusting in idols instead of Him

Exodus 32:21 And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?

Moses asked Aaron what the people had done to him that he had brought such a great sin upon them.

1. What Sin is Too Great to Overlook?

2. The Power of a Single Action

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Exodus 32:22 And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief.

Aaron tried to protect the Israelites from the wrath of God, reminding God that the people were prone to mischief.

1. The Power of Intercession: How Aaron Used His Voice to Save the Israelites

2. The Danger of Mischief: How Sin Can Lead to Destruction

1. Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

2. Psalm 106:23 - "Therefore he said he would destroy them had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them."

Exodus 32:23 For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

The Israelites asked Aaron to make them gods to worship, as they did not know what had happened to Moses, who had led them out of Egypt.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - Exodus 32:23

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Exodus 32:23

1. Romans 1:25 - "They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served something created instead of the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."

2. Psalm 106:20 - "The Lord warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and every seer: 'Turn from your evil ways. Observe my commands and decrees, in accordance with the entire Law that I commanded your ancestors to obey and that I delivered to you through my servants the prophets.'"

Exodus 32:24 And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.

Moses commanded the Israelites to hand over their gold to him, which he then threw into a fire, from which a golden calf emerged.

1. God's power to transform our lives and our circumstances, no matter how dire.

2. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

1. Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Exodus 32:25 And when Moses saw that the people were naked; (for Aaron had made them naked unto their shame among their enemies:)

Moses saw that Aaron had caused the Israelites to be naked and exposed to their enemies.

1. The Importance of Modesty and Discretion

2. The Dangers of Pride and Arrogance

1. Proverbs 11:22 - "As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion."

2. Ecclesiastes 10:1 - "Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour."

Exodus 32:26 Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD's side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.

Moses called out for all those who wanted to stand on the side of the Lord to come to him.

1: Let us come to the Lord and stand by his side.

2: We should strive to be on the Lord's side and follow his teachings.

1: Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

2: Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Exodus 32:27 And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.

Moses commanded the Israelites to take up their swords and kill all their neighbors.

1. "The Danger of Idolatry"

2. "The Power of God's Command"

1. Isaiah 45:23 - "I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.

2. Colossians 3:13 - bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

Exodus 32:28 And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.

On the day Moses descended from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments, approximately three thousand people died.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites Mistake

2. The Power of God s Word: Why We Should Obey His Commandments

1. Jeremiah 26:19 "Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? did he not fear the LORD, and besought the LORD, and the LORD repented him of the evil which he had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great evil against our souls."

2. Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Exodus 32:29 For Moses had said, Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD, even every man upon his son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day.

Moses encouraged the people of Israel to set themselves apart to the Lord and to bless one another.

1. The Power of Blessing Others

2. The Importance of Setting Ourselves Apart for the Lord

1. Galatians 6:10 - So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Exodus 32:30 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people, Ye have sinned a great sin: and now I will go up unto the LORD; peradventure I shall make an atonement for your sin.

Moses reminds the people of their sin and offers to make an atonement for them.

1. The Danger of Sinning and the Power of Atonement

2. The Call to Repentance in the Face of Sin

1. Isaiah 59:2 "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

2. Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Exodus 32:31 And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold.

Moses recognized the Israelites' great sin of making a golden calf to worship.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. Turning from Sin to God

1. Deuteronomy 5:8-9 You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Psalm 51:10-11 "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me."

Exodus 32:32 Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.

The passage speaks of Moses' willingness to accept God's judgment of his people, even if it meant being blotted out of God's book.

1. The Power of a Selfless Heart - Exploring the example of Moses' willingness to sacrifice his own name for his people.

2. The God of Mercy - Examining the beauty of God's mercy and grace amidst trials and tribulations.

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Exodus 32:33 And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.

God is telling Moses that anyone who has sinned against Him will be erased from His book.

1. The importance of staying faithful to God even when we are tempted to sin.

2. God's mercy and grace in the forgiveness of our sins.

1. Ezekiel 18:21-23 - But if a wicked person turns away from all the sins they have committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, that person will surely live; they will not die. None of the offenses they have committed will be remembered against them. Because of the righteous things they have done, they will live.

2. Psalm 32:1-2 - Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

Exodus 32:34 Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee: behold, mine Angel shall go before thee: nevertheless in the day when I visit I will visit their sin upon them.

God commands Moses to lead the people to a new location, and warns that the people's sins will be punished when they are visited.

1. The Lord Promises Punishment for Sin

2. Following God's Commands Leads to Blessing

1. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Exodus 32:35 And the LORD plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made.

The LORD punished the people for making a calf idol, which Aaron had made.

1. The importance of worshipping the LORD alone.

2. The consequences of idolatry.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Isaiah 44:9-10 - "All who fashion idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit. Their witnesses neither see nor know, that they may be put to shame. Who fashions a god or casts an image? That which is fashioned by him is a fraud."

Exodus 33 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 33:1-6, God instructs Moses to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land but declares that He will not personally go with them due to their rebellious nature. The people mourn and remove their ornaments as a sign of repentance. Moses sets up the Tent of Meeting outside the camp, where he would meet with God and seek His guidance. Whenever Moses entered the tent, a pillar of cloud would descend and stand at its entrance, signifying God's presence.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 33:7-11 , whenever Moses enters the Tent of Meeting, Joshua remains behind as his assistant. As Moses speaks face-to-face with God, the people observe from a distance and worship Yahweh at their own tents. The intimate relationship between Moses and God is highlighted as God speaks to him directly a unique privilege granted only to Moses.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 33:12-23 , Moses pleads with God for His continued presence among the Israelites. He acknowledges his dependence on God's guidance and favor for leading His people. Responding to Moses' request, God assures him that His presence will go with them and grants him a glimpse of His glory by allowing him to see His back while shielding him in a cleft of rock.

In summary:

Exodus 33 presents:

God's instruction for Israelites' journey without personal presence;

People's mourning; removal of ornaments as sign of repentance;

Moses sets up Tent of Meeting outside camp; pillar of cloud signifies divine presence.

Moses' face-to-face communication with God;

Joshua serving as his assistant during these encounters;

People observing from afar; worshiping Yahweh at their own tents.

Moses' plea for God's continued presence among Israelites;

Acknowledgment of dependence on divine guidance;

God's assurance of His presence; granting Moses a glimpse of His glory.

This chapter portrays the aftermath of Israel's idolatry and God's response to their rebellion. While He instructs Moses to lead the people, God declares that He will not personally accompany them due to their disobedience. However, Moses establishes a special place, the Tent of Meeting, where he can communicate with God and seek His guidance. The intimate relationship between Moses and Yahweh is highlighted as they speak face-to-face, underscoring Moses' unique role as a mediator between God and the people. Despite their past transgressions, Moses pleads for God's continued presence among the Israelites, ultimately receiving assurance that He will go with them on their journey.

Exodus 33:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I sware unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it:

God commands Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to the promised land.

1. God's Promise: A Journey of Faith

2. Following God's Call: A Journey of Obedience

1. Romans 4:13-17

2. Hebrews 11:8-10

Exodus 33:2 And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite:

God promised to send an angel to drive out the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites from the land of Israel.

1. The Power of God's Promises - How God intervened to protect the people of Israel

2. God's Provision - How God provided deliverance for His people in their time of need

1. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Exodus 33:3 Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way.

God had promised the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey, but warned them that He would not accompany them if they continued to be stubborn and rebellious.

1. God's Promises Come with Conditions

2. Stubbornness and Rebellion Result in God's Absence

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-10 - For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

2. Romans 2:4-6 - Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Exodus 33:4 And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments.

The people mourned upon hearing news of evil tidings and removed their ornaments.

1: In times of hardship, we must rely on God's strength instead of material possessions.

2: We must remain humble and remember that our true source of joy comes from God.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Exodus 33:5 For the LORD had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye are a stiffnecked people: I will come up into the midst of thee in a moment, and consume thee: therefore now put off thy ornaments from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee.

The Lord told Moses to instruct the Israelites that they were a stubborn people, and that He would come to them and consume them if they did not take off their ornaments.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Submitting to the Will of God"

2. "God's Warning: Heed His Warnings or Face the Consequences"

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Exodus 33:6 And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by the mount Horeb.

The Israelites removed their jewelry when they arrived at Mount Horeb.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. Stripping away of distractions to focus on God.

1. Isaiah 58:2 - Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Exodus 33:7 And Moses took the tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp, afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the congregation. And it came to pass, that every one which sought the LORD went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp.

Moses took the Tabernacle and pitched it outside the camp, and named it the Tabernacle of the Congregation. Everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the Tabernacle that was outside the camp.

1. How do we seek the Lord?

2. The importance of going outside of our comfort zone to seek the Lord.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Deuteronomy 4:29 But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Exodus 33:8 And it came to pass, when Moses went out unto the tabernacle, that all the people rose up, and stood every man at his tent door, and looked after Moses, until he was gone into the tabernacle.

The people of Israel showed respect to Moses as he went to the tabernacle.

1: Respect should be shown to those in authority.

2: We should be willing to show honor to those who serve God.

1: 1 Peter 2:17 - Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the king.

2: Romans 13:1 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.

Exodus 33:9 And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked with Moses.

Moses experienced a special moment with God when he entered the tabernacle.

1: God's presence is a special and sacred experience that should be treasured.

2: We must strive to have meaningful conversations with God.

1: John 14:23 - Jesus answered, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

2: Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

Exodus 33:10 And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door.

The people of Israel saw a cloudy pillar standing at the door of the Tabernacle and rose up to worship, each in his own tent.

1. The Power of God's Presence in our Lives

2. Worshipping the Lord with Gratitude and Joy

1. Psalm 95:2 - Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

2. John 4:24 - God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Exodus 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

Moses experienced the Lord speaking to him face to face, as a man would speak to his friend.

1. The Power of Friendship with God

2. The Uniqueness of Moses' Relationship with God

1. Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

2. Job 29:4 As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle.

Exodus 33:12 And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.

Moses is questioning God's decision to have him lead the Israelites, as he is unsure of who will accompany him on the journey.

1. Trusting in God's plan despite uncertainty

2. Finding grace in the face of adversity

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Exodus 33:13 Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.

Moses requests from God that He show him His way in order to know Him and to lead the nation of Israel.

1. The Power of Prayer: Seeking God's Guidance

2. The Importance of Knowing God

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Exodus 33:14 And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

God promises to be with us and give us the rest and peace we need.

1. "God's Presence Brings Rest"

2. "The Comfort of Knowing God is with You"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Matthew 11:28 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Exodus 33:15 And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

Moses requests that God accompany the Israelites in their journey out of Egypt.

1. God's Presence: How to Recognize and Seek It in Our Lives

2. Why It Matters That We Walk with God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 139:7-8 - "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!"

Exodus 33:16 For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.

The Lord promised to be with the Israelites, so that they would be set apart from all other people on the earth.

1. The Lord's Presence: Finding Grace in His Sight

2. The Holiness of God: Separating His People from the World

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

2. John 17:14-18 - "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

Exodus 33:17 And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name.

God promised to do what Moses asked of Him because He saw Moses' faith and love.

1. The power of humility and faith in the Lord

2. God will always honor those who honor Him

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Exodus 33:18 And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.

Moses asked God to show him his glory.

1. The Power of Asking: How God Answers When We Seek His Glory

2. Revealing God's Glory: What We Learn When We Seek to Understand God's Majesty

1. Isaiah 66:1-2 - Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

2. James 4: 8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Exodus 33:19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

God will reveal His goodness and proclaim the name of the Lord before all who follow Him.

1. God's Goodness: Recognizing and Rejoicing in His Love and Mercy

2. God's Name: Understanding and Honoring His Presence

1. Romans 9:15-16 - For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

2. Psalm 103:8 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

Exodus 33:20 And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

The Lord revealed to Moses that no one can see His face and live.

1. God's Holiness and Majesty - the Incomprehensible Face of the Lord

2. The Unfathomable Character of God - No One Can See and Live

1. Isaiah 6:1-3 - In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

2. Daniel 10:5-6 - I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the roar of a multitude.

Exodus 33:21 And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

The Lord provides a place where we can stand safely.

1. The Rock of Our Salvation: Standing on the Promises of God

2. A Refuge in Troubling Times: Finding Security in the Lord

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust.

2. Matthew 7:24-25 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Exodus 33:22 And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:

God promises to protect Moses while He passes by.

1. God's Unfailing Protection - Exodus 33:22

2. The Rock of Safety - Finding Refuge in the Lord

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

2. Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

Exodus 33:23 And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.

God promised Moses to see His back parts but not His face.

1: We can never fully comprehend the greatness of God, and this is exemplified in the promise of Moses being able to see His back parts but not His face.

2: God gives us glimpses of His greatness, but it is only ever a partial understanding. We should not rely on our own human limits to try to comprehend Him.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: Job 42:2-3 "I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not."

Exodus 34 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 34:1-9, God instructs Moses to cut two new stone tablets and meet Him on Mount Sinai. Moses does as commanded, and God descends in a cloud and proclaims His name to Moses. He declares His attributes of compassion, grace, patience, and faithfulness. However, God also warns that He will not leave the guilty unpunished but will visit the iniquity of the fathers upon their children. Moses quickly bows down and worships before asking for God's favor to accompany the Israelites on their journey.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 34:10-17 , God establishes a covenant with Israel once again. He promises to perform wonders that have never been seen before among any nation. He commands them not to make covenants or worship other gods but to destroy their altars and sacred pillars. They are instructed not to intermarry with the surrounding nations or participate in their idolatrous practices warning that such actions would lead them astray from Yahweh.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 34:18-35 , instructions regarding various feasts are given by God. The Feast of Unleavened Bread is established as a commemoration of Israel's deliverance from Egypt the people are commanded to observe it for seven days each year. The firstborn males of both humans and animals are also consecrated unto Yahweh as a reminder of His redemption of Israel's firstborn during the Passover event.

In summary:

Exodus 34 presents:

Instructions for cutting new stone tablets; meeting with God on Mount Sinai;

God proclaims His attributes; warns about punishment for guilt;

Moses bows down in worship; requests favor for accompanying Israelites.

Establishment of a renewed covenant with Israel;

Promise of performing unprecedented wonders among them;

Commands to avoid making covenants with other gods, destroying altars;

Warning against intermarriage and participation in idolatrous practices.

Establishment of Feast of Unleavened Bread as commemoration;

Consecration of firstborn males as a reminder of Passover redemption.

This chapter highlights the renewal of the covenant between God and Israel after the incident with the golden calf. God proclaims His attributes and warns about the consequences of guilt while also expressing His compassion and faithfulness. He establishes guidelines for worship, emphasizing the exclusivity of devotion to Yahweh and warning against intermingling with other nations' idolatrous practices. The establishment of feasts serves as a means to commemorate significant events in Israel's history, reinforcing their identity as a redeemed people.

Exodus 34:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.

Moses is commanded to hew two new tablets of stone and the Lord will write the same words on them that were on the first tablets.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. God's faithfulness in restoring what is lost

1. Deuteronomy 10:3-5 - And I made an ark of shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount, having the two tables in mine hand. And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me.

2. Jeremiah 31:35-36 - Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

Exodus 34:2 And be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me in the top of the mount.

God instructs Moses to go to the top of Mount Sinai to meet with Him in the morning.

1. God's Call to Obedience: Following God's Instructions in Exodus 34:2.

2. The Power of Preparation: Being Ready for God's Presence in Exodus 34:2.

1. John 14:21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me.

2. James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Exodus 34:3 And no man shall come up with thee, neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount.

God instructed Moses not to let anyone accompany him to the mountain and not to let the livestock graze in the area.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Instructions

2. God's Sovereignty and His Authority Over Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 11:16-17 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; And then the Lord's wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the Lord giveth you.

2. Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Exodus 34:4 And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone.

Moses obeyed God's command and went up to Mount Sinai to retrieve two stone tablets.

1. God's Commands: Obeying Even When it is Difficult - Exodus 34:4

2. The Strength of Obedience - Exodus 34:4

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Exodus 34:5 And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

The LORD descended in a cloud and proclaimed His name to Moses.

1. God Reveals His Name to Us - Exodus 34:5

2. Recognizing the Power of God's Name - Exodus 34:5

1. Isaiah 43:10-11 - You are my witnesses, declares the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.

2. Psalm 83:18 - That people may know that you, whose name is the LORD that you alone are the Most High over all the earth.

Exodus 34:6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

God is compassionate and forgiving, He is full of love and mercy.

1. The Abundance of God's Mercy and Grace

2. Experiencing the Faithfulness of God's Love

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

2. Ephesians 2:4-7 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

Exodus 34:7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

This passage speaks of God's mercy extending to thousands and forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, yet He does not clear the guilty. The consequences of iniquity are visited upon the children and their children for several generations.

1. God's Mercy - Reflecting on the Fathomless Mercy of God

2. The Consequences of Sin - Examining the Long-Term Effects of Iniquity

1. Psalm 103:11-12 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Jonah 4:2 - He prayed to the Lord, "O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.

Exodus 34:8 And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped.

Moses worshipped the Lord with humility and reverence.

1. The Necessity of Humility Before the Lord

2. The Power of Worship and Devotion

1. Philippians 2:5-11

2. Psalm 95:6-7

Exodus 34:9 And he said, If now I have found grace in thy sight, O LORD, let my LORD, I pray thee, go among us; for it is a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance.

Moses pleads with the Lord to forgive the Israelites for their sin and to take them as his own inheritance.

1. God's Unconditional Love and Forgiveness

2. The Power of Humility and Repentance

1. Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Exodus 34:10 And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD: for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.

God promises to show His people amazing and powerful works that have never been seen before.

1. The Marvels of Our God: How God's Power and Glory are Revealed in His Works

2. The Covenant: How God's Promises Bring Us Hope and Encouragement

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

2. Isaiah 40:5 - And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Exodus 34:11 Observe thou that which I command thee this day: behold, I drive out before thee the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

God is commanding the Israelites to follow his commands and drive out the Amorite, Canaanite, Hittite, Perizzite, Hivite, and Jebusite.

1. God's commands are to be obeyed without question.

2. God has given us a great mission to fulfill.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

5. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Exodus 34:12 Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee:

The passage warns against entering into covenants with the inhabitants of the land one is entering, as it may become a snare.

1: "Be Cautious in Covenants"

2: "Avoiding Traps: Be Wary of Covenants"

1: Proverbs 11:3 - "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them."

2: James 1:14-15 - "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

Exodus 34:13 But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves:

God's command to destroy idolatrous altars and images.

1: We must recognize and reject false gods, and instead trust in the one true God.

2: We must not be tempted to worship idols, but instead obey the Lord's commands.

1: Deuteronomy 7:5-6 "But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire."

2: Romans 1:23-25 "And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."

Exodus 34:14 For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

This passage explains that God is a jealous God and that no other god should be worshipped.

1. God is a jealous God and Worthy of our Worship

2. The Consequences of Worshipping Other Gods

1. John 4:23-24 - But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

2. Psalm 115:3-8 - Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Exodus 34:15 Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice;

The passage discusses the importance of avoiding making covenants with the people of the land, as they often worship other gods and sacrifice to them.

1. Beware of False Gods: A Study of Exodus 34:15

2. The Dangers of Idolatry: Exploring the Warnings in Exodus 34:15

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 - Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods.

2. Proverbs 11:20 - They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the Lord: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.

Exodus 34:16 And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods.

God warns against intermarrying with people who practice other religions, as their daughters could lead one's sons away from God.

1. The Danger of Compromising with Idolatry

2. The Delusions of False Religions

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 - "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Exodus 34:17 Thou shalt make thee no molten gods.

The passage states that one should not make any molten gods.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - Exodus 34:17

2. The Power of Following God's Commands - Exodus 34:17

1. Isaiah 40:18-20 - To whom will you compare God? What idol can you make to rival Him?

2. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.

Exodus 34:18 The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.

This passage reminds us that God commanded us to observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days each year in the month of Abib as a reminder of the time when the Israelites were freed from slavery in Egypt.

1. The Power of God's Provision: Celebrating the Feast of Unleavened Bread

2. Remaining Faithful to God's Commandments: The Significance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

1. Exodus 12:17-20 - The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the Passover: No foreigner shall eat it. But every man s servant who is bought for money, when you have circumcised him, then he may eat it. A sojourner and a hired servant shall not eat it. In one house it shall be eaten; you shall not carry any of the flesh outside the house, nor shall you break one of its bones. All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover to the Lord your God, for in the month of Abib the Lord your God brought you out of Egypt by night. You shall sacrifice the Passover to the Lord your God, from the flock or the herd, in the place that the Lord will choose, to make his name dwell there. You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat it with unleavened bread, the bread of affliction for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste that all the days of your life you may remember the day when you came out of the land of Egypt.

Exodus 34:19 All that openeth the matrix is mine; and every firstling among thy cattle, whether ox or sheep, that is male.

God claims ownership of all firstborn animals, both male oxen and sheep.

1. The Blessing of Dedication: Recognizing God's Authority in All Things

2. The Promise of Provision: Trusting in God's Faithfulness to Provide

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Exodus 34:20 But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem him not, then shalt thou break his neck. All the firstborn of thy sons thou shalt redeem. And none shall appear before me empty.

God requires that all firstborn sons be redeemed and that no one should appear before him empty-handed.

1. The importance of Redemption in the eyes of God

2. The significance of not appearing before God empty-handed

1. Exodus 34:20

2. Luke 9:23-24 - "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

Exodus 34:21 Six days thou shalt work, but on the seventh day thou shalt rest: in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest.

This passage emphasizes the importance of taking time to rest and enjoy God's blessings.

1. God's Rest: Appreciating the Gift of Sabbath

2. Cherishing the Blessing of Sabbath Rest

1. Hebrews 4:9-11 - There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Exodus 34:22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end.

God commanded the Israelites to observe the Feast of Weeks, which was celebrated at the beginning of the wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year.

1. Cultivating Faithfulness: Lessons from the Feasts of Israel

2. Celebrating Abundance: An Examination of the Feasts of Israel

1. Deuteronomy 16:10-12 - Celebrate the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Ingathering

2. Leviticus 23:15-17 - The Time of the Firstfruits and the Time of Ingathering

Exodus 34:23 Thrice in the year shall all your menchildren appear before the LORD God, the God of Israel.

All menchildren of Israel must appear before the LORD three times a year.

1. The Importance of Keeping God at the Center of our Lives

2. The Power of Gathering Together to Worship God

1. Hebrews 10:25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Exodus 34:24 For I will cast out the nations before thee, and enlarge thy borders: neither shall any man desire thy land, when thou shalt go up to appear before the LORD thy God thrice in the year.

This passage discusses how the Lord will cast out the nations before the Israelites and expand their borders, so that no one will desire their land when they go up to appear before the Lord three times a year.

1. "Living a Life That Pleases God: The Blessing of Expanded Borders"

2. "The Importance of Worship: Appearing Before the Lord Thrice a Year"

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. 1 Chronicles 16:29 - Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

Exodus 34:25 Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven; neither shall the sacrifice of the feast of the passover be left unto the morning.

God commands that the blood of His sacrifice should not be offered with leaven, and that the Passover sacrifice should not be left until morning.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Significance of the Passover Sacrifice

1. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Matthew 5:17-19, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Exodus 34:26 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring unto the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to bring the firstfruits of their land to the house of the Lord and not to boil a kid in its mother's milk.

1: "The Power of the Firstfruits"

2: "Honoring Our Parents"

1: Deuteronomy 14:22-23 - "Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thy oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always."

2: Proverbs 23:22 - "Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old."

Exodus 34:27 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel.

The LORD commanded Moses to write down the words of the covenant between Him and Israel.

1. God's Covenant: A Promise of Love and Protection

2. The Power of Written Words: A Reflection on the Covenant of Exodus

1. Matthew 26:28 - For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

2. Hebrews 9:15 - And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Exodus 34:28 And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

Moses spent 40 days and nights on Mount Sinai with the Lord, during which time he fasted and wrote the Ten Commandments on two tablets.

1. The importance of spending time with the Lord in prayer and fasting.

2. The power of the Ten Commandments as a foundation for God's Covenant with His people.

1. Exodus 34:28 - And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

2. Matthew 6:16-18 - And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Exodus 34:29 And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him.

Moses was unaware of the brightness of his face after speaking with God on Mount Sinai.

1. The Unseen Blessings That Come From Time Spent In Prayer

2. The Transforming Power Of God's Presence

1. 2 Corinthians 3:18 - "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."

2. Colossians 3:12 - "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience."

Exodus 34:30 And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.

Moses' face shone with the glory of God after speaking with Him.

1. God's Glory is Reflected in Us

2. The Strength of Our Faith

1. 2 Corinthians 3:18 - And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

2. 1 John 4:17 - By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

Exodus 34:31 And Moses called unto them; and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned unto him: and Moses talked with them.

Moses conversed with Aaron and the rulers of the congregation.

1: We should communicate with our leaders in order to bring understanding and unity.

2: We should be open to talking with people of different backgrounds in order to bring understanding and peace.

1: Proverbs 16:7 When a man s ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2: Philippians 4:2-3 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Exodus 34:32 And afterward all the children of Israel came nigh: and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai.

The Lord spoke to the children of Israel and gave them commandment.

1. The Lord's Commandments: Obedience and Blessing

2. Listening to the Lord and Obeying His Word

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. Psalm 119:1-2 - Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart!

Exodus 34:33 And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a vail on his face.

Moses spoke to the people of Israel and then covered his face with a veil.

1. Revering God s Word: The Example of Moses

2. The Significance of Veils in the Bible

1. 2 Corinthians 3:13-18 - Paul s explanation of the purpose of Moses veil

2. Isaiah 25:7 - A prophecy of a coming time when the veil will be taken away

Exodus 34:34 But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the vail off, until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel that which he was commanded.

Moses removed his veil while speaking to the Lord and shared with the Israelites what he was instructed to say.

1. The importance of humbly seeking the Lord's guidance.

2. Following God's instructions and sharing His Word with others.

1. Hebrews 4:16 - Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

2. Romans 10:13-15 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Exodus 34:35 And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the vail upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Moses shone with a divine light when he came down from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments, and he covered his face with a veil when he spoke with the Israelites.

1. The Power of Obedience: How following God's commands brings glory and light.

2. Shining with the Divine: How God's presence is revealed through our actions.

1. Isaiah 60:1-2 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

2. 2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Exodus 35 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 35:1-19, Moses gathers the entire congregation of Israel and reminds them of the importance of observing the Sabbath day as a holy rest. He instructs them to refrain from work on that day. Moses then shares God's commandment to collect offerings for the construction of the tabernacle. The people respond eagerly and bring a wide range of valuable materials such as gold, silver, bronze, fine fabrics, precious stones, and spices. They also offer their skills and craftsmanship to contribute to the construction project.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 35:20-29 , Moses addresses all those who are skilled in various crafts required for building the tabernacle carpentry, metalwork, weaving, embroidery and invites them to put their abilities to use. The people willingly offer their expertise and begin working on constructing various elements of the tabernacle under Bezalel's supervision. Both men and women contribute by spinning yarns and weaving fabrics.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 35:30-35 , Moses announces that God has specifically chosen Bezalel from the tribe of Judah and filled him with divine wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and craftsmanship for this task. Alongside Bezalel is Oholiab from Dan who is also endowed with skillful abilities in craftsmanship. These individuals are appointed by God to oversee all aspects of constructing the tabernacle from designing its structure to crafting intricate details using various materials.

In summary:

Exodus 35 presents:

Reminder about observing Sabbath as a holy rest;

Commandment to collect offerings for tabernacle construction;

Eager response; offering valuable materials; volunteering skills.

Invitation for skilled individuals to contribute their expertise;

Willingness displayed by both men and women;

Commencement of construction under Bezalel's supervision.

God's selection of Bezalel from Judah; endowment with divine wisdom;

Appointment alongside Oholiab from Dan; entrusted with overseeing construction tasks.

This chapter focuses on preparations for building the tabernacle the portable sanctuary where God would dwell among His people. Moses emphasizes observance of Sabbath rest while encouraging generous offerings from willing hearts. Skilled individuals step forward voluntarily both men and women to contribute their talents towards constructing various components needed for worship within the tabernacle. The specific appointment of Bezalel and Oholiab highlights God's provision of wisdom and craftsmanship necessary for this sacred endeavor.

Exodus 35:1 And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These are the words which the LORD hath commanded, that ye should do them.

Moses gathered the Israelites together and reminded them of the Lord's commands that they should obey.

1. Obeying the Lord's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Importance of Obeying God

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day.

2. Joshua 1:8 - This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Exodus 35:2 Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a sabbath of rest to the LORD: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death.

God commands the Israelites to rest on the seventh day, and anyone who does work on the Sabbath will be put to death.

1. The Importance of Resting: Understanding God's Commandment for a Sabbath

2. Keeping the Sabbath Holy: Appreciating the Blessings of Taking a Day of Rest

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

2. Hebrews 4:1-11 - "Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience."

Exodus 35:3 Ye shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations upon the sabbath day.

On the Sabbath day, no fire should be kindled in any of the dwellings.

1: On the Sabbath, take a break from the world and its activities and spend time in devotion and rest.

2: Keeping the Sabbath holy is a reminder of God's faithfulness, and it is a sign of our commitment to Him.

1: Isaiah 58:13-14 "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD s holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob.

2: Hebrews 4:9-10 There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

Exodus 35:4 And Moses spake unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which the LORD commanded, saying,

Moses commanded the people of Israel to observe the commandments of the Lord.

1. Obedience is the Key to God's Blessing

2. The Importance of Following God's Will

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Exodus 35:5 Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass,

The Lord is asking his people to make an offering out of a willing heart. The offering should include gold, silver and brass.

1. The Power of a Willing Heart: How our attitude in giving can make a difference

2. Gold, Silver and Brass: A biblical approach to the importance of material offerings

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

2. Proverbs 22:9 - "He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor."

Exodus 35:6 And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair,

The passage mentions the five materials used for the tabernacle: blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen and goats' hair.

1: God calls us to use our best materials for his tabernacle.

2: We are to offer our all to God, not just what we have left over.

1: Hebrews 13:15-16 "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

2: Exodus 25:2-3 "Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him you shall receive the contribution for me. And this is the contribution that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze."

Exodus 35:7 And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood,

The passage mentions the use of rams' skins, badgers' skins, and shittim wood.

1. God Wants Us to Create Beauty - Examining the significance of the materials used in Exodus 35:7.

2. The Power of Obedience - Exploring the commandment to create these materials in Exodus 35:7.

1. Colossians 3:17 - Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.

2. Isaiah 54:2 - Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.

Exodus 35:8 And oil for the light, and spices for anointing oil, and for the sweet incense,

The passage discusses the ingredients for the oil and incense used in the Tabernacle.

1. The Power of Symbolic Objects in the Tabernacle

2. The Oil and Incense of Dedication

1. Isaiah 61:3 - To bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

2. Leviticus 7:12 - If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the thanksgiving sacrifice unleavened cakes mixed with oil, unleavened wafers spread with oil, and cakes of fine flour well mixed with oil.

Exodus 35:9 And onyx stones, and stones to be set for the ephod, and for the breastplate.

This passage of Exodus 35:9 mentions the use of onyx stones and other stones to be used for the ephod and breastplate.

1: God's instructions in Exodus 35:9 tell us that we should use materials of great value to honor Him.

2: In Exodus 35:9, God is teaching us that we should always strive to give God our very best.

1: Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, at the Feast of Unleavened Bread and at the Feast of Weeks and at the Feast of Booths, and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

2: 1 Chronicles 29:3-5 - Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of my own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, even three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses; of gold for things to be made of gold, and of silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?

Exodus 35:10 And every wise hearted among you shall come, and make all that the LORD hath commanded;

The LORD commanded that every wise hearted person should come and make all that the LORD hath commanded.

1. God expects us to come and make all that He has commanded us.

2. We should rely on the wisdom of God to carry out His commands.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

Exodus 35:11 The tabernacle, his tent, and his covering, his taches, and his boards, his bars, his pillars, and his sockets,

God instructed Moses to build the tabernacle, including its tent, covering, taches, boards, bars, pillars, and sockets.

1. The Value of Obedience: Understanding God's Plan for the Tabernacle

2. Building a Home for God: The Importance of the Tabernacle

1. Hebrews 8:5 - See, says he, that you make all things according to the pattern which was showed to you in the mount.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16 - Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

Exodus 35:12 The ark, and the staves thereof, with the mercy seat, and the vail of the covering,

The Lord commanded Moses to build an ark with a mercy seat and a vail of covering.

1. The Mercy Seat: God's Loving Provision for Forgiveness

2. The Ark: Symbolism of Security and Protection

1. Psalm 78:61-64 - "He gave his people over to the sword and vented his wrath on his inheritance. Fire consumed their young men, and their young women had no wedding songs; their priests were put to the sword, and their widows could not weep. Yet he remembered to show his unfailing love; he sent a redeemer to save them from destruction."

2. Isaiah 45:3 - "I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, who summons you by name."

Exodus 35:13 The table, and his staves, and all his vessels, and the shewbread,

The passage discusses the items necessary for the table of showbread in the tabernacle.

1. The Bread of Life: Finding Sustenance and Nourishment in Jesus

2. Why it is important to Follow God's Commands

1. John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

Exodus 35:14 The candlestick also for the light, and his furniture, and his lamps, with the oil for the light,

and the spices for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense.

The passage talks about the items used in the tabernacle for light, and anointing oil and for sweet incense.

1: The Light of the Lord is a symbol of the presence of God.

2: The Anointing Oil and Sweet Incense are symbols of worship and reverence for the Lord.

1: Psalm 119:105- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2: Hebrews 1:3- He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.

Exodus 35:15 And the incense altar, and his staves, and the anointing oil, and the sweet incense, and the hanging for the door at the entering in of the tabernacle,

The instructions for the tabernacle included the incense altar, its staves, anointing oil, sweet incense, and a hanging for the door.

1. The Tabernacle: A Symbol of God's Presence

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

1. Hebrews 9:1-5

2. Exodus 25:8-9

Exodus 35:16 The altar of burnt offering, with his brasen grate, his staves, and all his vessels, the laver and his foot,

The passage describes the components of the altar of burnt offering.

1. The importance of sacrifice in worship

2. The need for obedience in religious ceremonies.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

2. Leviticus 1:1-4 - The Lord called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

Exodus 35:17 The hangings of the court, his pillars, and their sockets, and the hanging for the door of the court,

The passage talks about the hangings, pillars, sockets, and door of the court as described in Exodus 35:17.

1. God's Perfect Design: The Importance of Building Structures According to Scripture

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle: An Examination of Exodus 35:17

1. Isaiah 54:2 Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.

2. 1 Kings 6:31 And for the entrance of the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood; the lintel and the doorposts were five-sided.

Exodus 35:18 The pins of the tabernacle, and the pins of the court, and their cords,

The passage describes the pins and cords used to set up the tabernacle and court.

1. "The Power of Preparation: How Setting Up the Tabernacle and Court Shaped the Future of Israel"

2. "The Strength of Structure: How the Tabernacle and Court Reveal the Importance of Organization"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."

Exodus 35:19 The cloths of service, to do service in the holy place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office.

God instructed the Israelites to make special clothing for Aaron and his sons to wear while serving as priests.

1. The Importance of Serving God with a Dedicated Heart

2. Wearing the Garments of Holiness with Pride

1. Exodus 39:41 - And the garments of fine linen, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Exodus 35:20 And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses.

The congregation of the Israelites departed the presence of Moses.

1. Overcoming Fear and Doubt with Faith

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him."

Exodus 35:21 And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD's offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments.

People offering to help in the construction of the tabernacle and its services were motivated by their own hearts and spirits.

1. God's Call: Responding to Stirrings of the Heart

2. Serving God: Following the Urge of Your Spirit

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Exodus 35:22 And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD.

People brought gold jewelry to offer to the Lord as an offering.

1. The Power of Generous Giving

2. The Joy of Sacrificial Giving

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

Exodus 35:23 And every man, with whom was found blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and red skins of rams, and badgers' skins, brought them.

The Israelites were instructed to bring materials such as blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen, goats hair, red skins of rams, and badgers skins for use in the construction of the tabernacle.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The value of making sacrifices for the Lord.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Exodus 35:24 Every one that did offer an offering of silver and brass brought the LORD's offering: and every man, with whom was found shittim wood for any work of the service, brought it.

Individuals who offered silver and brass as an offering to the Lord were also required to bring shittim wood for the service.

1. The importance of offering to the Lord.

2. The need for dedication in service to the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-6 But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come: And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Exodus 35:25 And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, both of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine linen.

Women who were wise hearted spun with their hands, so they could provide blue, purple, scarlet, and fine linen.

1. The Importance of Serving Others: Examining the Wise Women of Exodus 35

2. The Wisdom of Working with Our Hands: Reflections from Exodus 35

1. Proverbs 31:13-19

2. Colossians 3:23-24

Exodus 35:26 And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun goats' hair.

Women used their wisdom to craft goats' hair into fabric.

1. God has given us all unique gifts and talents to use for His glory.

2. God calls us to use our wisdom to create something beautiful.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Exodus 35:27 And the rulers brought onyx stones, and stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breastplate;

The rulers brought precious stones for the ephod and breastplate.

1. The Meaning of Precious Stones: What They Represent and How They Guide Us

2. Building a Foundation with Precious Stones: The Importance of a Solid Foundation

1. 1 Peter 2:4-5 - As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

2. Revelation 21:19 - The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every kind of jewel. The first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald,

Exodus 35:28 And spice, and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense.

Exodus 35:28 describes the various items used in the Tabernacle, including spices, oil, and incense.

1. "The Sweet Aroma of Worship: Exploring the Tabernacle's Sacred Components"

2. "The Blessing of Obedience: The Holiness of the Tabernacle"

1. Psalm 133:2 - "It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments."

2. Leviticus 24:2-4 - "Command the people of Israel to bring you pure oil from beaten olives for the light, that a lamp may regularly be set up to burn. Outside the veil of the testimony, in the tent of meeting, Aaron shall tend it from evening to morning before the Lord regularly. He shall be in charge of the lamps on the pure gold lampstand before the Lord."

Exodus 35:29 The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the LORD, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses.

The children of Israel willingly brought offerings to the LORD for all kinds of work that He commanded Moses to make.

1. God desires a willing heart before He desires what we offer Him.

2. Obeying God's commands brings joy to Him and us.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:9 "And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches all hearts and understands every plan and thought.

Exodus 35:30 And Moses said unto the children of Israel, See, the LORD hath called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah;

The Lord called Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and Moses informed the children of Israel.

1. The Lord Calls Us to Serve

2. The Lord Chooses Us for His Will

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. 1 Corinthians 12:18 - But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

Exodus 35:31 And he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship;

God has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit in order to equip us with the wisdom, understanding and knowledge to do all of His work.

1. "Being Filled with the Spirit"

2. "God's Gift of the Holy Spirit"

1. Ephesians 5:18 - "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

2. John 14:26 - "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

Exodus 35:32 And to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

The passage highlights the skill of the Israelites to work in gold, silver, and brass.

1. The Power of Craftsmanship: Using Our Gifts to Glorify God

2. The Wisdom of the Craftsman: How God Uses Our Abilities to Accomplish His Mission

1. Exodus 35:32

2. Proverbs 8:12-14 - "I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions. The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."

Exodus 35:33 And in the cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of wood, to make any manner of cunning work.

People are instructed to use their skills to make any kind of craftsmanship, such as cutting stones and carving wood.

1. God has given us all unique gifts and talents to use for His glory.

2. We should use the abilities and resources God has given us to create something beautiful.

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

Exodus 35:34 And he hath put in his heart that he may teach, both he, and Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.

Moses appointed two men, Bezalel and Aholiab, to lead the construction of the tabernacle in the wilderness.

1. The Importance of Leadership in Spiritual Pursuits

2. The Power of Appointment and Authority in the Ministry

1. Exodus 35:30-35

2. Numbers 4:34-36

Exodus 35:35 Them hath he filled with wisdom of heart, to work all manner of work, of the engraver, and of the cunning workman, and of the embroiderer, in blue, and in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, even of them that do any work, and of those that devise cunning work.

God has filled certain people with wisdom and the ability to work with many different materials such as engraving, embroidery, weaving, and devising cunning work.

1. The Wisdom of God: Examining How God Fills Us With Wisdom to Work

2. Working With Purpose: Exploring What God Has Called Us to Do

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - "Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going."

Exodus 36 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 36:1-7, Bezalel and Oholiab, along with all the skilled craftsmen, receive an abundance of offerings from the Israelites for the construction of the tabernacle. The people bring so much that Moses instructs them to stop giving because they have more than enough materials to complete the work. The craftsmen begin their tasks, constructing the tabernacle itself and its various components according to the specifications given by God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 36:8-19 , Bezalel and Oholiab oversee the making of the curtains for the tabernacle. Skilled weavers use fine linen and colorful yarns to create intricate designs of cherubim on these curtains. They also construct a covering made of goat hair to serve as a tent over the tabernacle structure.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 36:20-38 , further details are provided regarding other elements of the tabernacle's construction. Skilled craftsmen create boards made of acacia wood as well as sockets and bars for assembling them into a framework. They fashion a veil using blue, purple, and scarlet yarns along with finely twisted linen. Additionally, they craft an ark using acacia wood overlaid with pure gold this ark would house the stone tablets containing God's commandments.

In summary:

Exodus 36 presents:

Abundance of offerings received for tabernacle construction;

Craftsmen instructed to halt donations due to excess materials;

Commencement of work; construction according to divine specifications.

Creation of curtains adorned with cherubim designs;

Construction of goat hair covering serving as a tent over tabernacle.

Creation of boards, sockets, bars forming the framework;

Fashioning of a veil using various yarns and linen;

Crafting of an ark to house the stone tablets containing commandments.

This chapter highlights the progress made in constructing the tabernacle as a result of the abundant offerings brought by the Israelites. The skilled craftsmen, led by Bezalel and Oholiab, begin their work using the surplus materials. They create intricate curtains with cherubim designs, a goat hair covering for protection, and various structural components such as boards and sockets. The craftsmanship reflects careful attention to detail in following God's specifications for each element of the tabernacle's construction.

Exodus 36:1 Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the LORD had commanded.

Bezaleel and Aholiab, along with the other wisehearted men, were instructed by the Lord to construct the sanctuary according to His commands.

1. The Wisdom of the Lord: How God Uses Our Gifts to Accomplish His Purpose

2. Obeying God's Commands: The Necessity of Faithful Obedience in Serving the Lord

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Exodus 36:2 And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it:

Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, as well as other wise-hearted men, to help with the work of the Lord.

1. God Calls Us to Work in His Name

2. Wisdom of the Heart: Knowing When to Follow God's Call

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Exodus 36:3 And they received of Moses all the offering, which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, to make it withal. And they brought yet unto him free offerings every morning.

The children of Israel brought offerings to Moses to be used for the service of the sanctuary and continued to bring free offerings every morning.

1. Offerings of Service: A Call to Worship

2. The Daily Offering: A Commitment to God's Will

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Exodus 36:4 And all the wise men, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came every man from his work which they made;

The wise men who crafted the temple came from their work.

1: We are all called to use the gifts God has given us to build His kingdom.

2: We can be wise in all of our endeavors if we seek God's guidance.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Exodus 36:5 And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.

The people brought more than enough for the task given by the LORD.

1. God provides us with more than enough to accomplish His purposes.

2. Generosity and obedience to God is rewarded.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Exodus 36:6 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.

Moses commanded the people of Israel to stop making offerings for the sanctuary, and they obeyed.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing - Exodus 36:6

2. The Power of Restraint - Exodus 36:6

1. Deuteronomy 11:13-15 - Blessing for obedience and curses for disobedience

2. Proverbs 25:28 - A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls.

Exodus 36:7 For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.

The Israelites had more than enough supplies to build the tabernacle.

1. God will always provide us with everything we need.

2. We must always be grateful for God's provision.

1. Philippians 4:19-20 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

Exodus 36:8 And every wise hearted man among them that wrought the work of the tabernacle made ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work made he them.

The wise-hearted men of Israel constructed the tabernacle with ten curtains made of fine twined linen, blue, purple, and scarlet. These curtains were decorated with cherubim made with skilled craftsmanship.

1. We should be open to using our wisdom and skills to build up the kingdom of God.

2. It is important to remember that the works we do for God should be of the highest quality.

1. Exodus 36:8

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

Exodus 36:9 The length of one curtain was twenty and eight cubits, and the breadth of one curtain four cubits: the curtains were all of one size.

The curtains of the tabernacle were all of one size.

1: Unity in the Church; how we are all the same in the eyes of God.

2: The importance of working together; how collaboration is essential for success.

1: Philippians 2:2-3, Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

2: Galatians 3:26-28, For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Exodus 36:10 And he coupled the five curtains one unto another: and the other five curtains he coupled one unto another.

Moses instructed the Israelites to couple five curtains to one another to form the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Unity: How Coming Together Fosters Strength and Harmony

2. God's Design: Understanding the Depth of His Plan for Us

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

2. Philippians 2:1-4 - If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Exodus 36:11 And he made loops of blue on the edge of one curtain from the selvedge in the coupling: likewise he made in the uttermost side of another curtain, in the coupling of the second.

The Lord instructed Bezalel to create loops of blue on the edges of two curtains for the Tabernacle.

1. The Beauty of Obedience - How following the Lord's instructions leads to great beauty.

2. The Power of Community - How working together with others can create something beautiful.

1. Romans 12:4-8 - To demonstrate the power of community.

2. 2 Corinthians 3:18 - To demonstrate the beauty of obedience.

Exodus 36:12 Fifty loops made he in one curtain, and fifty loops made he in the edge of the curtain which was in the coupling of the second: the loops held one curtain to another.

The passage describes the making of fifty loops in one curtain and fifty loops in the edge of the curtain in the coupling of the second curtain, to hold them together.

1. God's guidance is essential for successful work

2. The importance of being connected to one another

1. Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Exodus 36:13 And he made fifty taches of gold, and coupled the curtains one unto another with the taches: so it became one tabernacle.

Bezalel made fifty gold clasps to join the curtains of the Tabernacle together.

1. The Strength of the Union: How Working Together Creates Lasting Connections

2. The Value of Community: How We Can Become Greater Together

1. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God s people live together in unity!

2. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Exodus 36:14 And he made curtains of goats' hair for the tent over the tabernacle: eleven curtains he made them.

Moses made eleven curtains of goats' hair for the tabernacle tent.

1. God's Divine Provision: How God Provided for the Tabernacle in the Wilderness

2. The Beauty of Obedience: How Moses Obeyed and Followed God's Instructions

1. Exodus 25:9 - "According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

2. Hebrews 8:5 - "Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount."

Exodus 36:15 The length of one curtain was thirty cubits, and four cubits was the breadth of one curtain: the eleven curtains were of one size.

The curtains of the Tabernacle were all the same size.

1. The Power of Unity: How God Uses Us Together

2. The Beauty of Conformity: How We Become One

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

2. Ephesians 4:3-4 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called.

Exodus 36:16 And he coupled five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves.

Moses instructed the Israelites to couple five curtains together and six curtains together.

1: We must remember to be united in the same purpose and to work together as a team for the will of God.

2: God wants us to have strong relationships with each other and to rely on each other for support and encouragement.

1: Ephesians 4:3 - Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

Exodus 36:17 And he made fifty loops upon the uttermost edge of the curtain in the coupling, and fifty loops made he upon the edge of the curtain which coupleth the second.

The passage describes the construction of fifty loops on the edges of a curtain.

1. The Beauty of Creation - How the craftsmanship of God is displayed in even the smallest details.

2. The Power of Unity - The importance of coming together to create something beautiful.

1. Psalm 139:14 - I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

2. John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Exodus 36:18 And he made fifty taches of brass to couple the tent together, that it might be one.

The passage describes the making of fifty taches of brass to attach the tent together, making it one.

1. Unity in the Body of Christ - Ephesians 4:3-6

2. Strength in the Lord - Psalm 18:1-2

1. John 17:20-21 - Jesus praying for the unity of believers

2. Romans 12:4-5 - The body of Christ as one unit with many members

Exodus 36:19 And he made a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers' skins above that.

Moses was instructed to make a tent out of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers' skins to go over that.

1. The Value of Hard Work: The story of Moses and the Tabernacle shows us the importance of putting in the effort to accomplish something great.

2. The Beauty of Redemptive Work: The use of the rams' skins dyed red in the Tabernacle illustrates God's work of redemption in our lives.

1. Exodus 36:19

2. Romans 3:24-25 - "and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith."

Exodus 36:20 And he made boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood, standing up.

Bezalel made boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood, which stood in an upright position.

1. God's People: Standing Firm in Difficult Times

2. Building a Firm Foundation for Our Lives

1. Ephesians 6:13-14 - Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith.

Exodus 36:21 The length of a board was ten cubits, and the breadth of a board one cubit and a half.

This passage describes the dimensions of the boards used in the construction of the Tabernacle in the wilderness.

1. Building a Foundation of Faith: The Tabernacle in Exodus 36

2. Rediscovering the Purpose of the Tabernacle in Exodus 36

1. Hebrews 11:10 - For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

2. Ephesians 2:20 - built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

Exodus 36:22 One board had two tenons, equally distant one from another: thus did he make for all the boards of the tabernacle.

The Lord instructed the craftsmen to make boards for the tabernacle with two tenons on each board, equally distant from one another.

1: Our lives should reflect balance and stability, just as the boards of the tabernacle were crafted.

2: We should strive to live lives that are pleasing to the Lord, following His instructions.

1: Proverbs 3:6 - "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2: Isaiah 30:21 - "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

Exodus 36:23 And he made boards for the tabernacle; twenty boards for the south side southward:

The Lord commanded Moses to construct boards for the tabernacle.

1: God's instructions must be obeyed.

2: We must use our abilities to serve God.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2: Deuteronomy 6:4-6 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

Exodus 36:24 And forty sockets of silver he made under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons.

Silver sockets were made and placed beneath the twenty boards in order to secure two tenons for each board.

1. God's Plan for Building His House: How We Follow His Precepts

2. The Necessity of Obedience: Building on a Solid Foundation

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain."

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Exodus 36:25 And for the other side of the tabernacle, which is toward the north corner, he made twenty boards,

Moses was commanded to make twenty boards for the north corner of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commands

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. James 1:22, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Exodus 36:26 And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

The construction of the tabernacle in the book of Exodus includes forty silver sockets, two beneath each board.

1. The Tabernacle's Construction: A Model of God's Perfection

2. Building with Faith: The Tabernacle of God's Making

1. Exodus 36:26 - "And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board."

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 - "Do you not know that you are God s temple and that God s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God s temple, God will destroy him. For God s temple is holy, and you are that temple."

Exodus 36:27 And for the sides of the tabernacle westward he made six boards.

The sides of the tabernacle westward were made with six boards.

1. The Tabernacle: A Place of Holiness

2. The Significance of the Tabernacle in the Old Testament

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

2. Hebrews 9:1-5 - "Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the showbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly."

Exodus 36:28 And two boards made he for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides.

The passage describes the construction of two boards for the two corners of the tabernacle.

1. The importance of building a strong foundation in our faith

2. God's provision through the tabernacle and the lessons we can learn from it

1. Matthew 7:24-25 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

2. Hebrews 8:1-2 "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man."

Exodus 36:29 And they were coupled beneath, and coupled together at the head thereof, to one ring: thus he did to both of them in both the corners.

Two pieces of fabric were connected at the head and the bottom, and were attached to one ring at both corners.

1. God's Work is Perfect: The beauty and intricacy of God's work can be seen even in the smallest details.

2. Unity Through Christ: Even the smallest of details can bring us together, just as Christ unites us.

1. Colossians 3:14-15 - "And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

2. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."

Exodus 36:30 And there were eight boards; and their sockets were sixteen sockets of silver, under every board two sockets.

Eight boards were held together with sixteen sockets of silver, two for each board.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together is Essential for Success

2. The Strength of Small Things: How Little Things Make a Big Difference

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Exodus 36:31 And he made bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,

The passage describes the making of bars of shittim wood, five for each board of the side of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Building with Care - Exodus 36:31

2. The Strength of the Tabernacle - Exodus 36:31

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Exodus 36:32 And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the tabernacle for the sides westward.

The construction of the tabernacle included five bars to each board on either side.

1. The importance of having a strong foundation in life.

2. Steadfastness and strength in the face of adversity.

1. 1 Corinthians 3:11-13 - "For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one s work, of what sort it is."

2. Hebrews 11:10 - "For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God."

Exodus 36:33 And he made the middle bar to shoot through the boards from the one end to the other.

The middle bar of the tabernacle was made to fit through the boards from one end to the other.

1. The Power of Perseverance

2. Making Connections in Life

1. Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

2. Ephesians 4:16 From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Exodus 36:34 And he overlaid the boards with gold, and made their rings of gold to be places for the bars, and overlaid the bars with gold.

The craftsmen overlaid the boards of the tabernacle with gold, and made gold rings to attach the bars of the structure.

1. The Value of Gold: How the Tabernacle Teaches Us to Value God's Precious Gifts

2. The Divine Structure: Designing the Tabernacle with God's Guidance

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

Exodus 36:35 And he made a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: with cherubims made he it of cunning work.

Moses was instructed to make a veil of blue, purple, scarlet and fine twined linen, with cherubim made of intricate work.

1. The Beauty of the Veil Exploring the Significance of the Veil in Exodus 36:35

2. The Craftsmanship of the Veil Exploring the Artistry of the Veil in Exodus 36:35

1. Exodus 36:35 And he made a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: with cherubims made he it of cunning work.

2. Ezekiel 10:1-2 Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city.

Exodus 36:36 And he made thereunto four pillars of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold: their hooks were of gold; and he cast for them four sockets of silver.

This passage describes the construction of four pillars made from shittim wood, which were overlaid with gold and had hooks and sockets of gold and silver respectively.

1. Material possessions are not the only source of true value and lasting worth.

2. God can bring beauty and glory out of even the most ordinary of materials.

1. Psalm 37:16 - Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:12-13 - Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

Exodus 36:37 And he made an hanging for the tabernacle door of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, of needlework;

The tabernacle door was made of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen of needlework.

1: We can learn from the tabernacle door that we should use our talents and skills to give glory to God.

2: The colors of the tabernacle door remind us that through Jesus, we can receive the forgiveness of sins and be made new.

1: Colossians 3:10-11 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

2: Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

Exodus 36:38 And the five pillars of it with their hooks: and he overlaid their chapiters and their fillets with gold: but their five sockets were of brass.

The five pillars of the Tabernacle were overlaid with gold, and their five sockets were made of brass.

1. The Importance of Spiritual Foundations

2. The Power of Gold in the Tabernacle

1. 1 Corinthians 3:11-15 - For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

2. Exodus 25:31-33 - And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same.

Exodus 37 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 37:1-9, Bezalel continues the construction of the tabernacle by crafting the ark of the covenant. He uses acacia wood and overlays it with pure gold both inside and out. The ark is adorned with a gold molding and has four gold rings attached to its corners for carrying purposes. Bezalel also creates two cherubim out of hammered gold, placing them on top of the ark facing each other. These cherubim have outstretched wings that overshadow the mercy seat a symbol of God's presence.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 37:10-16 , Bezalel constructs a table made of acacia wood overlaid with pure gold. He adds a gold molding around it and makes a rim or border to hold various items used in worship. Additionally, he fashions four golden rings for carrying the table and attaches poles to them.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 37:17-29 , Bezalel creates a golden lampstand known as the menorah. It is made entirely from one piece of hammered gold, including its base, shaft, cups shaped like almond blossoms, and decorative buds and flowers. The menorah has seven branches three on each side and one central branch each holding an oil lamp that provides light within the tabernacle.

In summary:

Exodus 37 presents:

Crafting of ark using acacia wood overlaid with pure gold;

Creation of cherubim; placement atop ark's mercy seat.

Construction of table using acacia wood overlaid with pure gold;

Addition of molding; attachment of rings for carrying purposes.

Creation of golden menorah from one piece of hammered gold;

Inclusion of base, shaft, cups shaped like almond blossoms;

Seven branches with oil lamps providing light within the tabernacle.

This chapter focuses on the skilled craftsmanship of Bezalel as he continues constructing the various sacred items for the tabernacle. He crafts the ark of the covenant, overlaying it with pure gold and adorning it with cherubim. The table for showbread is also created, designed to hold items used in worship. Finally, Bezalel fashions a magnificent golden menorah with intricate details and seven branches, symbolizing light and illumination within God's dwelling place. Each element is carefully constructed according to God's instructions, reflecting both artistic skill and reverence for their purpose in worship.

Exodus 37:1 And Bezaleel made the ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half was the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it:

Bezaleel made the ark of shittim wood and it was two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high.

1. The Ark of Shittim Wood: A Symbol of Faithfulness

2. The Uniqueness of the Ark of Shittim Wood

1. Deuteronomy 10:1-5 - God commands the Israelites to make an Ark of Acacia wood and deposit the Ten Commandments in it.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would draw near to Him must believe that He exists and rewards those who seek Him.

Exodus 37:2 And he overlaid it with pure gold within and without, and made a crown of gold to it round about.

Bezalel overlaid the ark of the covenant with pure gold both inside and outside of it, and made a crown of gold to go around it.

1: God desires to crown us with beauty and honor.

2: Through Christ, we are made holy and adorned with his righteousness.

1: Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

2: 1 Peter 2:9 - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

Exodus 37:3 And he cast for it four rings of gold, to be set by the four corners of it; even two rings upon the one side of it, and two rings upon the other side of it.

The craftsman made four rings out of gold to attach to each corner of the ark of the covenant.

1. The importance of preparation for God's work

2. The value of God's craftsmanship

1. Proverbs 22:29 Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before obscure men.

2. Exodus 25:10-11 And they shall make an ark of acacia wood; two and a half cubits shall be its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height. And you shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and shall make on it a molding of gold all around.

Exodus 37:4 And he made staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold.

Bezalel made staves of acacia wood and covered them with gold.

1: We can learn from Bezalel's example to use our gifts and abilities for the Lord.

2: We should strive to use our resources to glorify God in everything we do.

1: Ephesians 5:15-17 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2: 1 Corinthians 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Exodus 37:5 And he put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, to bear the ark.

The staves were placed into the rings on either side of the ark of the covenant so it could be carried.

1. The Importance of Bearing Burdens Together

2. Carrying the Weight of God's Will

1. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2. Psalm 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Exodus 37:6 And he made the mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half was the length thereof, and one cubit and a half the breadth thereof.

Moses was instructed to build a mercy seat out of pure gold with specific measurements.

1. The Mercy Seat: A Symbol of Grace and Forgiveness

2. The Craftsmanship in God's Temple: A Symbol of His Perfection

1. Exodus 37:6

2. Romans 5:8-10 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Exodus 37:7 And he made two cherubims of gold, beaten out of one piece made he them, on the two ends of the mercy seat;

God's mercy is infinite and everlasting.

1: The Mercy of God is Unfathomable

2: God's Mercy is Found Everywhere

1: Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2: Isaiah 54:7-10 - For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.

Exodus 37:8 One cherub on the end on this side, and another cherub on the other end on that side: out of the mercy seat made he the cherubims on the two ends thereof.

God commanded Moses to make two cherubim out of the mercy seat.

1. Compassion and Mercy: How God's Presence Fills Our Lives

2. Cherishing the Mercy of God: Understanding Our Role in His Plan

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Psalm 103:11-13 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

Exodus 37:9 And the cherubims spread out their wings on high, and covered with their wings over the mercy seat, with their faces one to another; even to the mercy seatward were the faces of the cherubims.

The cherubims spread out their wings and covered the mercy seat with their faces looking towards it.

1. The Mercy Seat: A Picture of God's Mercy

2. Living in the Shadow of God's Wings

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

2. Psalm 36:7 - How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Exodus 37:10 And he made the table of shittim wood: two cubits was the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof:

The Lord commanded the creation of a table made of shittim wood, which was two cubits long, one cubit wide, and one and a half cubits tall.

1. The Lord's Command: Obedience and Worship

2. A Table as a Symbol of Faith and Service

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Exodus 37:11 And he overlaid it with pure gold, and made thereunto a crown of gold round about.

The craftsman made a throne out of acacia wood and overlaid it with pure gold, and added a crown of gold around the top.

1. The Throne of God: An Object Lesson in His Majesty

2. The Beauty of Following God's Plan

1. Psalm 93:2 - "Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting."

2. Hebrews 4:14-16 - "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Exodus 37:12 Also he made thereunto a border of an handbreadth round about; and made a crown of gold for the border thereof round about.

This verse from Exodus describes the making of a border of a handbreadth around the Ark of the Covenant and a crown of gold around that border.

1. How Our Work Reflects God's Glory

2. The Importance of Finishing Our Work Well

1. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

Exodus 37:13 And he cast for it four rings of gold, and put the rings upon the four corners that were in the four feet thereof.

Four rings of gold were cast and placed on the four feet of the ark of the covenant.

1. The Significance of the Rings of Gold on the Ark of the Covenant

2. The Power of Obedience to God s Commands

1. Colossians 2:14-17 - Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

2. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Exodus 37:14 Over against the border were the rings, the places for the staves to bear the table.

The rings for the staves to bear the table in Exodus 37:14 were placed opposite the border.

1. The Importance of Bearing God's Table - Exodus 37:14

2. The Significance of Borders and Rings - Exodus 37:14

1. John 6:51 - I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

2. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword.

Exodus 37:15 And he made the staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold, to bear the table.

Bezalel made the staves of shittim wood for the table, and he overlaid them with gold.

1. The Strength of Gold: How God's Glorious Blessings Can Hold Us Up

2. The Shittim Wood: Appreciating the Simplicity of God's Love

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Exodus 37:16 And he made the vessels which were upon the table, his dishes, and his spoons, and his bowls, and his covers to cover withal, of pure gold.

God instructed Bezaleel to make a table for the tabernacle and its vessels out of pure gold.

1. God's instructions to us in the Bible are perfect and should be followed with faith and obedience.

2. The importance of service to God and how our actions reflect our faith.

1. Exodus 37:16 - "And he made the vessels which were upon the table, his dishes, and his spoons, and his bowls, and his covers to cover withal, of pure gold."

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - "'And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Exodus 37:17 And he made the candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft, and his branch, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, were of the same:

The Lord commanded Moses to make a candlestick of pure gold; it was made of beaten work with its shaft, branch, bowls, knops, and flowers being of the same.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: Creating a Sacred Space

2. The Power of Dedication: Living in God s Presence

1. Exodus 25:31-40 - God commands Moses to create the Tabernacle

2. 1 Chronicles 28:18-19 - David s vision of the Temple of the Lord

Exodus 37:18 And six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof:

The candlestick described in Exodus 37:18 consisted of a central stem with six branches extending from its sides, three on each side.

1. The importance of interconnectedness in our lives and communities.

2. How the Lord uses ordinary objects to teach us spiritual truths.

1. John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many."

Exodus 37:19 Three bowls made after the fashion of almonds in one branch, a knop and a flower; and three bowls made like almonds in another branch, a knop and a flower: so throughout the six branches going out of the candlestick.

The candlestick had six branches with three bowls made like almonds with a knop and a flower on each branch.

1. God's Perfection is Evident in Every Detail

2. The Importance of a Unified Design

1. Ephesians 3:10 His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.

2. Psalm 139:13-14 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Exodus 37:20 And in the candlestick were four bowls made like almonds, his knops, and his flowers:

The candlestick was made with four bowls in the shape of almonds, knops, and flowers.

1: God's creation includes beauty and intricate details.

2: There is blessing in the details of God's design.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Exodus 37:21 And a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches going out of it.

Exodus 37:21 describes an object with six branches, each with a knop (a knob or knob-like ornament) under two of them.

1. The Beauty and Detail of God's Creation

2. The Significance of Symbols in the Bible

1. Isaiah 40:26 - "Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth."

2. Colossians 1:17 - "And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."

Exodus 37:22 Their knops and their branches were of the same: all of it was one beaten work of pure gold.

The knops and branches of the Tabernacle altar were made of pure gold, all one piece.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Brings Blessing

2. The Meaning of Pure Gold: Living a Life of Holiness

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Exodus 37:23 And he made his seven lamps, and his snuffers, and his snuffdishes, of pure gold.

Moses made seven lamps, snuffers, and snuffdishes of pure gold for the tabernacle.

1. The Value of Holiness: How the Tabernacle Showed the Value of God's Holiness

2. The Significance of Gold: How the Use of Gold in the Tabernacle Illustrates its Significance

1. Exodus 25:1-9 - Instructions for Making the Tabernacle

2. Exodus 25:31-40 - Instructions for Making the Lampstand and Other Articles of Furniture

Exodus 37:24 Of a talent of pure gold made he it, and all the vessels thereof.

This passage is about the construction of the Tabernacle in which the Ark of the Covenant was housed.

1: God's Dwelling Place - Exodus 37:24-28

2: The Significance of the Tabernacle - Exodus 35:4-10

1: 1 Kings 8:10-11

2: Hebrews 9:1-5

Exodus 37:25 And he made the incense altar of shittim wood: the length of it was a cubit, and the breadth of it a cubit; it was foursquare; and two cubits was the height of it; the horns thereof were of the same.

The incense altar, made of shittim wood, was a square shape with four sides, each measuring a cubit long and a cubit wide. Its height was two cubits and it had horns.

1. The Perfect Altar: How Our Lord's Sacrifice is like the Incense Altar of Exodus 37

2. The Significance of the Shittim Wood: Examining the Symbolic Meaning of the Altar Material in Exodus 37

1. Exodus 37:25

2. Hebrews 9:4-6

Exodus 37:26 And he overlaid it with pure gold, both the top of it, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns of it: also he made unto it a crown of gold round about.

The Lord commanded that a golden altar be made with a crown of gold around it.

1. The Lord's Blessing of Splendor and Beauty

2. God's Magnificence in Creation

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

2. Psalm 145:5-7 - They will speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Exodus 37:27 And he made two rings of gold for it under the crown thereof, by the two corners of it, upon the two sides thereof, to be places for the staves to bear it withal.

The Lord commanded Moses to make two rings of gold for the Ark of the Covenant, on two sides of the crown, to be used as handles for carrying it.

1. The importance of carrying the Ark of the Covenant with reverence and respect.

2. The holiness of the Ark of the Covenant and how we should honor it.

1. Numbers 4:5-6 When the camp is to set out, Aaron and his sons shall go in and take down the veil of the screen and cover the ark of the testimony with it. Then they shall put on it a covering of goatskin and spread on top of that a cloth all of blue, and shall put in its poles.

2. Deuteronomy 10:8 "At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.

Exodus 37:28 And he made the staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold.

The passage describes the construction of a set of staves made of shittim wood and overlaid with gold.

1. The Value of Craftsmanship: Exploring the importance of taking care and precision in creating something valuable.

2. The Meaning of Gold: Examining the symbolism of gold in Scripture and its implication in our lives.

1. 1 Corinthians 3:11-15 - Using our spiritual gifts to bring glory to God.

2. Exodus 25:10-22 - God's instructions for the making of the Ark of the Covenant.

Exodus 37:29 And he made the holy anointing oil, and the pure incense of sweet spices, according to the work of the apothecary.

Moses created the holy anointing oil and pure incense of sweet spices, according to the instructions of the apothecary.

1. The Power of Anointing: How We Are Set Apart by the Holy Spirit

2. The Holiness of Incense: How Our Prayers Reach Heaven

1. Exodus 37:29

2. 1 John 2:20-27 (And you know that he was manifested to take away our sins, and in him is no sin.)

Exodus 38 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 38:1-7, Bezalel constructs the altar of burnt offering using acacia wood and overlays it with bronze. The altar is square-shaped and has horns at each corner. He also makes all the necessary utensils for the altar, including pots, shovels, basins, forks, and fire pans all made of bronze. The bronze basin used for priestly washing is crafted from the mirrors of women who served at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 38:8 , Bezalel constructs a courtyard around the tabernacle using fine linen curtains supported by pillars and bases made of bronze. The courtyard measures one hundred cubits long by fifty cubits wide and is enclosed by a curtain hung on hooks.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 38:9-20 , details are provided regarding materials used for constructing various elements. These include contributions of silver for numbering Israel's population each person giving half a shekel as well as silver sockets for supporting the boards forming the tabernacle's walls. Contributions of bronze are also listed bronze sockets for supporting pillars and bases, hooks for hanging curtains, and overlaying various items such as altar utensils.

In summary:

Exodus 38 presents:

Construction of altar of burnt offering using acacia wood overlaid with bronze;

Creation of utensils including pots, shovels, basins made from bronze;

Crafting a basin from women's mirrors serving at tent entrance.

Creation of courtyard surrounding tabernacle using fine linen curtains;

Supporting pillars and bases made from bronze; enclosing curtain hung on hooks.

Contributions listed silver half shekels; silver sockets supporting boards;

Bronze sockets supporting pillars and bases; hooks for hanging curtains;

Overlaying altar utensils with bronze.

This chapter focuses on the construction of various elements related to worship and the tabernacle's structure. Bezalel constructs the altar of burnt offering, along with its accompanying utensils, using acacia wood overlaid with bronze. He also creates a courtyard around the tabernacle, enclosing it with fine linen curtains supported by bronze pillars and bases. The chapter further highlights the contributions made by the Israelites, including silver half shekels for numbering the population and various items made from bronze to support and adorn different aspects of the tabernacle. These details demonstrate both meticulous craftsmanship and a community effort in preparing a sacred space for God's presence.

Exodus 38:1 And he made the altar of burnt offering of shittim wood: five cubits was the length thereof, and five cubits the breadth thereof; it was foursquare; and three cubits the height thereof.

Passage Moses made an altar of burnt offering out of shittim wood, which was five cubits long, five cubits wide, and foursquare, with a height of three cubits.

1. The Importance of Offering Worship to God

2. The Meaning Behind the Altar's Dimensions

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - But you are to seek the place the Lord your God will choose from among all your tribes to put his Name there for his dwelling. To that place you must go; there bring your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give and your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks.

Exodus 38:2 And he made the horns thereof on the four corners of it; the horns thereof were of the same: and he overlaid it with brass.

The instructions for building the altar of incense in the Tabernacle include horns on the four corners of the altar, made of the same material and overlaid with brass.

1. The importance of adhering to God's instructions in constructing His Tabernacle.

2. The importance of holiness and reverence as we come before the Lord in worship.

1. Exodus 25:9 - "According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

2. Hebrews 9:1-5 - "For a tabernacle was prepared: the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly."

Exodus 38:3 And he made all the vessels of the altar, the pots, and the shovels, and the basons, and the fleshhooks, and the firepans: all the vessels thereof made he of brass.

Bezaleel made a variety of altar vessels out of brass, including pots, shovels, basons, fleshhooks, and firepans.

1. The Altar of Sacrifice: A Lesson in Dedication

2. The Purpose of the Altar: Worship as an Offering of Gratitude

1. Proverbs 19:17 - He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Exodus 38:4 And he made for the altar a brasen grate of network under the compass thereof beneath unto the midst of it.

Bezalel constructed a bronze grating beneath the altar of burnt offering.

1. The Importance of Gratitude

2. The Power of Giving

1. Colossians 3:15-17 - And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Exodus 38:5 And he cast four rings for the four ends of the grate of brass, to be places for the staves.

The passage describes the construction of the grate of brass for the tabernacle, with four rings being cast on the four ends of the grate to be places for the staves.

1. The Construction of the Tabernacle: What it Can Teach Us About Our Lives

2. The Significance of the Four Rings: Finding Stability and Strength in Our Faith

1. Ephesians 2:20-22 - Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Exodus 38:6 And he made the staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with brass.

Bezaleel made the staves of the tabernacle from shittim wood, and overlaid them with brass.

1. The Importance of Committing to the Lord's Work with Integrity

2. Investing in God's Mission with Excellence

1. 1 Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

Exodus 38:7 And he put the staves into the rings on the sides of the altar, to bear it withal; he made the altar hollow with boards.

The altar was made hollow with boards and staves were put into rings on the sides to support it.

1. The importance of building a strong foundation for our faith

2. The power of symbolism in worship

1. Matthew 7:24-25 - Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. Hebrews 11:10 - For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Exodus 38:8 And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the lookingglasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The laver of brass was made from the lookingglasses of the women who gathered around the entrance to the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The importance of community and contribution in the service of God.

2. God's appreciation for the small things and the power of collective effort.

1. Acts 2:44-45 - "And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need."

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

Exodus 38:9 And he made the court: on the south side southward the hangings of the court were of fine twined linen, an hundred cubits:

The hangings of the court in the south side were made of fine twined linen and measured one hundred cubits.

1. God's Perfection is Reflected in His Creation - Exodus 38:9

2. God's Faithfulness is Seen in His Instructions - Exodus 38:9

1. Isaiah 40:12 - Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

2. Hebrews 11:10 - For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Exodus 38:10 Their pillars were twenty, and their brasen sockets twenty; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

The Israelites made twenty pillars with silver fillets and twenty brass sockets.

1. The importance of God's presence in our lives and how it manifests through our actions.

2. The beauty of God's design and the blessings that come from following His plan.

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Exodus 38:11 And for the north side the hangings were an hundred cubits, their pillars were twenty, and their sockets of brass twenty; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver.

This passage talks about the hangings and pillars on the north side of the tabernacle.

1. God's intention to create a sacred space for His people to come before Him and worship Him.

2. The importance of constructing a meaningful and purposeful space for God's people to come together in worship.

1. John 4:23-24 - "Jesus replied, True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship Him that way. 24 God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.

2. Hebrews 12:28 - Therefore, since we are receiving an unshakable kingdom, let us give thanks, and through this let us offer worship pleasing to God in devotion and awe.

Exodus 38:12 And for the west side were hangings of fifty cubits, their pillars ten, and their sockets ten; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver.

This passage describes the construction of the sanctuary of the Tabernacle, specifically mentioning the west side, which had hangings of fifty cubits in length, ten pillars, and ten sockets.

1: We can learn from this passage that the Tabernacle was a symbol of God's presence in the Israelites' midst, and that He was worthy of the utmost respect and honor.

2: We can also learn from this passage that we need to build our lives around God's presence and make sure we are honoring Him in all we do.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Exodus 38:13 And for the east side eastward fifty cubits.

The east side of the Tabernacle was fifty cubits long.

1. The Tabernacle: A Picture of the Holiness of God

2. The Measure of Obedience: Fifty Cubits

1. Leviticus 19:2 - You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Exodus 38:14 The hangings of the one side of the gate were fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their sockets three.

The hangings of one side of the gate of the Tabernacle were fifteen cubits, with three pillars and three sockets.

1. The Importance of Structure in Our Lives

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle and its Gates

1. Ephesians 2:19-20 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Exodus 38:15 And for the other side of the court gate, on this hand and that hand, were hangings of fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their sockets three.

The court gate of the tabernacle had hangings of fifteen cubits on each side with three pillars and three sockets.

1. The importance of setting boundaries in our lives.

2. The significance of architecture in worship.

1. Psalm 100:4-5 - Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 - By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Exodus 38:16 All the hangings of the court round about were of fine twined linen.

The hangings of the court in Exodus 38 were made of fine twined linen.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: An Examination of Exodus 38

2. Linen: A Symbol of Holiness and Purity

1. Matthew 22:1-14 - The Parable of the Wedding Feast

2. Isaiah 61:10 - Putting on a Robe of Righteousness and Garment of Praise

Exodus 38:17 And the sockets for the pillars were of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver; and the overlaying of their chapiters of silver; and all the pillars of the court were filleted with silver.

The pillars of the court were covered in silver.

1: God is generous in providing for his people.

2: Every detail of the tabernacle was done with precision and purpose.

1: 1 Chronicles 22:14 - "Now, behold, in my trouble I have prepared for the house of the Lord an hundred thousand talents of gold, and a thousand thousand talents of silver; and of brass and iron without weight; for it is in abundance: timber also and stone have I prepared; and thou mayest add thereto."

2: 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 - "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

Exodus 38:18 And the hanging for the gate of the court was needlework, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: and twenty cubits was the length, and the height in the breadth was five cubits, answerable to the hangings of the court.

The gate of the court in Exodus 38 was hung with needlework of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen that was 20 cubits long and 5 cubits wide.

1. The Beauty of Obedience - How following God's commands leads to glorifying Him even in the small details.

2. A Glimpse of Heaven - The beauty of the court's gate as a symbol of the joys of the Kingdom of God.

1. Matthew 6:33 - "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Exodus 38:19 And their pillars were four, and their sockets of brass four; their hooks of silver, and the overlaying of their chapiters and their fillets of silver.

The pillars of the tabernacle were made of four brass sockets, four silver hooks, and silver chapiters and fillets.

1. God calls us to be faithful stewards of His resources.

2. We must take care to use our gifts and talents for God's glory.

1. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - "For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property."

Exodus 38:20 And all the pins of the tabernacle, and of the court round about, were of brass.

The pins of the tabernacle and court in the book of Exodus were made of brass.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God's Instructions Bring Blessing

2. The Importance of Following Instructions: Lessons from the Tabernacle

1. Deuteronomy 6:17 - You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Exodus 38:21 This is the sum of the tabernacle, even of the tabernacle of testimony, as it was counted, according to the commandment of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, son to Aaron the priest.

This passage is about the tabernacle of testimony, which was counted according to the commandment of Moses through the service of the Levites by the hand of Ithamar, the son of Aaron the priest.

1. God's Commandments: The Tabernacle of Testimony

2. Obedience to God: The Tabernacle of Testimony

1. Hebrews 9:1-5 - The Tabernacle of Testimony was a symbol of the presence of God among His people.

2. Exodus 25:8-9 - The Tabernacle of Testimony was a place of worship for the Israelites.

Exodus 38:22 And Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the LORD commanded Moses.

Bezaleel, a member of the tribe of Judah, created what the Lord commanded of Moses.

1. God's perfect timing: how God's plan unfolds according to His will

2. The importance of obedience: how God calls us to trust and obey His commands

1. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

2. Galatians 6:9 - Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Exodus 38:23 And with him was Aholiab, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver, and a cunning workman, and an embroiderer in blue, and in purple, and in scarlet, and fine linen.

Aholiab, son of Ahisamach, from the tribe of Dan, was skilled in engraving, craftsmanship, and embroidery with blue, purple, scarlet, and fine linen.

1. The Importance of Having a Skillful Hand - Exodus 38:23

2. The Splendor of Craftsmanship - Exodus 38:23

1. 1 Peter 4:10-11 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

2. Proverbs 18:16 - A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before the great.

Exodus 38:24 All the gold that was occupied for the work in all the work of the holy place, even the gold of the offering, was twenty and nine talents, and seven hundred and thirty shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary.

The offering of gold for the work of the holy place was twenty nine talents and seven hundred and thirty shekels.

1. The importance of offering our best to God.

2. The value of donating our resources for God's work.

1. Luke 21:1-4 - Jesus' offering of the widow's mite.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give.

Exodus 38:25 And the silver of them that were numbered of the congregation was an hundred talents, and a thousand seven hundred and threescore and fifteen shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:

The silver collected from the people in the congregation totaled one hundred talents and one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five shekels.

1. God desires us to give generously, even when it may not be convenient.

2. The power of giving in unity can achieve great things.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Exodus 38:26 A bekah for every man, that is, half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that went to be numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty men.

A half shekel was collected from each man over 20 years old for a total of 603,550 men.

1. The Power of Unity: How God's People Worked Together to Achieve a Common Goal

2. Making a Difference: How Our Small Contributions Can Have a Big Impact

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

2. Galatians 6:2-5 - Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Exodus 38:27 And of the hundred talents of silver were cast the sockets of the sanctuary, and the sockets of the vail; an hundred sockets of the hundred talents, a talent for a socket.

The hundred talents of silver were used to create sockets for the sanctuary and vail.

1. The Value of Giving: God can use even the smallest of gifts to create something extraordinary.

2. Counting the Cost: Obeying God may require great sacrifice, but the rewards are worth it.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Luke 14:28-30 - For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build and was not able to finish.

Exodus 38:28 And of the thousand seven hundred seventy and five shekels he made hooks for the pillars, and overlaid their chapiters, and filleted them.

The shekels were used to make hooks for the pillars, which were then overlaid and filleted.

1. The importance of craftsmanship in building the House of God.

2. When we give our best to God, He will use it for His glory.

1. Exodus 38:28

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Exodus 38:29 And the brass of the offering was seventy talents, and two thousand and four hundred shekels.

This passage mentions the amount of brass used in an offering to Yahweh, which was seventy talents and two thousand and four hundred shekels.

1. The Power of Generosity - How Giving to God Can Transform Lives

2. The Significance of Sacrifice - Understanding the Purpose of Offerings to Yahweh

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Deuteronomy 16:17 - Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.

Exodus 38:30 And therewith he made the sockets to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the brasen altar, and the brasen grate for it, and all the vessels of the altar,

This passage describes the construction of the entrance to the Tabernacle of the Congregation and the accompanying bronze altar and bronze grate.

1. God's Instructions for Building the Tabernacle of the Congregation: A Lesson in Obedience

2. The Significance of the Bronze Altar and Grate: A Picture of the Cross

1. Hebrews 9:11-14 - Christ's death and the significance of the tabernacle

2. Exodus 30:17-21 - The making of the bronze altar and its purpose

Exodus 38:31 And the sockets of the court round about, and the sockets of the court gate, and all the pins of the tabernacle, and all the pins of the court round about.

This verse describes the materials used to construct the entranceway to the tabernacle court, including the sockets, pins, and gate.

1. God's design for the tabernacle demonstrates His attention to detail and care for His people.

2. Obedience to God's commands and instructions in the building of the tabernacle shows reverence and respect for the Lord.

1. Matthew 7:24-25 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

2. Deuteronomy 4:2 - "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you."

Exodus 39 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 39:1-21, the skilled craftsmen, Bezalel and Oholiab, continue their work by making priestly garments. They create a finely woven ephod using gold, blue, purple, and scarlet yarns. The ephod is adorned with precious stones engraved with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. They also craft a breastpiece known as the "breastplate of judgment" using similar materials. It contains twelve gemstones representing each tribe and is attached to the ephod by golden chains.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 39:22-31 , they make additional priestly garments such as tunics, turbans, sashes, and caps all made of fine linen. These garments are intricately woven with skillful craftsmanship to ensure beauty and durability. The high priest's turban is adorned with a golden plate engraved with the words "Holy to Yahweh."

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 39:32-43 , Moses inspects all the work done by Bezalel and Oholiab along with their team of skilled craftsmen. He sees that they have completed every detail according to God's instructions given on Mount Sinai. Moses blesses them for their faithfulness and presents all the completed items tabernacle furnishings, priestly garments together as an offering from the Israelites for God's service.

In summary:

Exodus 39 presents:

Creation of finely woven ephod adorned with precious stones;

Crafting breastplate of judgment featuring gemstones representing tribes.

Making additional priestly garments tunics, turbans, sashes;

Adorning high priest's turban with golden plate bearing holy inscription.

Moses inspects completed work, verifying adherence to God's instructions;

Blessing bestowed upon craftsmen for their faithfulness;

Presentation of all completed items as an offering for God's service.

This chapter highlights the meticulous craftsmanship of Bezalel, Oholiab, and their team in creating the priestly garments and other sacred items. They construct the ephod and breastplate with intricate details, using precious materials such as gold and gemstones. The additional priestly garments are carefully woven from fine linen to ensure quality. The high priest's turban is adorned with a golden plate bearing a holy inscription. Moses personally inspects the completed work and affirms its adherence to God's instructions. He blesses the craftsmen for their faithfulness and presents all the items as an offering dedicated to God's service within the tabernacle.

Exodus 39:1 And of the blue, and purple, and scarlet, they made cloths of service, to do service in the holy place, and made the holy garments for Aaron; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The Israelites made clothes of service out of blue, purple and scarlet fabrics, in accordance with God's instructions, to be used in the service of the holy place, and to make priestly garments for Aaron.

1. The Significance of Service: How the Clothes of Service in Exodus 39:1 Demonstrate Our Obedience to God

2. The Power of Obedience: How God's Instructions in Exodus 39:1 Hold the Key to Faithfulness

1. Ephesians 6:5-7: "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men."

2. Colossians 3:23-24: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

Exodus 39:2 And he made the ephod of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.

The Lord instructed Moses to make an ephod out of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.

1. The Beauty of Holiness - A about the symbolic importance of the colors used in the ephod.

2. The Cost of Obedience - A about the cost of following God's instructions.

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

2. Revelation 19:7-8 - Let us rejoice and exalt and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

Exodus 39:3 And they did beat the gold into thin plates, and cut it into wires, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, with cunning work.

The craftsmen fashioned gold into thin plates and cut them into wires to be worked into blue, purple, scarlet, and fine linen fabrics with skillful workmanship.

1. The Beauty of Skill: Appreciating the Artistry of Craftsmen

2. Working with Purpose: The Significance of Dedicated Labor

1. Proverbs 22:29 (NIV) "Do you see a person skilled in their work? They will serve before kings; they will not serve before officials of low rank."

2. Romans 12:8 (NIV) "If it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

Exodus 39:4 They made shoulderpieces for it, to couple it together: by the two edges was it coupled together.

The artisans of Israel crafted shoulderpieces to attach the tabernacle together at the two edges.

1. God Works Through Us to Accomplish Great Things - Exodus 39:4

2. The Power of Unity and Working Together - Exodus 39:4

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

2. Ephesians 4:16 - From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Exodus 39:5 And the curious girdle of his ephod, that was upon it, was of the same, according to the work thereof; of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen; as the LORD commanded Moses.

This verse in the book of Exodus describes the intricate details of the girdle for the ephod that was given to Moses by the Lord as commanded.

1. The Striking Beauty of Obedience: Examining the Craftsmanship of the Ephod

2. The Value of Following Instructions: How God's Commands Lead to Blessing

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. 1 Peter 2:15 - For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

Exodus 39:6 And they wrought onyx stones inclosed in ouches of gold, graven, as signets are graven, with the names of the children of Israel.

This passage reveals that the Israelites crafted signets of gold with onyx stones inscribed with the names of the Israelites.

1. God works in mysterious ways - John 3:8

2. Seek God's guidance - Psalm 25:4

1. Exodus 28:9-10

2. Isaiah 44:9-12

Exodus 39:7 And he put them on the shoulders of the ephod, that they should be stones for a memorial to the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses put two stones on the shoulders of the ephod as a memorial to the children of Israel as commanded by the Lord.

1. The Uniqueness of the Lord's Memorials

2. The Power of God's Commands

1. Joshua 4:5-7 - "And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take you up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel: That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones? Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever."

2. Matthew 16:17-19 - "And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Exodus 39:8 And he made the breastplate of cunning work, like the work of the ephod; of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.

The breastplate of the ephod was made of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.

1. God's Faithfulness in His Creativity - Exodus 39:8

2. How God Uses Color to Display His Majesty - Exodus 39:8

1. Colossians 3:12 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

2. Ezekiel 16:10-14 - I clothed you with embroidered cloth and shod you with fine leather. I wrapped you in fine linen and covered you with silk.

Exodus 39:9 It was foursquare; they made the breastplate double: a span was the length thereof, and a span the breadth thereof, being doubled.

The breastplate of judgement was foursquare and measured a span in both length and breadth.

1. The Breastplate of Judgement: An Example of Perfect Balance

2. Double-Check Yourself: The Significance of Doubling the Breastplate

1. Isaiah 11:5 - Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

2. Proverbs 25:12 - Like an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

Exodus 39:10 And they set in it four rows of stones: the first row was a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this was the first row.

The passage describes the setting of four rows of stones in the breastplate of the high priest.

1. The Beauty of Sacrifice: How God's Holiness Is Reflected in the Breastplate of the High Priest

2. The Significance of the Stones: What Each Symbolizes in the Breastplate of the High Priest

1. Isaiah 49:16 See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.

2. Exodus 28:12-13 And you shall set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row. And the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond.

Exodus 39:11 And the second row, an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond.

This passage speaks about the second row of stones on the high priest's breastplate, which included an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond.

1. We should strive to be like precious gems in the eyes of God.

2. Through Jesus, we can become holy and precious in God's sight.

1. Exodus 39:11

2. 1 Peter 2:4-5 - "As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Exodus 39:12 And the third row, a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst.

Exodus 39:12 describes the third row of the high priest's garments as including ligure, agate, and amethyst stones.

1. The Power of Stones: Reflecting on Exodus 39:12 and the Significance of Each Stone

2. Clothe Yourself in Righteousness: Examining the Meaning of the High Priest's Garments

1. Ephesians 6:11-17 - Putting on the Armor of God

2. Isaiah 61:10 - Clothed in Righteousness and Salvation

Exodus 39:13 And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper: they were inclosed in ouches of gold in their inclosings.

The fourth row of Aaron's breastplate included a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper, set in ouches of gold.

1. The Valuable Jewelry of Aaron's Breastplate - A Message of God's Majesty

2. Adorning Ourselves with the Jewelry of the Spirit - An Invitation to Draw Near to the Lord

1. Romans 13:12 - "The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Exodus 39:14 And the stones were according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, every one with his name, according to the twelve tribes.

This verse from Exodus 39:14 describes the twelve stones on the breastplate of the High Priest, each stone engraved with the name of one of the twelve tribes of Israel.

1. The importance of honoring the names of the twelve tribes of Israel

2. The significance of wearing the breastplate of the High Priest

1. Genesis 35:22-26 - The 12 sons of Jacob, corresponding to the 12 tribes of Israel

2. Revelation 21:12-14 - The 12 foundations of the heavenly city, corresponding to the 12 tribes of Israel

Exodus 39:15 And they made upon the breastplate chains at the ends, of wreathen work of pure gold.

The Israelites crafted a breastplate for the High Priest with chains made of wreathen gold.

1. The beauty of holiness: Why we should prioritize the pursuit of purity.

2. The weight of responsibility: Examining the burden of leadership in the church.

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2. Isaiah 43:7 - Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Exodus 39:16 And they made two ouches of gold, and two gold rings; and put the two rings in the two ends of the breastplate.

Two ouches of gold and two gold rings were crafted and placed in the two ends of the breastplate.

1. The importance of adorning the soul with spiritual gold.

2. The relevance of the breastplate of the high priest to each of us today.

1. Proverbs 3:15 - "She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her."

2. 1 Peter 2:9 - "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

Exodus 39:17 And they put the two wreathen chains of gold in the two rings on the ends of the breastplate.

The two wreathen chains of gold were put in the two rings on the ends of the breastplate.

1. The Power of Chains: How to Transform Your Life with God's Blessing

2. The Significance of Jewelry: Using Gold to Represent Our Commitment to God

1. Exodus 39:17

2. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Exodus 39:18 And the two ends of the two wreathen chains they fastened in the two ouches, and put them on the shoulderpieces of the ephod, before it.

The two wreathen chains were fastened to the two ouches and put on the shoulderpieces of the ephod.

1. The Power of Small Decisions - How small decisions can have profound effects on our lives.

2. The Strength of Working Together - The importance of collaboration and unity in achieving our goals.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Exodus 39:19 And they made two rings of gold, and put them on the two ends of the breastplate, upon the border of it, which was on the side of the ephod inward.

The Israelites created two rings of gold and attached them to the two ends of the breastplate which was part of the ephod.

1. The importance of adorning ourselves with humility and grace.

2. The beauty of holiness and how it is reflected in our outward appearance.

1. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Exodus 39:20 And they made two other golden rings, and put them on the two sides of the ephod underneath, toward the forepart of it, over against the other coupling thereof, above the curious girdle of the ephod.

Two golden rings were placed on either side of the ephod beneath the curious girdle.

1. Faithfully Following God's Commands

2. The Value of Obedience

1. Mark 12:30-31 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

Exodus 39:21 And they did bind the breastplate by his rings unto the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it might be above the curious girdle of the ephod, and that the breastplate might not be loosed from the ephod; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The breastplate of the high priest was securely attached to the ephod with a blue lace to ensure it was held in place and not come off, as commanded by the Lord.

1. The Strength of the Lord's Covenant

2. The Power of Obedience in God's Commandments

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Exodus 39:22 And he made the robe of the ephod of woven work, all of blue.

This passage speaks of the robe of the ephod, which was made of blue woven work.

1. The Significance of Blue: Finding Purpose and Direction in Faith

2. Woven Work: How God Uses Our Strengths and Weaknesses for His Glory

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Exodus 39:23 And there was an hole in the midst of the robe, as the hole of an habergeon, with a band round about the hole, that it should not rend.

The robe of the priest had a hole in the middle, with a band around it to keep it from tearing.

1. The Strength of God s Protection

2. The Significance of Holes in the Bible

1. Ephesians 6:11-17 Putting on the full armor of God

2. Matthew 9:16-17 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and the tear is made worse.

Exodus 39:24 And they made upon the hems of the robe pomegranates of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and twined linen.

The Israelites made a robe with pomegranates of various colors and twined linen at the hem.

1. The Beauty of God's Clothes: A Reflection on Exodus 39:24

2. The Significance of Symbols: Exploring the Meaning of the Pomegranates in Exodus 39:24

1. Isaiah 61:10: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness."

2. Matthew 22:11-12: "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless."

Exodus 39:25 And they made bells of pure gold, and put the bells between the pomegranates upon the hem of the robe, round about between the pomegranates;

The robe of the high priest was designed with bells of pure gold and pomegranates.

1: We can learn from the design of the high priest's robe that the Lord treasures beauty and adornment.

2: The bells of pure gold and pomegranates on the hem of the high priest's robe remind us that God has given us everything we need to serve Him.

1: 1 Peter 2:9 - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

2: Psalm 133:2 - "It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!"

Exodus 39:26 A bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate, round about the hem of the robe to minister in; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The Lord commanded Moses to make a robe for the priests with bells and pomegranates around the hem.

1. The Lord's Commands: Obeying the Lord's Will

2. The Power of Symbols: Understanding the Significance of Bells and Pomegranates

1. Luke 6:46-49 - Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord', and not do what I tell you?

2. Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Exodus 39:27 And they made coats of fine linen of woven work for Aaron, and for his sons,

Exodus describes the making of coats of fine linen for Aaron and his sons.

1: God provides for His people and looks after their needs.

2: God desires us to be clothed in righteousness and holiness.

1: Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

2: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Exodus 39:28 And a mitre of fine linen, and goodly bonnets of fine linen, and linen breeches of fine twined linen,

Exodus 39:28 describes the garments and accessories worn by Aaron, the first High Priest of the Israelites.

1. The Power of Holiness: Aaron's Priestly Garments in Exodus 39:28

2. The Importance of Wearing the Right Garments: The Significance of Aaron's Priestly Attire

1. Leviticus 8:7-9 - And he put upon him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod upon him, and he girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him therewith.

2. Matthew 22:1-14 - And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son.

Exodus 39:29 And a girdle of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, of needlework; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The LORD commanded Moses to make a girdle of fine twined linen with blue, purple, and scarlet needlework.

1. The Beauty of Obedience: How following God's Commands brings us closer to Him

2. The Colors of Redemption: An Exploration of the Symbolic Meaning of Blue, Purple, and Scarlet

1. Colossians 3:12 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

2. Isaiah 11:5 - Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

Exodus 39:30 And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

The Israelites made a plate of pure gold and inscribed on it "HOLINESS TO THE LORD".

1. "The Power of Holiness: How to Live a Life Set Apart for the Lord"

2. "The Significance of the Crown: What Our Ultimate Allegiance Should Be"

1. Hebrews 12:14 - "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy. "

Exodus 39:31 And they tied unto it a lace of blue, to fasten it on high upon the mitre; as the LORD commanded Moses.

A blue lace was tied to the high mitre as commanded by the Lord to Moses.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God in Every Situation

2. The Significance of Colors in the Bible: Blue and Its Meaning

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Exodus 39:32 Thus was all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation finished: and the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did they.

The work of the tabernacle was completed by the Israelites following the Lord's commands.

1. The Lord's commands are to be obeyed.

2. We should be faithful in following God's instructions.

1. Deuteronomy 5:29 - "Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!"

2. James 1:22-25 - "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do."

Exodus 39:33 And they brought the tabernacle unto Moses, the tent, and all his furniture, his taches, his boards, his bars, and his pillars, and his sockets,

The people of Israel brought the tabernacle, its tent, furnishings, taches, boards, bars, pillars, and sockets to Moses.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Command

2. The Value of Working Together in Unity

1. Hebrews 13:20-21 Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2. Exodus 25:8-9 And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst. Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.

Exodus 39:34 And the covering of rams' skins dyed red, and the covering of badgers' skins, and the vail of the covering,

The Israelites used rams' skins dyed red, badgers' skins, and a vail as coverings for the tabernacle.

1. The Beauty of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Yields Magnificent Results

2. The Power of Red: How God Uses Color to Show His Holiness

1. Exodus 25:4 - And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats hair

2. Isaiah 64:6 - But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags

Exodus 39:35 The ark of the testimony, and the staves thereof, and the mercy seat,

The ark of the testimony, the staves and the mercy seat were made according to the instructions of the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Instructions Brings Blessing

2. The Mercy Seat: Finding Grace and Forgiveness in Our Lord

1. Deuteronomy 10:2-5 - And I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke, and you shall put them in the ark.

2. Hebrews 9:4-5 - Having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.

Exodus 39:36 The table, and all the vessels thereof, and the shewbread,

The Israelites made a table and its vessels to show the presence of the Lord in their midst.

1: "God's Presence - A Comfort in Times of Trouble"

2: "The Presence of God - A Blessing in Disguise"

1: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Exodus 39:37 The pure candlestick, with the lamps thereof, even with the lamps to be set in order, and all the vessels thereof, and the oil for light,

Exodus 39:37 highlights the importance of light and its vessels in the Tabernacle of Moses.

1: God's light will always lead us to the truth.

2: The importance of adhering to God's instructions in order to be filled with His light.

1: John 8:12 - Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2: Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Exodus 39:38 And the golden altar, and the anointing oil, and the sweet incense, and the hanging for the tabernacle door,

The passage speaks of the items used for the tabernacle in Exodus 39:38.

1: The Power of the Tabernacle: A Symbol of God s Faithfulness

2: The Meaning of the Tabernacle: A Picture of Salvation

1: Hebrews 9:1-10 Explaining the importance of the tabernacle as a symbol of God s covenant with His people

2: Exodus 25:8-9 Explaining the specifics of the tabernacle as a physical representation of God s presence.

Exodus 39:39 The brasen altar, and his grate of brass, his staves, and all his vessels, the laver and his foot,

The Israelites were instructed to make a bronze altar with its grating, staves, vessels, laver, and foot.

1: God's instructions to the Israelites in the Bible show us the importance of following His commands.

2: We can learn from the example of the Israelites to trust and obey God, no matter what He asks of us.

1: 1 Samuel 15:22 - "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice."

2: Hebrews 13:20-21 - "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Exodus 39:40 The hangings of the court, his pillars, and his sockets, and the hanging for the court gate, his cords, and his pins, and all the vessels of the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of the congregation,

This passage describes the hangings, pillars, sockets, cords, pins, and vessels used to build the tabernacle for the congregation in Exodus 39:40.

1. The Lord's Immeasurable Generosity - exploring how God provided the necessary materials to construct the tabernacle.

2. The Value of Unity - looking at how the tabernacle was the physical representation of God's people coming together.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:15 - Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Exodus 39:41 The cloths of service to do service in the holy place, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and his sons' garments, to minister in the priest's office.

This passage discusses the garments of service used by the priest in the holy place to serve in their office.

1. The Power of Priestly Service in the Holy Place

2. The Significance of Garments as Symbols of Duty

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Exodus 39:42 According to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel made all the work.

The children of Israel followed all the instructions that the Lord had given to Moses.

1. Obeying the Lord's Commands Brings Blessing

2. Trusting in the Lord Brings Fulfillment

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Exodus 39:43 And Moses did look upon all the work, and, behold, they had done it as the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses blessed them.

Moses acknowledged the Israelites' faithfulness in following God's commands.

1: God is worthy of our faithfulness.

2: We can trust in God's commands.

1: Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.

2: Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Exodus 40 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Exodus 40:1-15, God instructs Moses to set up the tabernacle on the first day of the first month the beginning of a new year. Moses is given specific details on how to arrange and place each item within the tabernacle. He sets up the ark of the covenant, covers it with the veil, and positions the table for showbread and the golden lampstand. He also places the altar of burnt offering in front of the entrance to the tabernacle.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Exodus 40:16-33 , Moses completes setting up various elements within and around the tabernacle. He erects a screen at its entrance and hangs curtains around its courtyard. Then he anoints these structures along with all their furnishings consecrating them for holy use. Moses washes Aaron and his sons at a bronze basin before dressing them in their priestly garments.

Paragraph 3: In Exodus 40:34-38 , once everything is properly arranged and consecrated, God's glory descends upon the completed tabernacle. A cloud covers it by day, signifying God's presence among His people, while at night, fire appears within that cloud a visible manifestation of His guidance. The cloud remains over the tabernacle throughout their journey in order to direct their movements.

In summary:

Exodus 40 presents:

Instructions given to set up tabernacle; specific placement of items;

Arrangement of ark, table for showbread, golden lampstand;

Positioning altar of burnt offering; completion on first day of new year.

Setting up screen at entrance; hanging curtains around courtyard;

Anointing structures and furnishings for consecration;

Washing Aaron and his sons; dressing them in priestly garments.

God's glory descending upon the completed tabernacle;

Cloud covering by day; fire within cloud at night;

Presence of cloud signifying guidance throughout the journey.

This chapter marks the culmination of the construction and consecration of the tabernacle. Moses follows God's instructions precisely, setting up each element according to divine specifications. He arranges the ark, table for showbread, golden lampstand, and altar of burnt offering. The surrounding structures are also established, including screens and curtains. Once everything is in place and anointed for consecration, God's glory manifests itself within the tabernacle a cloud by day and fire by night signifying His presence among His people. This visible manifestation serves as a guide throughout their journey in the wilderness.

Exodus 40:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving him instructions.

1. The Power of Obedience: Why We Must Follow God's Instructions

2. The Importance of God's Word: Learning from the Example of Moses

1. Joshua 1:8 - This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Exodus 40:2 On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.

God commanded Moses to set up the Tabernacle of the Tent of the Congregation on the first day of the first month.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: The Significance of the First Day of the First Month

2. Setting Up the Tabernacle: A Symbol of God's Presence With His People

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

2. Hebrews 9:11-12 - But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Exodus 40:3 And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony, and cover the ark with the vail.

Moses is instructed by God to place the Ark of the Covenant in the tabernacle and cover it with a veil.

1. "The Mystery of the Ark of the Covenant: A Study in Faith and Obedience"

2. "The Significance of the Veil in the Tabernacle"

1. Hebrews 9:4-5 - "For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood."

2. 2 Corinthians 3:16 - "But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away."

Exodus 40:4 And thou shalt bring in the table, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the candlestick, and light the lamps thereof.

The passage outlines the instructions for setting up the tabernacle in the wilderness.

1: Come to the Lord in Obedience and Faith

2: The Lord's Provision for His People

1: Matthew 7:21 - "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

2: 1 Chronicles 16:29 - "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

Exodus 40:5 And thou shalt set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the testimony, and put the hanging of the door to the tabernacle.

Moses was instructed by God to set up the altar of incense in front of the ark of the testimony and to hang up the door of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. The Spiritual Significance of the Tabernacle

1. Hebrews 9:2-4, For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22, And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice.

Exodus 40:6 And thou shalt set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.

Moses is instructed by God to build an altar of burnt offering outside the tabernacle.

1. The importance of making sacrifices to God

2. The significance of the tabernacle as a place of worship

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. Leviticus 1:3-4 - "If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD."

Exodus 40:7 And thou shalt set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and shalt put water therein.

The laver was to be set up between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and water was to be put in it.

1. Making Time for Prayer: The Importance of Pouring Water in the Laver

2. The Significance of the Laver in the Tabernacle of the Congregation

1. Isaiah 12:3 - "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

2. Jeremiah 2:13 - "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

Exodus 40:8 And thou shalt set up the court round about, and hang up the hanging at the court gate.

The Israelites are instructed to establish a court with a gate, hung up.

1: We can learn from the example of the Israelites to make sure that our lives have boundaries and security.

2: We can look to the passage of Exodus 40:8 to remind us to be diligent in establishing and protecting the boundaries of our lives.

1: Isaiah 33:20-22 - Look unto the Lord for security and protection.

2: Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the labor of the builders is in vain.

Exodus 40:9 And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that is therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy.

God instructs Moses to anoint the tabernacle and all its vessels with anointing oil to make them holy.

1: We must be devoted to God and consecrate ourselves to Him in order to be made holy.

2: Anointing with oil is a symbol of consecrating ourselves to God and dedicating all our actions to Him.

1: Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2: Colossians 3:12-14 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Exodus 40:10 And thou shalt anoint the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and sanctify the altar: and it shall be an altar most holy.

The Lord commanded Moses to sanctify the altar of the burnt offering and its vessels.

1. The Sanctity of Devotion- How obedience to God brings sanctity and holiness to our lives.

2. The Power of Sacrifice- How offering up our lives to God is a powerful act of devotion.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Psalm 4:5 - Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the Lord.

Exodus 40:11 And thou shalt anoint the laver and his foot, and sanctify it.

Moses was instructed to anoint the laver and its foot and serve as a sign of its sanctification.

1. The Significance of Sanctification in Everyday Life

2. Learning from the Example of Moses

1. John 17:17-19 "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth."

2. Hebrews 12:14 "Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord."

Exodus 40:12 And thou shalt bring Aaron and his sons unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and wash them with water.

God instructs Moses to bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tabernacle and wash them with water.

1. The Holiness of God and His Chosen Ones - Exodus 40:12

2. The Significance of Baptism in the Old Testament - Exodus 40:12

1. Ezekiel 36:25-27 - I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

2. Titus 3:5-6 - He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

Exodus 40:13 And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him; that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

Moses is instructed to clothe Aaron in holy garments and anoint him so he can serve as a priest to the Lord.

1. The High Calling of Priesthood - Exploring the significance of being anointed and consecrated to serve as a priest to the Lord.

2. The Power of Sacred Garments - Unpacking the meaning behind clothing oneself in holy garments and the power of spiritual clothing.

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

2. Hebrews 5:1 - For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

Exodus 40:14 And thou shalt bring his sons, and clothe them with coats:

The Lord instructed Moses to clothe the sons of Aaron with coats.

1. The Importance of Clothes: How Our External Appearance Reflects Our Internal Character

2. Living Out the Sacrificial Commitment of the Priestly Family

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.

2. Colossians 3:12-13 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Exodus 40:15 And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.

Moses is instructed to anoint Aaron's sons so they may serve as priests for the Lord, and their anointing will be an everlasting priesthood for their generations.

1. The Power of Anointing: How God Grants Us Eternal Purpose

2. The Priesthood: A Covenant of Service to God

1. 1 Peter 2:5-9 - You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood.

2. Hebrews 7:23-25 - And there are still many other priests, because they are prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

Exodus 40:16 Thus did Moses: according to all that the LORD commanded him, so did he.

Moses obeyed all of the Lord's commands.

1. Obedience Brings Blessings - Exodus 40:16

2. The Power of Following God's Word - Exodus 40:16

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God."

2. Joshua 1:7-8 - "Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

Exodus 40:17 And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up.

The tabernacle was erected in the second year of the Israelites' journey.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness in Obedience

2. Following God's Commands Despite Difficult Circumstances

1. Numbers 9:15-23

2. Hebrews 11:8-12

Exodus 40:18 And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars.

Moses set up the tabernacle as the Lord commanded.

1: We must obey the Lord's commands with faith and diligence.

2: Our lives should be built on the foundation of God's will.

1: John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2: Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Exodus 40:19 And he spread abroad the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above upon it; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses obeyed the Lord's command and spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent above it.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. Taking Action to Obey the Lord is Necessary

1. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2. Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Exodus 40:20 And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:

The Ark of the Covenant was placed in the Tabernacle, with the Testimony and Mercy Seat inside.

1. The Power of the Ark of the Covenant

2. The Importance of the Tabernacle

1. Hebrews 9:4-5, "which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;"

2. Exodus 25:10-16, "And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it, and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about. And thou shalt cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in the four corners thereof; and two rings shall be in the one side of it, and two rings in the other side of it. And thou shalt make staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold. And thou shalt put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, that the ark may be borne with them. The staves shall be in the rings of the ark: they shall not be taken from it. And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee."

Exodus 40:21 And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the vail of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses set up the Ark of the Testimony in the Tabernacle as instructed by the LORD.

1. Following God's Instructions - Obeying God in All Things

2. The Significance of the Tabernacle - Understanding the Meaning Behind the Design

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Exodus 40:22 And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward, without the vail.

Moses placed the table of showbread in the tent of the congregation, located on the northern side of the tabernacle.

1. God's Provision in the Wilderness: Finding Strength and Comfort in Times of Need

2. The Need for Obedience: Understanding the Importance of Following God's Commands

1. Matthew 6:11-13 - Give us this day our daily bread

2. Leviticus 24:5-9 - The Bread of the Presence and its Significance

Exodus 40:23 And he set the bread in order upon it before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Moses set the bread in order for the Lord according to the Lord's commandment.

1: We should strive to obey the Lord's commandments in all that we do.

2: We should be diligent in following the Lord's instructions even in the smallest of tasks.

1: John 14:15, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2: James 1:22-25, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Exodus 40:24 And he put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.

God commanded Moses to put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, opposite the table, on the south side of the tabernacle.

1. God s commands are to be followed faithfully

2. The importance of obeying God s word

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Matthew 7:21-22 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?

Exodus 40:25 And he lighted the lamps before the LORD; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses lit the lamps in the tabernacle according to the Lord's command.

1. Following God's Will: The Example of Moses

2. Obeying God's Commands: The Blessing of Obedience

1. John 15:14 - "You are my friends if you do what I command you."

2. Exodus 15:26 - "If you obey the Lord your God and carefully keep all his commands that I am giving you today, he will give you a place of honor among all the nations of the earth."

Exodus 40:26 And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation before the vail:

The golden altar was placed in the tent of the congregation before the veil.

1. God's Presence Requires Sacrifice - The importance of sacrificing for the presence of God.

2. Humility Before God - The need to come before God with humility and respect.

1. Leviticus 1:2-17 - The regulations for offering sacrifices to the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Drawing near to God through a sincere faith of the heart.

Exodus 40:27 And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses burned sweet incense as commanded by the Lord.

1. Trusting God in All Circumstances

2. Following God's Commands

1. Exodus 40:27 - "And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Exodus 40:28 And he set up the hanging at the door of the tabernacle.

Moses set up a hanging at the entrance of the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Taking Initiative - Exodus 40:28

2. The Significance of the Tabernacle - Exodus 40:28

1. Hebrews 9:2-3 - "For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence. Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place."

2. Exodus 25:8 - "And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst. According to all that I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it."

Exodus 40:29 And he put the altar of burnt offering by the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation, and offered upon it the burnt offering and the meat offering; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses followed the Lord's commands and set up the altar of burnt offering at the entrance of the tabernacle.

1. Obedience: The Power of Fulfilling God's Will

2. Sacrifice: Making Atonement Through Burnt Offerings

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commandments."

2. Leviticus 1:1-13 - "The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying, Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock."

Exodus 40:30 And he set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and put water there, to wash withal.

Moses set up a basin of water between the tabernacle and the altar for the purpose of washing.

1. The Significance of Washing- examining the symbolism and importance of washing as described in Exodus 40:30.

2. Cleansing and Purifying- reflecting on how water can be used to cleanse and purify us both spiritually and physically.

1. Psalm 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

2. John 13:10 Jesus said to him, He who has been washed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean.

Exodus 40:31 And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat:

Moses and Aaron, along with their sons, washed their hands and feet as a sign of obedience to God.

1: We must be obedient to the Lord if we are to receive His blessings.

2: Washing our hands and feet symbolizes our commitment to serve God.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: John 13:5-8 - After that he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Exodus 40:32 When they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses commanded that the Israelites wash themselves when they went into the Tent of Meeting and when they came near the altar.

1) The importance of following God's commands.

2) The power of obedience in our lives.

1) Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

2) 1 John 2:3-6 We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commandments. Whoever says I know him but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Exodus 40:33 And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.

Moses completed the work of setting up the court and the tabernacle of the Lord with the altar and the court gate.

1. The Holy Work of Moses: Completing the Tabernacle of the Lord

2. Living a Life of Service: The Example of Moses

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Exodus 25:8 - And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.

Exodus 40:34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

The glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle after the cloud covered the tent of the congregation.

1. The Imminence of God's Presence: Recognizing God's Glory in Our Lives.

2. The Cloud of Glory: Experiencing God's Presence in Our World.

1. Isaiah 60:19-20 - The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. Your sun will no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended.

2. Ezekiel 43:1-5 - Then he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east. And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw like the vision which I saw when I came to destroy the city. The visions were like the vision which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face. And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

Exodus 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

The cloud of the Lord's glory filled the tabernacle and Moses was unable to enter.

1: God's glory is so powerful that even Moses was unable to enter.

2: Even in the presence of God, we should remember to be humble.

1: Isaiah 6:5 - "Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

2: 1 Peter 5:5-6 - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

Exodus 40:36 And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys:

The cloud of the Lord lifted from the tabernacle, and the Israelites journeyed onward.

1. Letting Go of the Past and Moving Towards the Future

2. Delivering God's Promises in Unison

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Exodus 40:37 But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up.

The Israelites followed God's cloud to guide them on their journey.

1. God always provides guidance for our lives.

2. We should trust God's direction in our lives.

1. John 10:3-5 - He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Exodus 40:38 For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

The cloud of the Lord was a visible sign of His presence, and was on the tabernacle by day and fire by night, so that all the house of Israel could see it during their travels.

1. The Unfailing Presence: Finding Security and Comfort in God's Everlasting Faithfulness

2. The Pillar of Fire: How God's Love Guides Us During Our Life's Journey

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Leviticus 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 1:1-9, God speaks to Moses from the tabernacle and provides instructions regarding burnt offerings. He outlines the requirements for offering a male animal from the herd or flock without blemish as a voluntary burnt offering. The person bringing the offering is to lay their hand on the head of the animal, symbolizing identification and transfer of sins. The individual then slaughters the animal at the entrance of the tabernacle while Aaron's sons, the priests, sprinkle its blood on all sides of the altar.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 1:10-13 , specific instructions are given for presenting a burnt offering from flocks or birds. If it is a sheep or goat, it should be offered without blemish. The person bringing this type of offering slaughters it on one side of the altar while Aaron's sons sprinkle its blood around it. If they are presenting birds as an offering, they should bring turtledoves or pigeons.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 1:14-17 , further details are provided regarding burnt offerings brought by individuals who cannot afford larger animals. These individuals have an option to present birds instead turtledoves or pigeons as their sacrifice. The priest takes these birds and offers them at the altar by wringing off their heads and burning them on top of the burnt offering altar. The priest then drains out their blood against its side and removes their crops and feathers before disposing them outside camp.

In summary:

Leviticus 1 presents:

Instructions for voluntary burnt offerings;

Selection of male animals without blemish;

Laying hands on animal's head; identification and transfer of sins;

Slaughtering animal at tabernacle entrance; sprinkling blood on altar.

Specific guidelines for burnt offerings from flocks or birds;

Requirements for sheep or goat offerings without blemish;

Slaughtering on one side of the altar; sprinkling blood around it;

Option to bring turtledoves or pigeons as an offering.

Details regarding burnt offerings for those with limited means;

Presentation of birds turtledoves or pigeons as sacrifices;

Priest's actions: wringing off heads, burning on altar, draining blood;

Removal of crops and feathers before disposal outside camp.

This chapter focuses on the regulations surrounding burnt offerings as a form of worship in ancient Israel. God provides instructions through Moses regarding the types of animals that can be offered, emphasizing their unblemished nature. The process involves identification and transfer of sins by laying hands on the animal's head. The person bringing the offering is responsible for slaughtering it at the tabernacle entrance while priests handle the sprinkling of blood around the altar. Specific guidelines are given for different types of animals, including options for those who cannot afford larger animals to offer birds instead. These rituals highlight both purification and devotion to God through sacrificial acts.

Leviticus 1:1 And the LORD called unto Moses, and spake unto him out of the tabernacle of the congregation, saying,

The Lord called Moses to speak to him from the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. God calls us to come to Him, to seek His presence and counsel.

2. Obeying God is the path to living a life of joy, peace, and blessing.

1. Psalm 105:4 - Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually!

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Leviticus 1:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock.

God commands the Israelites to bring an offering to the LORD from their cattle, herd, or flock.

1. God's Command to Offer an Offering

2. The Value of Obedience to God

1. Ephesians 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

2. Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Leviticus 1:3 If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD.

A burnt sacrifice of the herd must be offered to the Lord at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the offering must be a male without blemish, given of the person's own free will.

1. The Power of Giving: Offering Voluntary Worship to the Lord

2. The Perfect Offering: Unblemished Sacrifices Before the Lord

1. Matthew 22:37-39 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Leviticus 1:4 And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.

The burnt offering is a symbol of atonement for sin.

1: We are reminded of the importance of repentance and forgiveness through the burnt offering.

2: Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is a perfect example of the atoning power of the burnt offering.

1: Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."

2: Matthew 26:28 - "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Leviticus 1:5 And he shall kill the bullock before the LORD: and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall bring the blood, and sprinkle the blood round about upon the altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The Lord requires the slaying of a bullock and the sprinkling of its blood around the altar.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning To Follow God's Commands

2. The Blood of Christ: Understanding the Great Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission"

2. Colossians 1:20 - "and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross"

Leviticus 1:6 And he shall flay the burnt offering, and cut it into his pieces.

An animal is to be sacrificed as a burnt offering and must be cut into pieces.

1. The importance of sacrifice and submission to God.

2. A reminder to be thankful and obedient to God.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Ephesians 5:2 - And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Leviticus 1:7 And the sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire upon the altar, and lay the wood in order upon the fire:

The sons of Aaron the priest are to put fire upon the altar and lay wood in order upon the fire.

1. Our Duty to Serve God and His House

2. The Call to Worship and Offer Sacrifice

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-7, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16, Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 1:8 And the priests, Aaron's sons, shall lay the parts, the head, and the fat, in order upon the wood that is on the fire which is upon the altar:

The priests, Aaron's sons, were instructed to place the parts, head, and fat of the offering in order on the wood on the altar fire.

1. Let us remember to make our offerings to God with order and arrange them in a way that honors Him.

2. The offering of our lives is pleasing to God when we are intentional with how we place our hearts before Him.

1. Proverbs 15:8 - The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Leviticus 1:9 But his inwards and his legs shall he wash in water: and the priest shall burn all on the altar, to be a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

The priest must wash the inner parts and legs of the sacrifice and then burn them all on the altar as a burnt offering to the Lord.

1. The Significance of Sacrifices in Worship

2. The Beauty of Obedience to God's Commands

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 1:10 And if his offering be of the flocks, namely, of the sheep, or of the goats, for a burnt sacrifice; he shall bring it a male without blemish.

A burnt offering to God must be a male without blemish from either a flock of sheep or goats.

1. The Symbolism of Sacrifice: Understanding God's Gift of Burnt Offerings

2. God's Perfection and Our Offerings: A Study of Leviticus 1

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Luke 2:24 - And to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Leviticus 1:11 And he shall kill it on the side of the altar northward before the LORD: and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall sprinkle his blood round about upon the altar.

The Lord commanded that an animal should be killed on the north side of the altar and its blood should be sprinkled around it.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How God Uses Our Obedience to Transform Lives

2. The Beauty of Holiness: How the Lord's Commands Point Us to His Character

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."

2. Colossians 1:19-20 - "For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven."

Leviticus 1:12 And he shall cut it into his pieces, with his head and his fat: and the priest shall lay them in order on the wood that is on the fire which is upon the altar:

An animal sacrificed to God should be cut into pieces with the head and fat being placed on the altar.

1. The Sacrifice of God: Understanding the Meaning of the Leviticus 1:12

2. The Significance of Animal Sacrifice in the Bible

1. Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Leviticus 1:13 But he shall wash the inwards and the legs with water: and the priest shall bring it all, and burn it upon the altar: it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

The priest is to burn a burnt offering on the altar, a sacrifice of sweet savor to the Lord, by washing the inner parts and legs of the offering with water.

1. The Holiness of Sacrifice: How God Calls Us to Offer Up Our Whole Selves

2. The Importance of Obedience: How Our Faithfulness Brings Sweet Savor to the Lord

1. Psalm 51:16-17 "For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

2. Romans 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 1:14 And if the burnt sacrifice for his offering to the LORD be of fowls, then he shall bring his offering of turtledoves, or of young pigeons.

This passage talks about the types of offerings that can be brought to the Lord, such as turtledoves or young pigeons.

1. The Importance of Sacrifice: An Exploration of Leviticus 1:14

2. Offering Ourselves to God: A Study of Leviticus 1:14

1. Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

2. Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Leviticus 1:15 And the priest shall bring it unto the altar, and wring off his head, and burn it on the altar; and the blood thereof shall be wrung out at the side of the altar:

The priest must bring a sacrificed animal to the altar, wring its neck, and burn its head on the altar. The blood of the animal must be wrung out at the side of the altar.

1. The Sacrifice of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. The Need for Reverence: Understanding the Holiness of the Lord's Altar

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Ezekiel 43:18-20 - This is what the Sovereign Lord says: These will be the regulations for sacrificing burnt offerings and sprinkling blood on the altar when it is built: You are to give a bull as a sin offering to purify the altar and cleanse it from the defiling effects of its desecration. Take some of the bull s blood, and put it on all the four horns of the altar and on the four corners of the upper ledge and all around the rim. Then you are to purify the altar by making atonement for it, and you will be clean.

Leviticus 1:16 And he shall pluck away his crop with his feathers, and cast it beside the altar on the east part, by the place of the ashes:

An animal offering to the Lord must be plucked and placed beside the altar on the east side.

1. Offerings of Gratitude: The Importance of Giving Thanks to the Lord

2. The Sacrificial System: Giving the Best of What We Have to the Lord

1. Psalm 50:14 - Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Leviticus 1:17 And he shall cleave it with the wings thereof, but shall not divide it asunder: and the priest shall burn it upon the altar, upon the wood that is upon the fire: it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

The priest is to take a sacrifice and cleave it in two, but not divide it asunder, and then burn it on the altar as an offering unto the Lord.

1. God's love and grace is revealed in the burnt offering.

2. The importance of offering sacrifice to the Lord with intention and devotion.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Isaiah 1:11 - What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

Leviticus 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 2:1-3, God instructs Moses regarding grain offerings. These offerings are made of fine flour mixed with oil and frankincense. The person presenting the offering brings it to the priests who take a portion and burn it on the altar as a memorial portion, producing a pleasing aroma to God. The rest of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and his sons, serving as their portion from the offerings made by fire.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 2:4-10 , specific instructions are given for different types of grain offerings. If the offering is baked in an oven, it should be unleavened bread made from fine flour mixed with oil or wafers spread with oil. If it is cooked on a griddle or pan, it should also be made without leaven and presented with oil.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 2:11-16 , additional guidelines are provided for grain offerings that include leaven or honey. These types of offerings are not to be burned on the altar but can still be presented as an offering to God. However, salt must always be included in these offerings as a symbol of covenant preservation. Furthermore, any firstfruits offered must also have salt added.

In summary:

Leviticus 2 presents:

Instructions for grain offerings fine flour mixed with oil and frankincense;

Priests taking a portion for burning on the altar;

Remaining portion belonging to Aaron and his sons.

Specific guidelines for different types of grain offerings baked or cooked;

Unleavened bread or wafers made from fine flour mixed with oil;

Requirement for inclusion of salt; prohibition against leaven or honey.

Guidelines regarding grain offerings with leaven or honey;

Prohibition against burning them on the altar;

Inclusion of salt and requirement for any firstfruits offered.

This chapter focuses on the regulations surrounding grain offerings as a form of worship in ancient Israel. God provides instructions through Moses regarding the ingredients and preparation of these offerings. The primary components are fine flour mixed with oil and frankincense, symbolizing dedication and a pleasing aroma to God. The priests receive a portion to burn on the altar, while the remainder becomes the portion for Aaron and his sons. Specific guidelines are given for different types of grain offerings, emphasizing unleavened bread made from fine flour mixed with oil or wafers spread with oil. There is also mention of grain offerings that include leaven or honey, which are not to be burned but can still be presented as an offering to God, always accompanied by salt as a symbol of covenant preservation.

Leviticus 2:1 And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon:

An offering to the Lord should include fine flour, oil, and frankincense.

1. The Faithfulness of Offerings: How God is Honored through Our Gifts

2. Abundance and Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of Giving

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Leviticus 2:2 And he shall bring it to Aaron's sons the priests: and he shall take thereout his handful of the flour thereof, and of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof; and the priest shall burn the memorial of it upon the altar, to be an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD:

A priest is instructed to bring a handful of flour, oil, frankincense, and other items to be burned as a sweet offering to the Lord.

1. The Sweet Aroma of Sacrifice: Understanding the Power of Offering

2. The Importance of Following God's Instructions in Leviticus

1. Psalm 141:2 - "Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Leviticus 2:3 And the remnant of the meat offering shall be Aaron's and his sons': it is a thing most holy of the offerings of the LORD made by fire.

The Lord's offerings of fire must be given to Aaron and his sons, and it is considered a holy thing.

1. The Holiness of God's Offerings

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

1. John 4:23-24 - "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Leviticus 2:4 And if thou bring an oblation of a meat offering baken in the oven, it shall be unleavened cakes of fine flour mingled with oil, or unleavened wafers anointed with oil.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to bring an offering of unleavened cakes or wafers made from fine flour mixed with oil.

1. The Lord's Commands: Obedience and Sacrifice

2. Offering Our Gifts to the Lord with a Pure Heart

1. Matthew 5:23-24, therefore if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16, Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 2:5 And if thy oblation be a meat offering baken in a pan, it shall be of fine flour unleavened, mingled with oil.

A meat offering should be made with fine flour unleavened, mixed with oil and baked in a pan.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

2. Living a Life of Holiness and Purity

1. Matthew 5:48 "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

2. Philippians 4:8 "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Leviticus 2:6 Thou shalt part it in pieces, and pour oil thereon: it is a meat offering.

God instructed Moses to prepare a meat offering in pieces and pour oil on it.

1. The Power of Obedience: Making Sacrifices for God

2. The Importance of Serving God with Holiness

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. John 4:23-24 - Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

Leviticus 2:7 And if thy oblation be a meat offering baken in the fryingpan, it shall be made of fine flour with oil.

This passage describes a specific type of meat offering, which is to be made of fine flour and oil, and fried in a pan.

1. The Power of Obedience: How following God's commands can bring us closer to Him.

2. The Offering of Self: How sacrificing our own desires can lead to a greater purpose.

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Leviticus 2:8 And thou shalt bring the meat offering that is made of these things unto the LORD: and when it is presented unto the priest, he shall bring it unto the altar.

The Lord commands that a meat offering be brought to the priest to be presented to the altar.

1. The Lord's Sacrifice: What We Can Learn from Leviticus 2:8

2. Obedience to the Lord's Command: The Meaning of Leviticus 2:8

1. Hebrews 10:5-7 - "Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Leviticus 2:9 And the priest shall take from the meat offering a memorial thereof, and shall burn it upon the altar: it is an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

The priest shall take a portion of a meat offering as a memorial and burn it on the altar as a pleasing offering to the Lord.

1. God desires a sweet-smelling offering - Leviticus 2:9

2. Offering ourselves to God - Romans 12:1

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leviticus 2:10 And that which is left of the meat offering shall be Aaron's and his sons': it is a thing most holy of the offerings of the LORD made by fire.

God commands that a portion of the grain offering be given to the priests as a holy offering.

1. Rejoice in the Holiness of God

2. Appreciate the Priesthood of Christ

1. Isaiah 6:3 - And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

2. Hebrews 8:1-2 - Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man.

Leviticus 2:11 No meat offering, which ye shall bring unto the LORD, shall be made with leaven: for ye shall burn no leaven, nor any honey, in any offering of the LORD made by fire.

The Lord requires that no offerings be made with leaven or honey.

1. The Significance of Leaven in the Bible

2. The Meaning Behind God's Commandments

1. Matthew 13:33 - He spoke another parable unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

2. Malachi 3:3 - He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

Leviticus 2:12 As for the oblation of the firstfruits, ye shall offer them unto the LORD: but they shall not be burnt on the altar for a sweet savour.

The oblation of the firstfruits should be offered to the Lord, but not be burned on the altar.

1. The importance of offering our firstfruits to the Lord

2. The significance of not burning the firstfruits as an offering

1. Deuteronomy 26:10 - And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O Lord, hast given me.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Leviticus 2:13 And every oblation of thy meat offering shalt thou season with salt; neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat offering: with all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt.

All offerings made to God should be seasoned with salt, as a sign of the covenant between God and his people.

1. The Salt of Covenant: Understanding the Significance of Salt in a Relationship with God

2. The Power of Offering: How Our Sacrifices Strengthen Our Relationship with God

1. Matthew 5:13 "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

2. Mark 9:49-50 "For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another."

Leviticus 2:14 And if thou offer a meat offering of thy firstfruits unto the LORD, thou shalt offer for the meat offering of thy firstfruits green ears of corn dried by the fire, even corn beaten out of full ears.

God instructs the people of Israel to offer their firstfruits to Him as a meat offering, using corn that has been dried by fire and beaten out of full ears.

1. The Biblical Call to Offer Our Firstfruits to God

2. The Power of Presenting God with Our Best

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God at the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

Leviticus 2:15 And thou shalt put oil upon it, and lay frankincense thereon: it is a meat offering.

This verse instructs the Israelites to offer a meat offering with oil and frankincense.

1. The Offering of Obedience: How Our Sacrifice Is an Act of Worship

2. The Gift of Fellowship: Understanding the Significance of Oil and Frankincense in a Sacrificial Offering

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Leviticus 2:16 And the priest shall burn the memorial of it, part of the beaten corn thereof, and part of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

The priest is to burn a portion of the grain offering, some of the oil, and all the frankincense as an offering to the LORD.

1. The Gift of Offering: Understanding the Significance of the Altar

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice: The Power of Obedience to God

1. Philippians 4:18 - But I have all and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Leviticus 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 3:1-5, God provides instructions for peace offerings, also known as fellowship offerings. These offerings are made from an animal either from the herd or the flock that is without blemish. The person presenting the offering lays their hand on the head of the animal at the entrance of the tent of meeting. They then slaughter it, and Aaron's sons sprinkle its blood on all sides of the altar.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 3:6-11 , specific guidelines are given for different types of peace offerings. If it is a sacrifice from the herd, it can be a male or female animal without blemish. If it is a sacrifice from the flock either sheep or goats it should also be without blemish.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 3:12-17 , further instructions are provided regarding how to present peace offerings to God. The fat surrounding certain organs the kidneys and fatty lobe attached to them is to be removed and burned on the altar as a pleasing aroma to God. The rest of the animal belongs to Aaron and his sons as their portion from these offerings made by fire.

In summary:

Leviticus 3 presents:

Instructions for peace offerings animal sacrifices without blemish;

Laying hands on animal's head; identification and transfer;

Slaughtering at tent entrance; sprinkling blood on altar.

Specific guidelines for different types of peace offerings herd or flock;

Requirement for animals to be without blemish;

Removal of fat surrounding kidneys; burning on altar as pleasing aroma.

Portion belonging to Aaron and his sons the rest of sacrificed animals;

Peace offering serving as an act of fellowship and communion with God.

This chapter focuses on the regulations surrounding peace offerings, also known as fellowship offerings, in ancient Israel. God provides instructions through Moses regarding the animals to be used for these sacrifices those without blemish from either the herd or the flock. The person presenting the offering lays their hand on the animal's head, symbolizing identification and transfer. After slaughtering it at the tent entrance, Aaron's sons sprinkle its blood on all sides of the altar. Specific guidelines are given for different types of peace offerings, emphasizing that they should be presented with animals that are without blemish. The fat surrounding certain organs is to be removed and burned on the altar as a pleasing aroma to God. The remainder of the animal becomes the portion for Aaron and his sons from these offerings made by fire. These peace offerings serve as acts of fellowship and communion with God, expressing gratitude and unity with Him.

Leviticus 3:1 And if his oblation be a sacrifice of peace offering, if he offer it of the herd; whether it be a male or female, he shall offer it without blemish before the LORD.

This passage describes a peace offering to the Lord, in which a male or female of the herd must be offered without blemish.

1. The Power of Offering: How Giving to God Brings Us Closer to Him

2. The Meaning of a Peace Offering: Understanding the Sacrifices of the Lord

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. James 1:2-3 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Leviticus 3:2 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about.

An offering is to be killed at the door of the tabernacle, and the priest shall sprinkle the blood of the offering around the altar.

1. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Exploring the Significance of the Offering in Leviticus 3.

2. The Power of Blood: How the Blood of the Offering is Used to Purify and Sanctify.

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Exodus 29:36 - And thou shalt offer every day a bullock for a sin offering for atonement: and thou shalt cleanse the altar, when thou hast made an atonement for it, and thou shalt anoint it, to sanctify it.

Leviticus 3:3 And he shall offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire unto the LORD; the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

The Lord demands that the fat of a peace offering be offered as a burnt offering.

1. God desires a sacrifice of our best to Him.

2. The Lord expects us to give Him our whole heart.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Leviticus 3:4 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away.

God instructed the Israelites to remove the two kidneys, fat, and caul from the sacrificial animal.

1. We must be willing to give of our best to God.

2. God's instructions are to be obeyed.

1. Philippians 2:17 - "Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all."

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Leviticus 3:5 And Aaron's sons shall burn it on the altar upon the burnt sacrifice, which is upon the wood that is on the fire: it is an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

Aaron's sons are to burn a burnt sacrifice on the altar, as an offering made by fire of a sweet savour to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Making Sacrifices to God

2. The Sweet Savor of Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Isaiah 1:11-14 - What are your multiplied sacrifices to me? says the Lord. I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed animals; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of he-goats. When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

Leviticus 3:6 And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering unto the LORD be of the flock; male or female, he shall offer it without blemish.

An offering of peace to the Lord must be an unblemished animal, either male or female, from the flock.

1. The necessity of offering perfect sacrifices to the Lord.

2. The importance of unblemished obedience to the Lord.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 10:1 - The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

Leviticus 3:7 If he offer a lamb for his offering, then shall he offer it before the LORD.

A lamb must be offered to the Lord as an offering.

1. The Lamb of God: Sacrifice and Redemption

2. Living a Life of Obedience to God's Will

1. John 1:29 - The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

2. Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Leviticus 3:8 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons shall sprinkle the blood thereof round about upon the altar.

Aaron's sons must sprinkle the blood of a sacrificial offering around the altar after it is killed and its head is placed upon the altar.

1. The Significance of Christian Sacrifice and Obedience

2. Offerings of Worship and How They Unite Us to God

Cross-

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Leviticus 3:9 And he shall offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire unto the LORD; the fat thereof, and the whole rump, it shall he take off hard by the backbone; and the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

The Lord's offering of the peace offering includes the fat, rump, and fat that cover the inwards.

1. Offerings of Sacrifice: How to Please the Lord

2. The Meaning of the Peace Offering: A Reflection in Leviticus

1. Isaiah 53:10-11 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

11 After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

2. Hebrews 10:1-4 The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. 2 Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. 3 But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. 4 It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Leviticus 3:10 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away.

God instructs the Israelites to remove the two kidneys, fat, and caul from a sacrificial animal.

1. The Holiness of Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of Leviticus 3:10

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following the Instructions of Leviticus 3:10

1. Leviticus 1:3-17 - Instructions on how to offer a burnt offering

2. Hebrews 9:13-14 - Jesus' perfect sacrifice on behalf of mankind

Leviticus 3:11 And the priest shall burn it upon the altar: it is the food of the offering made by fire unto the LORD.

The priest is commanded to burn the food offering given to the Lord on the altar as a sign of consecration.

1. Consecration: A Sign of Devotion

2. The Power of Sacrificial Offerings

1. Deuteronomy 12:11 - Thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, and thy sacrifices, and thy tithes, and heave offerings of thine hand, and thy vowed offerings, unto the LORD.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Leviticus 3:12 And if his offering be a goat, then he shall offer it before the LORD.

This passage from Leviticus 3:12 describes how a goat may be offered as a sacrifice to the Lord.

1: Offer our lives to the Lord in Sacrifice

2: Let us humbly come before the Lord

1: Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2: Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Leviticus 3:13 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of it, and kill it before the tabernacle of the congregation: and the sons of Aaron shall sprinkle the blood thereof upon the altar round about.

The sons of Aaron are to sacrifice an offering before the tabernacle of the congregation, and they are to sprinkle the blood of the offering around the altar.

1. The Power of Sacrifice- The importance of sacrificing to God and the power it holds for believers.

2. The Significance of Sprinkling the Blood- Exploring the meaning behind the ritual of sprinkling the blood and why it is important.

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Leviticus 3:14 And he shall offer thereof his offering, even an offering made by fire unto the LORD; the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

The offering of a sacrifice to the Lord must include the fat that covers the inwards and all the fat that is upon the inwards.

1. "The Significance of the Fat: A Study on Leviticus 3:14"

2. "Giving to God: The Meaning Behind an Offering"

1. Philippians 4:18 - "I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content."

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine."

Leviticus 3:15 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away.

The Lord instructs the Israelites to remove the kidneys, fat, caul, and liver of an animal when making a sacrifice.

1. The Lord's Sacrificial System - Understanding the Meaning Behind the Rituals

2. The Significance of Obedience - Applying the Laws of Leviticus Today

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

2. Deuteronomy 12:16 - "Only you shall not eat the blood; you are to pour it out on the ground like water."

Leviticus 3:16 And the priest shall burn them upon the altar: it is the food of the offering made by fire for a sweet savour: all the fat is the LORD's.

The Lord commands that all the fat from the offering made by fire be burned by the priest on the altar, as a sweet savour to the Lord.

1. The Sacrifice of Obedience: Living a Life of Surrender to God

2. The Power of Praise: How Giving Thanks to God Changes Our Lives

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Psalm 116:17 - I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

Leviticus 3:17 It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that ye eat neither fat nor blood.

This passage emphasizes the importance of abstaining from consuming fat and blood as part of a perpetual covenant between God and His people.

1. "Abstaining from Fat and Blood: A Covenant from God"

2. "Living a Covenant Life: Obeying the Commandment of Leviticus 3:17"

1. "For I am the Lord that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy" (Leviticus 11:45)

2. "And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt" (Exodus 12:13)

Leviticus 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 4:1-12, God provides instructions for sin offerings. The chapter begins by addressing unintentional sins committed by the anointed priest. If the priest sins and becomes guilty, he is to bring a young bull without blemish to the entrance of the tent of meeting. The priest lays his hand on the bull's head and slaughters it before sprinkling its blood seven times before the veil of the sanctuary.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 4:13-21 , specific guidelines are given for sin offerings made by the entire congregation of Israel. If they unintentionally commit a sin and become aware of it later, they are to bring a young bull as their offering at the entrance of the tent of meeting. The elders lay their hands on its head, and it is slaughtered before sprinkling its blood seven times before the veil.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 4:22-35 , further instructions are provided for individual sin offerings based on different roles within society. If a leader or ruler commits an unintentional sin, they are to bring a male goat without blemish as their offering. Similarly, if any common person commits such a sin, they are to offer either a female goat or lamb without blemish. In both cases, after laying hands on its head and slaughtering it at the tabernacle entrance, blood is sprinkled seven times before the veil.

In summary:

Leviticus 4 presents:

Instructions for sin offerings sacrifices for unintentional sins;

Anointed priest bringing young bull without blemish;

Laying hands on animal's head; slaughter; blood sprinkling.

Guidelines for sin offerings by the entire congregation of Israel;

Offering young bull at tent entrance; elders laying hands on its head;

Slaughter; blood sprinkling before the veil.

Instructions for sin offerings by leaders or common individuals;

Offering male goat or female goat, lamb without blemish, respectively;

Laying hands on animal's head; slaughter; blood sprinkling.

This chapter focuses on the regulations surrounding sin offerings in ancient Israel. God provides instructions through Moses regarding different scenarios where unintentional sins are committed. The anointed priest, if guilty of such a sin, is to bring a young bull without blemish to the tent of meeting. The congregation as a whole is also given instructions for their sin offering, involving a young bull brought to the tent entrance and involvement of the elders. Furthermore, specific guidelines are provided for individual sin offerings based on different roles within society leaders and common individuals each involving an appropriate animal sacrifice without blemish. In each case, after laying hands on the animal's head and slaughtering it at the designated location, blood is sprinkled before the veil as part of atonement for these unintentional sins. These sin offerings serve as acts of repentance and seeking forgiveness from God for transgressions committed unknowingly.

Leviticus 4:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses instructing him on the sacrifices to be made for unintentional sins.

1. The Importance of Atonement: Making Sacrifices for Unintentional Sins

2. The Power of God's Word: Obeying Instructions from the Lord

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Ezekiel 36:26-27 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Leviticus 4:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a soul shall sin through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and shall do against any of them:

The passage speaks about a soul sinning against any of the commandments of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

2. The Grace of God for When We Make Mistakes

1. Psalm 119:11 - I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

2. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Leviticus 4:3 If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering.

The Lord commands that if a priest sins, he must bring a young bullock without blemish to the Lord as a sin offering.

1: Jesus is our perfect sacrifice, and we do not need to bring animals to the Lord for our sins.

2: We are all sinners, and Jesus' sacrifice is the only way to be redeemed from our sins.

1: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leviticus 4:4 And he shall bring the bullock unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD; and shall lay his hand upon the bullock's head, and kill the bullock before the LORD.

The Lord commanded that a bullock be brought to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation and be slain as a sacrifice before the Lord.

1. "Sacrifice: A Requirement of Love"

2. "Living Sacrificially: A Way of Life"

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - "Jesus said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Leviticus 4:5 And the priest that is anointed shall take of the bullock's blood, and bring it to the tabernacle of the congregation:

The priest must bring the blood of a bullock to the tabernacle.

1: The importance of making sacrifices to God as commanded in the Bible.

2: The importance of following the Lord's commands and being obedient.

1: Hebrews 13:15-16, Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

2: 1 Samuel 15:22, And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

Leviticus 4:6 And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the LORD, before the vail of the sanctuary.

The priest was to dip his finger in the blood of the offering and sprinkle it seven times before the Lord in the sanctuary.

1. The Power of Blood: How Christ's Sacrifice Redeems Us

2. The Significance of Seven: Examining the Number's Biblical Relevance

1. Hebrews 9:12-14 - Christ's blood was sprinkled to provide eternal redemption.

2. Genesis 4:15 - God marked Cain with a sign of sevenfold vengeance.

Leviticus 4:7 And the priest shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which is in the tabernacle of the congregation; and shall pour all the blood of the bullock at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The priest is instructed to put some of the blood of the sacrifice on the horns of the altar of sweet incense, and pour the rest of the blood at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering which is at the door of the tabernacle.

1. The Significance of Sacrificial Blood in the Bible

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle: God's Dwelling Place on Earth

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."

2. Exodus 29:12 - "And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put it upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar."

Leviticus 4:8 And he shall take off from it all the fat of the bullock for the sin offering; the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

The bullock sacrificed for a sin offering must have all its fat removed.

1: Our sins are made known to us through sacrifice, and we must take all steps to remove them from our lives.

2: We must make a clear distinction between what is holy and what is not, and dedicate ourselves to the Lord's work.

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Leviticus 4:9 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away,

This passage from Leviticus 4:9 discusses the removal of the kidneys and fat from an animal sacrifice.

1. "Sacrifice: The Gift of Giving"

2. "The Meaning of Obedience in the Old Testament"

1. Hebrews 10:10, "And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

2. Philippians 4:18, "I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

Leviticus 4:10 As it was taken off from the bullock of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall burn them upon the altar of the burnt offering.

The priest must burn the parts taken from the bullock of the sacrifice of peace offerings on the altar of the burnt offering.

1. The Significance of Sacrifice: Exploring the Role of the Priest in Ancient Offerings

2. Offering Ourselves: The Meaning and Purpose of Holiness in Leviticus

1. Ephesians 5:2 - And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Leviticus 4:11 And the skin of the bullock, and all his flesh, with his head, and with his legs, and his inwards, and his dung,

This passage describes the parts of a bullock that are to be given to the priest as an offering.

1. The importance of being willing to give sacrificially to God.

2. God's plan of holiness and redemption through the sacrificial system.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Hebrews 9:11-15 - But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Leviticus 4:12 Even the whole bullock shall he carry forth without the camp unto a clean place, where the ashes are poured out, and burn him on the wood with fire: where the ashes are poured out shall he be burnt.

A whole bullock is to be taken out of the camp and burned on wood with fire at a clean place where ashes are poured out.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: A Study of Leviticus 4:12

2. The Significance of Burning Offerings: An Analysis of Leviticus 4:12

1. Hebrews 13:11-13 - "For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach."

2. Mark 9:43-48 - "If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched where Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched where Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire where Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched. "

Leviticus 4:13 And if the whole congregation of Israel sin through ignorance, and the thing be hid from the eyes of the assembly, and they have done somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which should not be done, and are guilty;

If the whole congregation of Israel sins in ignorance, and they have broken any of the LORD's commandments, they are guilty.

Best

1. A on the importance of following God's commandments, no matter how small.

2. A on the consequences of unintentional sin and how to avoid it.

Best

1. James 4:17: "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Proverbs 28:13: "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Leviticus 4:14 When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is known, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin, and bring him before the tabernacle of the congregation.

The Israelites are instructed to bring a young bullock to the tabernacle of the congregation to atone for their sins.

1. The Power of Atonement: Understanding the Significance of Sacrificial Offerings

2. Repentance and Forgiveness: The Importance of Acknowledging Our Sin

1. Hebrews 10:4-10 - For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

2. James 5:15-16 - And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 4:15 And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands upon the head of the bullock before the LORD: and the bullock shall be killed before the LORD.

The elders of the congregation lay their hands upon the head of a bullock before the Lord, and the bullock is then killed before the Lord.

1. The Atonement of the Lord: Sacrifices in the Old Testament

2. The Role of the Elders: Servants of the Lord

1. Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Leviticus 4:16 And the priest that is anointed shall bring of the bullock's blood to the tabernacle of the congregation:

The priest who is anointed must bring some of the bull's blood to the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Power of Blood: A Look at Leviticus 4:16

2. The Priestly Anointing: A Biblical Study of Leviticus 4:16

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

2. 1 Peter 1:18-19 - "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

Leviticus 4:17 And the priest shall dip his finger in some of the blood, and sprinkle it seven times before the LORD, even before the vail.

The priest must dip his finger in the blood of an animal sacrifice and sprinkle it seven times before the LORD.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Blood: The Significance of Atonement in the Bible

2. Understanding the Priestly Role: The Importance of Levitical Offerings

1. Hebrews 9:11-14 - Christ's Blood as the Perfect Sacrifice

2. Isaiah 53:10 - The Suffering Servant Who Bears Our Sins

Leviticus 4:18 And he shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar which is before the LORD, that is in the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Blood from a sin offering is to be put on the horns of the altar in the tabernacle of the congregation and poured out at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering located at the tabernacle's door.

1. The Power of the Blood of Jesus: How the Atonement of the Cross Redeems Us

2. The Tabernacle of the Congregation: Finding Refuge in God's Presence

1. Hebrews 9:11-12 - "But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption."

2. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."

Leviticus 4:19 And he shall take all his fat from him, and burn it upon the altar.

An animal offering to the Lord must have all of its fat burned on the altar.

1. The Importance of Offering to the Lord

2. The Significance of Fat in Sacrifices

1. Hebrews 10:10-14 - We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

2. Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it was the Lord s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

Leviticus 4:20 And he shall do with the bullock as he did with the bullock for a sin offering, so shall he do with this: and the priest shall make an atonement for them, and it shall be forgiven them.

This passage speaks of the offering of a sacrifice for atonement and forgiveness.

1. The Power of Atonement: Recognizing the Need for Redemption

2. The Gift of Forgiveness: Understanding God's Unconditional Love

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Leviticus 4:21 And he shall carry forth the bullock without the camp, and burn him as he burned the first bullock: it is a sin offering for the congregation.

A bullock must be carried outside the camp and burned as a sin offering for the congregation.

1. Jesus: The Ultimate Sin Offering

2. Understanding the Significance of Sin Offerings

1. Hebrews 9:12-14 - Christ entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

2. Isaiah 53:5-7 - But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Leviticus 4:22 When a ruler hath sinned, and done somewhat through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD his God concerning things which should not be done, and is guilty;

A ruler who has sinned unknowingly against the commandments of the Lord is guilty.

1. We Should Not Take God's Commands Lightly - Proverbs 14:12

2. Leadership Should Set an Example - 1 Peter 5:3

1. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2. Psalm 19:12-14 - Who can discern his errors? Acquit me of hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

Leviticus 4:23 Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish:

If a person sins and realizes it, they must bring a male goat without blemish for their offering.

1. Repentance is essential for reconciliation with God.

2. Acknowledging our sins is the first step to atonement.

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Psalm 32:5 - I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

Leviticus 4:24 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat, and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the LORD: it is a sin offering.

The sin offering must be slaughtered in the same place as the burnt offering before the Lord.

1. The Significance of the Sin Offering

2. The Consequences of Unconfessed Sin

1. Leviticus 6:25-26 - "Speak unto Aaron and to his sons, saying, This is the law of the sin offering: In the place where the burnt offering is killed shall the sin offering be killed before the LORD: it is most holy. The priest that offereth it for sin shall eat it: in the holy place shall it be eaten, in the court of the tabernacle of the congregation."

2. John 1:29 - "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

Leviticus 4:25 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out his blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt offering.

The priest is required to take the blood of the sin offering and apply it to the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the remainder at the bottom.

1. The Seriousness of Sin and the Atonement of Jesus

2. The Holiness of God and the Need for Repentance

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

2. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Leviticus 4:26 And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him.

The fat of a peace offering must be completely burned on the altar as an atonement for the person's sins, which will result in forgiveness.

1. The Power of Atonement: The Blessing of Forgiveness Through Sacrifice

2. The Significance of Peace Offerings: Making Amends with God Through Obedience

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

Leviticus 4:27 And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance, while he doeth somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and be guilty;

People of the common people can sin through ignorance if they violate any of the Lord's commandments.

1. The Power of Ignorance: How to Recognize and Avoid Sinning in Ignorance

2. The Consequences of Not Knowing: How Ignorance Can Lead to Sin

1. Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for them it is sin.

Leviticus 4:28 Or if his sin, which he hath sinned, come to his knowledge: then he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin which he hath sinned.

This passage from Leviticus 4:28 explains the sin offering that is to be brought to the Lord when a person's sin is discovered.

1. How to Bring Your Offering to the Lord: Leviticus 4:28

2. The Significance of a Sin Offering: What We Learn from Leviticus 4:28

1. James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Leviticus 4:29 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay the sin offering in the place of the burnt offering.

The sin offering must be slain in the place of the burnt offering, and the priest must lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering.

1. The Need for Atonement - How Atonement Brings Forgiveness and Restoration

2. The Power of Sacrifice - How Sacrifice Brings Us Closer to God

1. Isaiah 53:4-5 - Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Leviticus 4:30 And the priest shall take of the blood thereof with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar.

The priest is commanded to take some of the blood of the sacrifices and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offerings and pour out all of the remaining blood at the bottom of the altar.

1. The Significance of Blood in the Old Testament Sacrifices

2. The Significance of the Altar in the Old Testament

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

2. Exodus 24:8 - "And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words."

Leviticus 4:31 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat is taken away from off the sacrifice of peace offerings; and the priest shall burn it upon the altar for a sweet savour unto the LORD; and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and it shall be forgiven him.

The priest will take away all the fat of a peace offering and burn it on the altar as a sweet smelling offering to the Lord. This offering will act as atonement for the offender and will be forgiven.

1. The Power of Atonement: Examining the Role of the Priest in Leviticus 4:31

2. The Sweet Aroma of Forgiveness: A Study of the Peace Offering in Leviticus 4:31

1. Ephesians 1:7 - In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Leviticus 4:32 And if he bring a lamb for a sin offering, he shall bring it a female without blemish.

An offering of a lamb as a sin offering must be female and without blemish.

1. The Perfect Lamb: A Model for Our Perfect Sacrifice

2. Perfection in the Face of Sin: God's Grace and Mercy

1. Hebrews 9:14 - how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. 1 Peter 1:18-19 - knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

Leviticus 4:33 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay it for a sin offering in the place where they kill the burnt offering.

God commands that a sin offering be slain in the same place that burnt offerings are killed.

1. The Need for Atonement: Understanding the Significance of the Sin Offering

2. A Sacrifice of Love: Deeper Meaning in the Burnt Offering

1. Romans 3:24-26 - God's free gift of righteousness through Jesus Christ

2. Hebrews 9:22 - The necessity of Jesus' sacrifice for atonement for our sins

Leviticus 4:34 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar:

The priest was to take the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and then pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar.

1. The Blood of Jesus: Its Necessity and Significance

2. The Significance of Sacrifices in the Old Testament

1. Hebrews 10:4-14 - Explaining how the blood of Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament sacrifices.

2. 1 Peter 3:18 - Explaining how Jesus' sacrifice brought salvation for all.

Leviticus 4:35 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings; and the priest shall burn them upon the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: and the priest shall make an atonement for his sin that he hath committed, and it shall be forgiven him.

The priest is to take away all of the fat from the peace offering and burn it on the altar as an offering to the Lord. The priest will then make an atonement for his sins, and they will be forgiven.

1. The Power of Atonement Through Sacrificial Offerings

2. Forgiveness Through Obedience and Repentance

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Leviticus 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 5:1-13, God provides instructions regarding various offenses and the required sin offerings for their atonement. The chapter begins by addressing situations where someone fails to testify as a witness or becomes aware of an unclean matter but does not speak up. In such cases, they bear guilt and must confess their sin. The prescribed sin offering depends on one's economic status either a female lamb or goat for those who can afford it, or two turtledoves or pigeons for those who cannot. If someone is too poor to afford even birds, they may offer a tenth of an ephah of fine flour without oil or frankincense.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 5:14-19 , further guidelines are given regarding unintentional sins committed against holy things such as unknowingly touching something unclean or making an oath thoughtlessly. In these cases, the person is required to bring a guilt offering to the priest along with a ram without blemish from the flock. The priest will make atonement for them through the prescribed ritual.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 5:20-26 , additional instructions are provided regarding restitution offerings made by individuals who have wronged others through deceit or theft. If someone realizes their guilt in such matters, they are to restore what was taken plus an additional fifth and present it as a trespass offering to the injured party. They must also bring a ram without blemish as their guilt offering to the priest, who will make atonement for them before God.

In summary:

Leviticus 5 presents:

Instructions for sin offerings related to various offenses;

Addressing failure to testify or remain silent about unclean matters;

Prescribed offerings based on economic status lambs, goats, birds, flour.

Guidelines for guilt offerings concerning unintentional sins against holy things;

Requirement of bringing a ram without blemish along with guilt offering.

Instructions for restitution offerings related to deceit, theft;

Restoration of what was taken plus an additional fifth;

Presentation of trespass offering and ram without blemish as guilt offering.

This chapter focuses on different types of offenses and corresponding offerings required for atonement in ancient Israel. God provides instructions through Moses regarding situations where individuals fail to testify as witnesses or remain silent about unclean matters they bear guilt and must confess their sins accordingly. The prescribed sin offerings vary based on one's economic status a female lamb, goat if affordable, two turtledoves, pigeons if not, and fine flour if extremely poor. Guidelines are also given concerning unintentional sins committed against holy things touching something unclean unknowingly or making thoughtless oaths require bringing a ram without blemish along with a guilt offering. Additionally, instructions are provided regarding restitution offerings when individuals realize they have wronged others through deceit or theft they must restore what was taken plus an additional fifth and present both trespass and guilt offerings consisting of animals without blemish before the priest who makes atonement on their behalf.

Leviticus 5:1 And if a soul sin, and hear the voice of swearing, and is a witness, whether he hath seen or known of it; if he do not utter it, then he shall bear his iniquity.

This passage emphasizes that bearing false witness is a sin, and that individuals should not remain silent if they are aware of false information being spread.

1. "The Power of Bearing Witness" - Exploring the importance of speaking up in the face of falsehood.

2. "The Responsibility of Being Silent" - Understanding the consequences of remaining silent when one is aware of falsehood.

1. Proverbs 19:5 - "A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape."

2. Exodus 20:16 - "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."

Leviticus 5:2 Or if a soul touch any unclean thing, whether it be a carcase of an unclean beast, or a carcase of unclean cattle, or the carcase of unclean creeping things, and if it be hidden from him; he also shall be unclean, and guilty.

This passage discusses how an individual is considered guilty and unclean if they come into contact with unclean things, even if it is something hidden from them.

1. God's Holiness: Becoming Righteous Through Him

2. The Danger of Uncleanliness: A Warning to Stay Pious

1. 2 Corinthians 5:21 - For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leviticus 5:3 Or if he touch the uncleanness of man, whatsoever uncleanness it be that a man shall be defiled withal, and it be hid from him; when he knoweth of it, then he shall be guilty.

If a person is unaware that they have touched something unclean and then becomes aware of it, they will be guilty.

1. The Importance of Knowing What We Touch - Leviticus 5:3

2. Awake to the Uncleanness Around Us - Leviticus 5:3

1. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Ephesians 5:15-16 - See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Leviticus 5:4 Or if a soul swear, pronouncing with his lips to do evil, or to do good, whatsoever it be that a man shall pronounce with an oath, and it be hid from him; when he knoweth of it, then he shall be guilty in one of these.

If a person unknowingly makes an oath, either to do evil or good, they will be held accountable for their words once they become aware of them.

1. Be Mindful of Your Words - Proverbs 10:19

2. Speak Life into Your Circumstances - Romans 4:17

1. Proverbs 10:19 When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

2. Romans 4:17 as it is written, I have made you the father of many nations in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Leviticus 5:5 And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these things, that he shall confess that he hath sinned in that thing:

When someone is guilty of sin, they must confess it to God.

1: Confess Your Sins to God - Leviticus 5:5

2: Admit Your Wrong Doing - Leviticus 5:5

1: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2: James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Leviticus 5:6 And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD for his sin which he hath sinned, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats, for a sin offering; and the priest shall make an atonement for him concerning his sin.

The Lord requires a sacrifice for a sin offering to atone for an individual's sins.

1. The Need for Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of Atonement

2. The Meaning of Atonement: Why We Need to Make Reparations

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Hebrews 9:22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Leviticus 5:7 And if he be not able to bring a lamb, then he shall bring for his trespass, which he hath committed, two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, unto the LORD; one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering.

A person unable to bring a lamb as a trespass offering has the option of bringing two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the Lord, one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering.

1. The Significance of Sacrifices in the Bible

2. The Importance of Repentance in the Bible

1. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2. Isaiah 1:11-17 - To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

Leviticus 5:8 And he shall bring them unto the priest, who shall offer that which is for the sin offering first, and wring off his head from his neck, but shall not divide it asunder:

A person must bring an animal to the priest as a sin offering, and the priest must wring off the animal's head without severing it.

1. The Importance of Atonement for Sin

2. The Symbolism of the Sin Offering

1. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. Isaiah 53:5-6 - He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Leviticus 5:9 And he shall sprinkle of the blood of the sin offering upon the side of the altar; and the rest of the blood shall be wrung out at the bottom of the altar: it is a sin offering.

This passage describes the ritual of making a sin offering to God, in which the blood of the offering is sprinkled on the side of the altar and the rest is wrung out at the bottom.

1. The Power of Atonement: The Blood of Christ as Our Redeemer

2. The Significance of Sacrifices: How We Show Our Gratitude to God

1. Hebrews 9:14 - How Much More Will the Blood of Christ, Who Through the Eternal Spirit Offered Himself Unblemished to God, Cleanse Our Conscience From Acts That Lead To Death?

2. Isaiah 53:5 - But He Was Pierced For Our Transgressions, He Was Crushed For Our Iniquities; The Punishment That Brought Us Peace Was Upon Him, And By His Wounds We Are Healed.

Leviticus 5:10 And he shall offer the second for a burnt offering, according to the manner: and the priest shall make an atonement for him for his sin which he hath sinned, and it shall be forgiven him.

A person who has sinned must offer a burnt offering to make atonement for their sin and be forgiven.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Receive and Give Forgiveness.

2. The Cost of Sin: Understanding the Consequences.

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

2. James 5:16 - "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Leviticus 5:11 But if he be not able to bring two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, then he that sinned shall bring for his offering the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering; he shall put no oil upon it, neither shall he put any frankincense thereon: for it is a sin offering.

If a person cannot afford two turtledoves or two young pigeons for a sin offering, they can bring a tenth part of an ephah of fine flour instead, without any oil or frankincense.

1. The Power of Forgiveness in the Sacrificial System - Leviticus 5:11

2. The Value of Humility and Repentance - Leviticus 5:11

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

2. Isaiah 1:11-15 - "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?...Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies -- I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting. Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates; They are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing them."

Leviticus 5:12 Then shall he bring it to the priest, and the priest shall take his handful of it, even a memorial thereof, and burn it on the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: it is a sin offering.

This passage speaks about a sin offering that must be brought to the priest and burned on the altar.

1: The Lord desires a humble heart that is willing to repent and turn away from sin.

2: True repentance requires sacrificing of our pride and confessing our sins to the Lord.

1: James 4:6-10 God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Therefore, submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

2: Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leviticus 5:13 And the priest shall make an atonement for him as touching his sin that he hath sinned in one of these, and it shall be forgiven him: and the remnant shall be the priest's, as a meat offering.

A priest can make atonement for a person who has committed a sin and it will be forgiven. The remaining offering is given to the priest as a meat offering.

1. Atonement: The Power of Forgiveness

2. The Role of the Priest in Making Atonement

1. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 5:14 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God commanded Moses to speak to the people to provide instructions regarding restitution for unintentional sins.

1. The need to repent and make restitution for unintentional sins

2. The importance of seeking God's guidance when making decisions

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. James 4:17 - If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn t do it, it is sin for them.

Leviticus 5:15 If a soul commit a trespass, and sin through ignorance, in the holy things of the LORD; then he shall bring for his trespass unto the LORD a ram without blemish out of the flocks, with thy estimation by shekels of silver, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for a trespass offering:

A person who has unknowingly sinned against the Lord must bring a guilt offering of a ram without blemish, with a payment of silver.

1. The Importance of Atonement Through Guilt Offerings

2. Understanding Unknowing Sin and Its Consequences

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Leviticus 5:16 And he shall make amends for the harm that he hath done in the holy thing, and shall add the fifth part thereto, and give it unto the priest: and the priest shall make an atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering, and it shall be forgiven him.

The passage outlines how a person can be forgiven for wronging a holy thing, by making amends and adding a fifth part thereto, as well as giving it to the priest to make an atonement for him.

1. "Atonement: Sacrificing For Our Sins"

2. "Reconciliation: Making Amends Through Repentance"

Cross-

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

Leviticus 5:17 And if a soul sin, and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD; though he wist it not, yet is he guilty, and shall bear his iniquity.

This passage teaches that even if someone does not know that they are breaking God's commandments, they are still guilty.

1. We are held accountable for our actions, even if we are unaware of their moral implications.

2. We cannot hide from our responsibility before God.

1. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Leviticus 5:18 And he shall bring a ram without blemish out of the flock, with thy estimation, for a trespass offering, unto the priest: and the priest shall make an atonement for him concerning his ignorance wherein he erred and wist it not, and it shall be forgiven him.

A ram without blemish is to be offered to the priest as a trespass offering, which will atone for the person's ignorance and be forgiven.

1. Understanding Atonement: Exploring the Power of Forgiveness in Leviticus 5:18

2. The Blessing of Reconciliation: The Power of Repentance in Leviticus 5:18

1. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

2. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Leviticus 5:19 It is a trespass offering: he hath certainly trespassed against the LORD.

This passage emphasizes the importance of confessing and repenting of one's transgressions against God.

1: Confession is necessary in order to receive forgiveness from God.

2: Repentance is essential for walking in God's ways and staying in right relationship with Him.

1: Proverbs 28:13, "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

2: 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Leviticus 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 6:1-7, God provides instructions regarding trespass offerings. The chapter begins by addressing situations where someone commits a trespass against the Lord by deceiving their neighbor or withholding property entrusted to them. In such cases, they are required to make full restitution and add one-fifth of its value as a trespass offering. They are to bring a ram without blemish from the flock to the priest, who will make atonement for them.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 6:8-13 , specific guidelines are given for burnt offerings that are continuously maintained on the altar. The fire on the altar must never go out; it should be kept burning day and night. The priest is responsible for adding wood to the fire every morning and arranging burnt offerings on it. Any leftover ashes from previous burnt offerings are to be taken outside the camp.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 6:14-23 , further instructions are provided regarding grain offerings brought by priests. These offerings are considered most holy and must not be eaten by anyone except Aaron and his sons within the tabernacle area. A portion of each grain offering is burned as a memorial portion on the altar while the rest belongs to Aaron and his sons as their regular share from these offerings made by fire.

In summary:

Leviticus 6 presents:

Instructions for trespass offerings restitution plus one-fifth;

Requirement of bringing ram without blemish;

Atonement made by priest.

Guidelines for continuous maintenance of burnt offerings;

Fire on altar kept burning day and night;

Responsibility of priests in adding wood and arranging sacrifices;

Removal of leftover ashes outside camp.

Instructions regarding grain offerings brought by priests;

Considered most holy; exclusive consumption by Aaron's sons;

Burning memorial portion on altar; remainder belonging to priests.

This chapter focuses on various aspects related to worship practices in ancient Israel, including trespass offerings, maintenance of burnt offerings, and regulations concerning grain offerings brought specifically by priests.

God provides instructions through Moses regarding situations where individuals commit trespasses against others or deceive their neighbors they must make full restitution along with an additional one-fifth value added as a trespass offering consisting of a ram without blemish.

Specific guidelines are given for maintaining continuous burnt offerings the fire on the altar should never go out, with responsibility falling upon priests who add wood every morning and arrange sacrifices accordingly.

Furthermore, instructions pertain to grain offerings brought exclusively by priests these contributions are considered most holy and only consumed within the tabernacle area by Aaron's sons. A portion is burned as a memorial offering while the remainder serves as part of their regular share from these sacrificial acts made before God.

Leviticus 6:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses concerning the laws of burnt offerings.

1: God has given us laws to live by and we must honor them.

2: We must listen to God's commands and obey them.

1: Deuteronomy 6:2-3 "That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged."

2: James 1:22-23 "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass."

Leviticus 6:2 If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the LORD, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour;

When a person sins against God and lies to or deceives their neighbor, they have committed a trespass against the LORD.

1. The Power of Temptation and the Consequences of Sin

2. The Importance of Honesty and Trustworthiness

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Leviticus 6:3 Or have found that which was lost, and lieth concerning it, and sweareth falsely; in any of all these that a man doeth, sinning therein:

This verse speaks about the seriousness of lying and the consequences it brings.

1. The Power of the Tongue: How Lying Hurts Our Relationship with God

2. The Reality of Sin: Why We Must Repent for Our Lies

1. Colossians 3:9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices

2. James 3:6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

Leviticus 6:4 Then it shall be, because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found,

A person who has sinned must return what he has taken through violence, deceit, or has been given to keep, or a lost thing he found.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Let Go of Our Sins

2. The Blessings of Repentance: A Journey of Restoration

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

2. Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

Leviticus 6:5 Or all that about which he hath sworn falsely; he shall even restore it in the principal, and shall add the fifth part more thereto, and give it unto him to whom it appertaineth, in the day of his trespass offering.

In the event of a false oath, the guilty party must restore the stolen goods in the principal amount and add a fifth part more to the restitution.

1. Sin brings consequences - Leviticus 6:5

2. You reap what you sow - Galatians 6:7-8

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

2. Proverbs 6:30-31 - Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.

Leviticus 6:6 And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD, a ram without blemish out of the flock, with thy estimation, for a trespass offering, unto the priest:

A ram without blemish must be brought to the priest as a trespass offering to the Lord.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: A Study of Leviticus 6:6

2. The Significance of the Trespass Offering: An Analysis of Leviticus 6:6

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Leviticus 6:7 And the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD: and it shall be forgiven him for any thing of all that he hath done in trespassing therein.

The priest must make an atonement for the person's wrongdoing before the Lord, and the person's sins will be forgiven.

1. The Power of Atonement: How God Redeems Our Brokenness

2. The Mercy and Grace of God: Forgiveness for All Our Sins

1. Romans 8:1-2 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

2. Isaiah 43:25 I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Leviticus 6:8 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Instructions

2. Understanding the Power of God's Word

1. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

2. Joshua 1:8, "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Leviticus 6:9 Command Aaron and his sons, saying, This is the law of the burnt offering: It is the burnt offering, because of the burning upon the altar all night unto the morning, and the fire of the altar shall be burning in it.

This passage describes the law of the burnt offering, which was to be offered on the altar all night until the morning and the fire of the altar was to be kept burning.

1. The importance of offering our lives to God as a living sacrifice

2. The significance of fire in a burnt offering

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Leviticus 6:10 And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen breeches shall he put upon his flesh, and take up the ashes which the fire hath consumed with the burnt offering on the altar, and he shall put them beside the altar.

The priest is commanded to wear a linen garment and linen breeches while taking the ashes of the burnt offering and placing them next to the altar.

1. The Importance of Righteous Living;

2. The Power of Obedience.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God."

2. 1 John 3:22 - "And whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him."

Leviticus 6:11 And he shall put off his garments, and put on other garments, and carry forth the ashes without the camp unto a clean place.

God commands the priest to take off his garments, put on different clothes, and carry the ashes outside the camp to a clean place.

1. Living a Life of Holiness: The Significance of the Priest's Garments in Leviticus 6:11

2. The Power of Defilement and the Need for Cleansing in Leviticus 6:11

1. Matthew 5:48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Leviticus 6:12 And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it; it shall not be put out: and the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order upon it; and he shall burn thereon the fat of the peace offerings.

This passage speaks of the continual burning of the fire on the altar and the offerings the priest must make.

1: God desires our worship and offerings, and He desires us to be consistent in our offerings.

2: The Lord desires us to be faithful in our offerings, just as the priest had to be faithful in his offerings.

1: John 4:23-24 - "But the hour cometh, and now is, when true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

2: Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Leviticus 6:13 The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out.

The fire on the altar must remain burning and never go out.

1. The importance of keeping the fire of faith burning.

2. The power of eternal devotion.

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Leviticus 6:14 And this is the law of the meat offering: the sons of Aaron shall offer it before the LORD, before the altar.

The sons of Aaron are required to offer a meat offering to the Lord at the altar.

1. Offerings of Gratitude: Giving Thanks to the Lord

2. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God's Commands

1. Philippians 4:18 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Deuteronomy 28:2 - "And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God."

Leviticus 6:15 And he shall take of it his handful, of the flour of the meat offering, and of the oil thereof, and all the frankincense which is upon the meat offering, and shall burn it upon the altar for a sweet savour, even the memorial of it, unto the LORD.

The priest is commanded to take some of the flour, oil, and frankincense from the meat offering and burn it on the altar as a memorial to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Memorials: Remembering the Good Things God Has Done

2. The Priest's Role: Taking Part in the Sacrificial Offering

1. Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

Leviticus 6:16 And the remainder thereof shall Aaron and his sons eat: with unleavened bread shall it be eaten in the holy place; in the court of the tabernacle of the congregation they shall eat it.

The remainder of the offerings were to be eaten by Aaron and his sons with unleavened bread in the holy place.

1: We should always take the time to thank God for the blessings He bestows upon us.

2: It is important to recognize our responsibilities to God and be diligent in fulfilling them.

1: Deuteronomy 8:10-11 10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. 11 Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

2: Hebrews 13:15-16 15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. 16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Leviticus 6:17 It shall not be baken with leaven. I have given it unto them for their portion of my offerings made by fire; it is most holy, as is the sin offering, and as the trespass offering.

This passage explains that offerings made by fire to the Lord must not be made with leaven and are considered to be most holy, like sin and trespass offerings.

1. The Holiness of Offerings to God

2. The Importance of Heeding Leviticus 6:17

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 6:18 All the males among the children of Aaron shall eat of it. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations concerning the offerings of the LORD made by fire: every one that toucheth them shall be holy.

This passage speaks of the importance of upholding the laws of offerings to the Lord.

1. "The Power of God's Word: Abiding in His Commands"

2. "Living Set Apart: The Holiness of Following God's Will"

1. Isaiah 55:11- "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Hebrews 10:16- "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them."

Leviticus 6:19 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage discusses the Lord speaking to Moses about the Lord's commands.

1: Obey the Lord and His Commands

2: Listen to the Voice of the Lord

1: Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2: Joshua 1:7-8 - Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or discouraged for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Leviticus 6:20 This is the offering of Aaron and of his sons, which they shall offer unto the LORD in the day when he is anointed; the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour for a meat offering perpetual, half of it in the morning, and half thereof at night.

This passage describes the offering of Aaron and his sons to the LORD when he is anointed. The offering is a tenth part of an ephah of fine flour, to be offered half in the morning and half at night.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Will

2. The Beauty of Serving the Lord

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Matthew 4:19 - And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Leviticus 6:21 In a pan it shall be made with oil; and when it is baken, thou shalt bring it in: and the baken pieces of the meat offering shalt thou offer for a sweet savour unto the LORD.

A meat offering must be made in a pan with oil and then baked before it is offered to the Lord as a sweet savour.

1. The importance of a sweet offering to the Lord

2. The power of offering up something valuable to the Lord

1. Philippians 4:18 - "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."

2. Psalm 51:17 - "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."

Leviticus 6:22 And the priest of his sons that is anointed in his stead shall offer it: it is a statute for ever unto the LORD; it shall be wholly burnt.

The priest of the Lord s sons, who is anointed to take his place, must offer a burnt offering to the Lord as a permanent statute.

1. The importance of obedience to God s statutes.

2. Sacrificing for the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Leviticus 6:23 For every meat offering for the priest shall be wholly burnt: it shall not be eaten.

God commands that every offering to the priest must be entirely burnt, and not eaten.

1. God's Holiness & Our Obedience: Understanding the Commandment of Leviticus 6:23

2. The Priesthood of God: Learning to Give Our All to God

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - Isaiah s vision of the Lord in the temple

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, let us offer a sacrifice of praise to God continually.

Leviticus 6:24 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This chapter of Leviticus outlines laws and regulations concerning offerings and sacrifices to God.

This chapter of Leviticus outlines God's laws and regulations concerning offerings and sacrifices.

1) The Power of Obedience: A Study of Leviticus 6

2) The Rewards of Righteous Sacrifice: A Look at Leviticus 6

1) John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2) Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Leviticus 6:25 Speak unto Aaron and to his sons, saying, This is the law of the sin offering: In the place where the burnt offering is killed shall the sin offering be killed before the LORD: it is most holy.

The law of the sin offering is given to Aaron and his sons to be killed in the place of the burnt offering before the LORD.

1. The Holiness of the Sin Offering

2. The Cost of Atonement

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - "But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 10:1-4 - "For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins."

Leviticus 6:26 The priest that offereth it for sin shall eat it: in the holy place shall it be eaten, in the court of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The priest who offers a sacrifice for sins must consume it in a holy place within the courtyard of the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Atonement Through Sacrificial Offerings

2. The Duty of Holiness in Worship

1. Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

2. Hebrews 9:7 - But into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people.

Leviticus 6:27 Whatsoever shall touch the flesh thereof shall be holy: and when there is sprinkled of the blood thereof upon any garment, thou shalt wash that whereon it was sprinkled in the holy place.

God commands that any person or thing that comes into contact with the flesh of a sacrificed animal must be holy and any garments that are sprinkled with its blood must be washed in a holy place.

1. The Holiness of Sacrifices: Examining the Significance of the Laws of Leviticus 6:27

2. The Holiness of the Blood of the Sacrifice: Understanding the Meaning of Leviticus 6:27

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Leviticus 6:28 But the earthen vessel wherein it is sodden shall be broken: and if it be sodden in a brasen pot, it shall be both scoured, and rinsed in water.

This verse speaks of purifying vessels and utensils used in the offering.

1. The importance of purity and cleanliness in the offerings God desires.

2. The need to maintain both physical and spiritual cleanliness in our lives.

1. Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 6:29 All the males among the priests shall eat thereof: it is most holy.

Priests of the Israelite religion are commanded to eat from certain offerings that are considered most holy.

1. The Holiness of the Priesthood - Examining the spiritual requirements of those called to serve God.

2. Offering and Sacrifice - Exploring the importance of honoring God's commands and offering holy sacrifices.

1. 2 Corinthians 5:21 - For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2. Hebrews 8:3-4 - For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

Leviticus 6:30 And no sin offering, whereof any of the blood is brought into the tabernacle of the congregation to reconcile withal in the holy place, shall be eaten: it shall be burnt in the fire.

Any sin offering that involves the blood of the offering must be burned instead of being eaten.

1. The Need To Be Reconciled To God

2. The Significance Of Burning A Sin Offering

1. Hebrews 9:13-14 - For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. Daniel 3:27 - And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

Leviticus 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 7:1-10, God provides instructions regarding the guilt offering. The chapter begins by addressing situations where restitution is required due to a trespass against the Lord or an act of deceit towards one's neighbor. In such cases, a guilt offering is to be brought a ram without blemish and restitution must be made along with an additional fifth of its value. The priest makes atonement for the person presenting the offering.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 7:11-21 , specific guidelines are given for the peace offering. These offerings are voluntary acts of thanksgiving and fellowship with God. If someone wants to present a peace offering, they bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting and offer it before the Lord. The fat is burned on the altar as a pleasing aroma, while certain portions the breast and right thigh are given to Aaron and his sons as their portion from these offerings.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 7:22-38 , further instructions are provided regarding eating meat and handling blood. God commands that no fat or blood from any animal should be eaten these portions belong exclusively to Him and anyone who eats them will be cut off from their people. Additionally, guidelines are given for sharing portions of sacrifices with both Israelites and foreigners residing among them.

In summary:

Leviticus 7 presents:

Instructions for guilt offerings ram without blemish;

Restitution required; additional fifth added;

Atonement made by priest.

Guidelines for peace offerings voluntary acts of thanksgiving;

Offered at tent entrance; burning fat on altar;

Portions given to Aaron and his sons.

Prohibition against eating fat or blood;

Fat and blood belonging exclusively to God;

Sharing portions with Israelites and resident foreigners.

This chapter focuses on various aspects related to different types of offerings in ancient Israel, including guilt offerings, peace offerings, and regulations concerning eating meat.

God provides instructions through Moses regarding situations where individuals commit trespasses against others or deceive their neighbors a guilt offering consisting of a ram without blemish is required along with making restitution plus an additional fifth value.

Specific guidelines are given for voluntary peace offerings an act expressing thanksgiving and fellowship with God they are presented at the entrance of the tent of meeting before being offered before Him. Certain portions are burned as a pleasing aroma while others become part of Aaron's sons' portion from these sacrificial acts.

Furthermore, instructions pertain to dietary restrictions prohibiting consumption of fat or blood from any animal as these portions belong solely to God consuming them results in being cut off from their people. Additionally, guidelines address sharing portions with both Israelites and resident foreigners within their community as an expression of unity among those who participate in worship practices according to God's commandments

Leviticus 7:1 Likewise this is the law of the trespass offering: it is most holy.

The law of the trespass offering is most holy.

1: God's laws are always just and holy.

2: We must strive to live according to God's laws.

1: Matthew 5:17-20 - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

2: James 2:10-12 - For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty.

Leviticus 7:2 In the place where they kill the burnt offering shall they kill the trespass offering: and the blood thereof shall he sprinkle round about upon the altar.

In Leviticus 7:2, it is instructed that the trespass offering should be killed in the same place as the burnt offering, and its blood should be sprinkled around the altar.

1: Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice; His blood was shed for us and we can be forgiven of our sins.

2: We can be forgiven of our sins through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and can start anew.

1: Romans 3:22-25 - This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of God's glory.

2: Hebrews 10:11-14 - Every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.

Leviticus 7:3 And he shall offer of it all the fat thereof; the rump, and the fat that covereth the inwards,

The offering of the fat of an animal sacrifice to God was required.

1: God desires our sacrificial offerings with all our hearts.

2: God desires us to give our best to Him.

1: Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2: Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Leviticus 7:4 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, which is by the flanks, and the caul that is above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away:

This passage explains that the two kidneys, fat on them, caul, and liver must be taken away.

1. The importance of Holiness: Why we must take away the unclean parts of our lives.

2. God's provisions: How God provides cleanliness and righteousness through His commandments.

1. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Leviticus 7:5 And the priest shall burn them upon the altar for an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a trespass offering.

This passage describes the offering of the priest, which is to be burned upon the altar as an offering made by fire to the Lord.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How our Offerings Bring Healing and Hope

2. The Priesthood: A Calling to Serve and a Blessing to Receive

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Leviticus 7:6 Every male among the priests shall eat thereof: it shall be eaten in the holy place: it is most holy.

The priest must eat the holy offering in the holy place.

1: Through the holy offering, we can come closer to God.

2: Eating the holy offering is an act of holiness and reverence.

1: Matthew 22:37-38 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

2: Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leviticus 7:7 As the sin offering is, so is the trespass offering: there is one law for them: the priest that maketh atonement therewith shall have it.

The sin and trespass offerings have the same law, and the priest that makes the atonement receives it.

1. The importance of following God's law.

2. The power of atonement and forgiveness.

1. Matthew 5:17-18 Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

2. Romans 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Leviticus 7:8 And the priest that offereth any man's burnt offering, even the priest shall have to himself the skin of the burnt offering which he hath offered.

The priest who offers a burnt offering shall receive the skin of the offering as a reward.

1. God rewards His faithful servants.

2. The priest's faithfulness is rewarded.

1. Romans 8:17 - And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:9 - For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Leviticus 7:9 And all the meat offering that is baken in the oven, and all that is dressed in the fryingpan, and in the pan, shall be the priest's that offereth it.

This passage states that priests are to receive all meat offerings that are cooked in the oven, frying pan, and pan.

1: We must be generous with our offerings to those who serve God.

2: God expects us to give our best when we offer sacrifices to Him.

1: Ephesians 4:28 - Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

2: Philippians 4:18 - But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

Leviticus 7:10 And every meat offering, mingled with oil, and dry, shall all the sons of Aaron have, one as much as another.

All the sons of Aaron have an equal share in the offering of meat, whether it is mixed with oil or dry.

1. The Equality of All in God's Eyes

2. The Blessing of Unity in the Priesthood

1. Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Leviticus 7:11 And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the LORD.

This passage outlines the law for peace offerings made to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Offering Peace to the Lord

2. The Obedience of Following God's Laws

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Colossians 3:15 - "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

Leviticus 7:12 If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried.

This passage from Leviticus 7:12 outlines the type of food that should be offered for a thanksgiving sacrifice.

1. Giving Thanks: The Importance of Gratitude in Our Lives

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Why We Offer Gifts to God

1. Psalm 95:2 - "Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!"

2. Colossians 4:2 - "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving."

Leviticus 7:13 Besides the cakes, he shall offer for his offering leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings.

A sacrifice of thanksgiving must include leavened bread in addition to the cakes.

1. Thankfulness Leads to Sacrifice

2. The Power of Gratitude

1. Philippians 4:6 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

2. Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Leviticus 7:14 And of it he shall offer one out of the whole oblation for an heave offering unto the LORD, and it shall be the priest's that sprinkleth the blood of the peace offerings.

This passage describes the offering of a heave offering to the Lord by a priest, who will sprinkle the blood of the peace offering.

1. The importance of offering sacrifices to the Lord

2. Understanding the significance of the priest's role in the offering

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. Leviticus 1:4 - "And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him."

Leviticus 7:15 And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning.

The flesh of a peace offering for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day it is offered, and none of it should be left until the morning.

1. Living in Gratitude: Cultivating an Attitude of Thanksgiving

2. The Power of Giving Thanks: Why We Should Be Thankful for God's Blessings

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

2. Colossians 3:15-17 - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Leviticus 7:16 But if the sacrifice of his offering be a vow, or a voluntary offering, it shall be eaten the same day that he offereth his sacrifice: and on the morrow also the remainder of it shall be eaten:

The offering of a vow or voluntary sacrifice must be eaten on the day of offering and the remainder the following day.

1: What Do You Sacrifice?

2: Living a Life of Sacrifice

1: Hebrews 13:15-17 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name.

2: Philippians 4:18 - I have received full payment, and more; I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

Leviticus 7:17 But the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burnt with fire.

The flesh of a sacrifice must be burnt on the third day.

1. God desires that we give Him our best, even in our sacrifice.

2. The Lord is to be honored, not forgotten.

1. Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today

Leviticus 7:18 And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings be eaten at all on the third day, it shall not be accepted, neither shall it be imputed unto him that offereth it: it shall be an abomination, and the soul that eateth of it shall bear his iniquity.

The Lord commanded that if any of the flesh of the peace offering is eaten on the third day, the offering will not be accepted and the one who eats it will bear his iniquity.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Peace Offering in Leviticus 7:18

2. The Holiness of God: Revering the Lord's Commandments in Leviticus 7:18

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Romans 8:7 - "For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God s law; indeed, it cannot."

Leviticus 7:19 And the flesh that toucheth any unclean thing shall not be eaten; it shall be burnt with fire: and as for the flesh, all that be clean shall eat thereof.

The flesh of unclean things must not be eaten and must be burned; only the flesh of clean things may be eaten.

1. The Lord has commanded us to be clean and to abstain from unclean things.

2. God desires us to respect the boundaries He has set in regards to what we can and cannot eat.

1. 1 Timothy 4:4-5 "For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer."

2. Deuteronomy 14:8-9 "The pig is also unclean; although it has a split hoof, it does not chew the cud. You are not to eat their meat or touch their carcasses. They are unclean for you."

Leviticus 7:20 But the soul that eateth of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, that pertain unto the LORD, having his uncleanness upon him, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.

Eating the flesh of a peace offering that belongs to the Lord while being unclean will cause one to be cut off from his people.

1. Our God is Holy: What it Means to be Unclean and Why it is Important.

2. The Peace Offering: A Symbol of Our Relationship with God.

1. Psalm 24:3-4 Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? And who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

2. Isaiah 5:16 But the LORD Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will be proved holy by his righteous acts.

Leviticus 7:21 Moreover the soul that shall touch any unclean thing, as the uncleanness of man, or any unclean beast, or any abominable unclean thing, and eat of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which pertain unto the LORD, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.

A soul that touches any unclean thing or eats the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings to the Lord will be cut off from his people.

1. We must be pure and holy in our worship to the Lord.

2. The Lord is holy and requires us to be holy in all aspects of our lives.

1. 1 Peter 1:14-16 - As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

2. Matthew 5:48 - You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Leviticus 7:22 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage from Leviticus 7:22 details God instructing Moses about a particular instruction.

1. "The Obedience of Moses: An Example for Us All"

2. "God's Guidance: Learning to Follow His Instructions"

1. John 14:21 - "Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.

2. 2 Thessalonians 3:5 - "May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ."

Leviticus 7:23 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, Ye shall eat no manner of fat, of ox, or of sheep, or of goat.

God commanded the Israelites not to eat any fat from ox, sheep, or goat.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Lessons from Leviticus 7:23

2. Nourishing Our Faith with Obeying God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 12:15-16 - You may slaughter and eat meat within any of your towns, as much as you desire, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you. The unclean and the clean may eat of it, as of the gazelle and as of the deer. Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it out on the earth like water.

2. Proverbs 4:4 - He taught me, and said to me: Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live.

Leviticus 7:24 And the fat of the beast that dieth of itself, and the fat of that which is torn with beasts, may be used in any other use: but ye shall in no wise eat of it.

Fat from an animal that has died, or been killed by another animal, can be used for other purposes, but it is not to be eaten.

1. The Holiness of Life: How to Live According to God's Word

2. God's Commandments: The Importance of Keeping God's Laws

1. Deuteronomy 12:15-16 - "But you may slaughter and eat meat within any of your towns, as much as you desire, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you. The unclean and the clean may eat of it, as of the gazelle and as of the deer. Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it out on the earth like water."

2. Romans 14:17 - "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Leviticus 7:25 For whosoever eateth the fat of the beast, of which men offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, even the soul that eateth it shall be cut off from his people.

Eating the fat of the offering made by fire to the Lord will result in being cut off from one's people.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions in Obedience

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - "But if you will not obey the LORD your God by diligently observing all his commandments and decrees, which I am commanding you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you."

Leviticus 7:26 Moreover ye shall eat no manner of blood, whether it be of fowl or of beast, in any of your dwellings.

Eating any kind of blood is forbidden in the dwellings of the Israelites.

1. The Power of Obedience: Understanding and Following the Commandments of God.

2. The Sacredness of Life: How the Bible Teaches Us to Respect Animal Life.

1. Acts 15:20, But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.

2. Deuteronomy 12:16, Only ye shall not eat the blood; thou shalt pour it upon the earth as water.

Leviticus 7:27 Whatsoever soul it be that eateth any manner of blood, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.

Eating any kind of blood is forbidden and will lead to punishment from God.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Leviticus 7:27

2. The Importance of Following God's Laws - Leviticus 7:27

1. Acts 15:29 - "That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well."

2. Deuteronomy 12:16 - "Only ye shall not eat the blood; thou shalt pour it upon the earth as water."

Leviticus 7:28 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Word Brings Blessings

2. The Voice of the Lord: Learning to Listen to God's Guidance

1. Psalm 37:31 - The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Leviticus 7:29 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, He that offereth the sacrifice of his peace offerings unto the LORD shall bring his oblation unto the LORD of the sacrifice of his peace offerings.

This passage explains that those who offer a peace offering to the Lord must bring their offering to the Lord.

1. Offerings of Peace - The importance of offering your best to the Lord

2. Giving as an Act of Worship - A look at the act of giving as an act of worship

1. Philippians 4:18 - "I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Leviticus 7:30 His own hands shall bring the offerings of the LORD made by fire, the fat with the breast, it shall he bring, that the breast may be waved for a wave offering before the LORD.

This passage describes the manner in which offerings to the Lord should be made: with hands that bring the offering of fire, fat, and wave offering.

1. The Power of Offerings: How We Can Show Devotion through Giving

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following the Lord's Commands

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Leviticus 7:31 And the priest shall burn the fat upon the altar: but the breast shall be Aaron's and his sons'.

God commands that the priest burn the fat on the altar, but that the breast of the offering is to be given to the priest Aaron and his sons.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the Priest Aaron in Leviticus

2. The Importance of Giving: The Offerings of Leviticus 7:31

1. Hebrews 5:1-4 - Understanding the Role of the Priesthood

2. Deuteronomy 12:7 - Offering Sacrifices to the Lord

Leviticus 7:32 And the right shoulder shall ye give unto the priest for an heave offering of the sacrifices of your peace offerings.

The right shoulder of the sacrifice must be given to the priest as an offering.

1. The Sacrifice of the Righteous - Leviticus 7:32

2. Giving to the Lord - Principles of Sacrifice in Leviticus 7:32

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Philippians 4:18 - I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

Leviticus 7:33 He among the sons of Aaron, that offereth the blood of the peace offerings, and the fat, shall have the right shoulder for his part.

This passage explains that the priest who offers the peace offerings will receive the right shoulder of the offering.

1. The Power of Offering: How Giving Faithfully to the Lord Brings Blessing

2. The Priesthood: What it Means to Serve God and Represent Him to Others

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Leviticus 7:34 For the wave breast and the heave shoulder have I taken of the children of Israel from off the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and have given them unto Aaron the priest and unto his sons by a statute for ever from among the children of Israel.

The Lord has commanded that the wave breast and the heave shoulder of the peace offerings of the Israelites be given to the priest Aaron and his sons as an everlasting statute.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Faithfulness to His Promises

2. The Significance of the Priestly Sacrifice in Ancient Israel

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.

2. Hebrews 9:11-14 - But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Leviticus 7:35 This is the portion of the anointing of Aaron, and of the anointing of his sons, out of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, in the day when he presented them to minister unto the LORD in the priest's office;

This passage describes the anointing of Aaron and his sons as part of the offerings of the Lord.

1. The Power of Anointing: Understanding the Significance of God's Blessing

2. Promises of Abundance: How God Rewards Faithful Service

1. Psalm 133:2: "It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!"

2. Matthew 24:45-47: Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

Leviticus 7:36 Which the LORD commanded to be given them of the children of Israel, in the day that he anointed them, by a statute for ever throughout their generations.

God commanded the Israelites to give offerings to Him on the day he anointed them, and this was to be done forever.

1. The Importance of Obeying God s Commandments

2. The Blessing of Following God s Statutes

1. Deuteronomy 6:2 "You shall fear the LORD your God, you shall serve Him, and you shall hold fast to Him, and you shall swear by His name."

2. Philippians 2:8-9 "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name."

Leviticus 7:37 This is the law of the burnt offering, of the meat offering, and of the sin offering, and of the trespass offering, and of the consecrations, and of the sacrifice of the peace offerings;

This passage outlines the laws of various offerings and sacrifices to be made to God.

1. The Importance of Making Offerings to God

2. Sacrifice and Obedience to the Lord

1. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

Leviticus 7:38 Which the LORD commanded Moses in mount Sinai, in the day that he commanded the children of Israel to offer their oblations unto the LORD, in the wilderness of Sinai.

This passage describes the commandment given by the Lord to Moses to instruct the Israelites to offer their sacrifices to the Lord in the wilderness of Sinai.

1. Offer Praise to the Lord: A Study of Leviticus 7:38

2. Sacrifice: A Holistic Approach to Worship in Leviticus 7:38

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - God's instructions for offering sacrifices to Him

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Offering spiritual sacrifices to the Lord in praise and thanksgiving.

Leviticus 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 8:1-13, God commands Moses to consecrate Aaron and his sons for the priesthood. Moses gathers the entire congregation at the entrance of the tent of meeting and washes Aaron and his sons with water. He then dresses Aaron in the sacred garments, anoints him with oil, and consecrates him by offering various sacrifices. Moses also anoints the tabernacle and its furnishings with oil to sanctify them.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 8:14-30 , Moses carries out further instructions for consecrating Aaron and his sons. He brings a bull as a sin offering and a ram as a burnt offering on their behalf. The blood from these offerings is sprinkled on the altar, while certain portions are placed on their right ears, right thumbs, and right big toes to symbolize their dedication to God's service.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 8:31-36 , Moses instructs Aaron and his sons regarding their responsibilities as priests. They are to remain at the entrance of the tent of meeting for seven days while performing specific rituals of consecration. During this time, they must not leave or perform any other work but focus solely on fulfilling their priestly duties according to God's commandments.

In summary:

Leviticus 8 presents:

Command for consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests;

Gathering congregation; washing; dressing in sacred garments;

Anointing with oil; offering sacrifices; anointing tabernacle.

Instructions for further consecration of Aaron and his sons;

Bringing sin offering (bull) and burnt offering (ram);

Blood sprinkling; placing portions on ears, thumbs, big toes.

Instructions regarding responsibilities of priests;

Remaining at tent entrance for seven days;

Performing rituals without leaving or engaging in other work.

This chapter focuses on the process of consecrating Aaron and his sons as priests before God in ancient Israel.

God commands Moses to gather the entire congregation at the entrance of the tent of meeting where he washes Aaron and his sons with water before dressing Aaron in sacred garments. They are anointed with oil by Moses who then proceeds to offer various sacrifices to consecrate them.

Further instructions are given concerning additional offerings brought by Moses a sin offering (bull) representing purification from sinfulness and a burnt offering (ram) symbolizing complete dedication both offered on behalf of Aaron's family.

Additionally, guidelines are provided regarding specific rituals during a seven-day period when they must remain at the entrance without engaging in any other work but focusing solely on fulfilling their priestly duties according to God's commandments

Leviticus 8:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses was instructed by God to consecrate Aaron and his sons to the priesthood.

1. God has chosen us to be His priests, the ones through whom He works in the world.

2. We must consecrate ourselves to God and His service, allowing Him to use us for His purposes.

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

2. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Leviticus 8:2 Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the anointing oil, and a bullock for the sin offering, and two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread;

God instructs Moses to gather Aaron and his sons, garments, anointing oil, a bullock for the sin offering, two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread.

1. The Meaning Behind the Symbols: Examining the Significance of the Sacrifices in Leviticus 8

2. God's Call to Holiness: Understanding the Significance of the Anointing Oil

1. Exodus 28:2-3 - "And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him for my priesthood.

2. Exodus 29:7 - "Then you shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him."

Leviticus 8:3 And gather thou all the congregation together unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Moses assembled the congregation of Israel at the door of the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Assembly: Gathering Together for Strength and Unity

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle: A Place of Worship.

1. Acts 2:1-4 - The Promise of the Holy Spirit

2. Hebrews 10:19-25 - Drawing Near to God Through Jesus Christ.

Leviticus 8:4 And Moses did as the LORD commanded him; and the assembly was gathered together unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Moses followed the Lord's command and the people gathered together at the entrance of the tabernacle.

1. Obedience to God is essential for blessed living.

2. We must be willing to come together in unity to fulfill God's will.

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess."

2. James 2:17-18 - " So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

Leviticus 8:5 And Moses said unto the congregation, This is the thing which the LORD commanded to be done.

Moses instructed the congregation to do what the Lord had commanded.

1. The Power of Obedience

2. God's Call to Follow Him

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall therefore be careful to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that you shall possess.

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Leviticus 8:6 And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water.

Moses led Aaron and his sons to be washed with water to signify their consecration to the Lord.

1. Consecration: Dedicating Ourselves to the Lord

2. The Power of Water: Cleansing Ourselves for God

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. John 15:3 - You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

Leviticus 8:7 And he put upon him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod upon him, and he girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him therewith.

God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people is exemplified in the clothing of Aaron as High Priest.

1. God's Faithful Promise Fulfillment: An Examination of Leviticus 8:7

2. The Significance of Clothing in the Old Testament: A Study of Aaron's High Priestly Garment

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

2. Romans 4:20-21 - He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Leviticus 8:8 And he put the breastplate upon him: also he put in the breastplate the Urim and the Thummim.

The priest was instructed to wear the breastplate, which contained the Urim and the Thummim.

1. The Significance of the Priestly Breastplate

2. What the Urim and Thummim Teach Us About God

1. John 17:17 - Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

2. Exodus 28:15 30 - And thou shalt make the breastplate of judgment with cunning work; after the work of the ephod thou shalt make it; of gold, of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine twined linen, shalt thou make it.

Leviticus 8:9 And he put the mitre upon his head; also upon the mitre, even upon his forefront, did he put the golden plate, the holy crown; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses placed the mitre, the golden plate, and the holy crown on Aaron's head as commanded by the Lord.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Doing God's Will Brings Us Closer to Him

2. The Power of Crowning: How Our Achievements and Accomplishments are Recognized by God

1. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Leviticus 8:10 And Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein, and sanctified them.

Moses took the anointing oil and consecrated the tabernacle and all of its contents.

1. The Power of Anointing and Blessing

2. Consecrating Our Lives for God's Service

1. James 4:7-8 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

2. 1 John 2:15-17 - "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."

Leviticus 8:11 And he sprinkled thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels, both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them.

Moses anointed the altar and all its vessels, including the laver and foot, seven times to sanctify them.

1. The Power of Anointing: How Dedication to God Is Established

2. Sanctification: A Blessing from God

1. Matthew 3:16 - As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

2. Psalm 133:2 - It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes.

Leviticus 8:12 And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him.

Aaron was anointed with oil and was sanctified as part of the priestly ordination ceremony.

1. The Importance of Sanctification in Ordination

2. The Power of Anointing Oil in Priestly Service

1. John 15:3 - "Now you are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

2. Hebrews 5:4 - "And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron."

Leviticus 8:13 And Moses brought Aaron's sons, and put coats upon them, and girded them with girdles, and put bonnets upon them; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses put clothing on Aaron's sons as commanded by the Lord.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

2. Living in Obedience to God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Leviticus 8:14 And he brought the bullock for the sin offering: and Aaron and his sons laid their hands upon the head of the bullock for the sin offering.

Aaron and his sons offered a bull as a sin offering as commanded by God.

1. The Power of Sacrifice - How God calls us to give up something important for our sins.

2. The Blessing of Obedience - How following God's commands brings us closer to Him.

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."

2. John 1:29 - "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Leviticus 8:15 And he slew it; and Moses took the blood, and put it upon the horns of the altar round about with his finger, and purified the altar, and poured the blood at the bottom of the altar, and sanctified it, to make reconciliation upon it.

Moses performed a ritual to purify and sanctify the altar by pouring the blood of a sacrificed animal on the horns of the altar and at the bottom.

1. The Power of Atonement: Exploring the Ritual of Reconciliation

2. The Significance of Sacrifice in Biblical Times

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Hebrews 10:4 - For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Leviticus 8:16 And he took all the fat that was upon the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat, and Moses burned it upon the altar.

Moses burnt the fat from the inwards, caul, liver, and kidneys of a sacrificial offering on the altar.

1. The importance of sacrificial offerings in the Old Testament

2. The power of obedience to God's Will

1. Leviticus 8:16 - "And he took all the fat that was upon the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat, and Moses burned it upon the altar."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."

Leviticus 8:17 But the bullock, and his hide, his flesh, and his dung, he burnt with fire without the camp; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses was commanded by the LORD to burn the bullock, its hide, its flesh, and its dung with fire outside the camp.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Power of Obedience

2. The Significance of Sacrifice: What Does It Mean to Sacrificially Offer Something to God?

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

13 Know then that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - "you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Leviticus 8:18 And he brought the ram for the burnt offering: and Aaron and his sons laid their hands upon the head of the ram.

Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram for the burnt offering, as commanded by God in Leviticus 8:18.

1. The Significance of Laying Hands on the Offering: Leviticus 8:18

2. Aaron's Obedience to God: A Lesson from Leviticus 8:18

1. Exodus 29:15-22 - The instructions God gave to Moses regarding the consecration of Aaron and his sons as priests.

2. Hebrews 7:23-28 - The role of Jesus as our High Priest and the importance of His sacrifice.

Leviticus 8:19 And he killed it; and Moses sprinkled the blood upon the altar round about.

Moses sacrificed an animal and sprinkled its blood on the altar.

1. The signifiacne of sacrifical offerings in the Bible.

2. The power of God in the Old Testament.

1. Hebrews 10:11-14 - "And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Leviticus 8:20 And he cut the ram into pieces; and Moses burnt the head, and the pieces, and the fat.

Moses burnt the head, pieces, and fat of the ram sacrificed according to the instructions of God.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Power of Sacrifice

1. Ephesians 4:2 - with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Leviticus 8:21 And he washed the inwards and the legs in water; and Moses burnt the whole ram upon the altar: it was a burnt sacrifice for a sweet savour, and an offering made by fire unto the LORD; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses offered a burnt sacrifice to the Lord, which was commanded by the Lord.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Beauty of Sacrificial Offering

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. Psalm 51:16-17 - For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leviticus 8:22 And he brought the other ram, the ram of consecration: and Aaron and his sons laid their hands upon the head of the ram.

Aaron and his sons consecrated the ram by laying their hands upon its head.

1. The Power of Consecration

2. The Significance of Laying Hands on Something

1. Exodus 29:15-19 The instructions for consecrating the priests

2. Numbers 8:10-11 The importance of laying hands on the Levites for consecration.

Leviticus 8:23 And he slew it; and Moses took of the blood of it, and put it upon the tip of Aaron's right ear, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot.

Moses took some of the blood of an animal sacrifice and put it on Aaron's right ear, thumb, and great toe.

1. The Power of Blood: How Jesus' Sacrifice Gives Us Strength

2. Making Sacrifices: Understanding God's Will Through Obedience

1. Hebrews 9:22 - without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins

2. Romans 12:1 - offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God

Leviticus 8:24 And he brought Aaron's sons, and Moses put of the blood upon the tip of their right ear, and upon the thumbs of their right hands, and upon the great toes of their right feet: and Moses sprinkled the blood upon the altar round about.

Moses performed a ceremony on Aaron's sons, placing the blood of a sacrificed animal on the tip of their right ear, the thumbs of their right hands, and the great toes of their right feet. He also sprinkled the blood on the altar around it.

1. The Power of Symbolic Actions in Worship

2. The Significance of Blood in Worship

1. Hebrews 10:19-20 - Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Leviticus 8:25 And he took the fat, and the rump, and all the fat that was upon the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat, and the right shoulder:

Moses consecrated Aaron and his sons as priests by offering a sacrifice of the fat portions of the bull.

1. The power of consecration in our lives

2. The importance of sacrifice in our spiritual lives

1. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 8:26 And out of the basket of unleavened bread, that was before the LORD, he took one unleavened cake, and a cake of oiled bread, and one wafer, and put them on the fat, and upon the right shoulder:

This passage describes how Aaron laid the unleavened bread, a cake of oiled bread, and a wafer on the fat and the right shoulder of an animal as part of an offering to the Lord.

1. The Power of Offering: How Sacrificing Something of Value Can Lead to a Greater Blessing

2. Faithful Obedience: The Blessing of a Life Lived in Service to the Lord

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. Matthew 6:1-4 - "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly."

Leviticus 8:27 And he put all upon Aaron's hands, and upon his sons' hands, and waved them for a wave offering before the LORD.

Aaron and his sons were presented with offerings that were waved before the Lord as a sign of reverence and sacrifice.

1. The Power of Presentation: How to Respectfully Offer Ourselves to God

2. The Significance of Sacrifice: Recognizing the Value of Dedication

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Leviticus 8:28 And Moses took them from off their hands, and burnt them on the altar upon the burnt offering: they were consecrations for a sweet savour: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Moses took offerings from the people and burned them on the altar as a sweet-smelling offering to the LORD.

1. The importance of offering sacrifices to the LORD.

2. Giving back to the LORD with our material possessions.

1. Luke 19:8-10 - And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Leviticus 8:29 And Moses took the breast, and waved it for a wave offering before the LORD: for of the ram of consecration it was Moses' part; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses offered the breast of the ram of consecration to the LORD as commanded.

1. The Power of Obedience - How our obedience to God's commands demonstrates our faith in Him.

2. The Importance of Giving - How our sacrifice of gifts to God shows our reverence for Him.

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 8:30 And Moses took of the anointing oil, and of the blood which was upon the altar, and sprinkled it upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon his sons' garments with him; and sanctified Aaron, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him.

Moses sanctified Aaron and his family by taking the anointing oil and blood from the altar and sprinkling it on them and their garments.

1. The Power of Sanctification: How to Live a Set-Apart Life.

2. The Significance of Anointing in Biblical Times.

1. Hebrews 10:22 - Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

2. James 4:8 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Leviticus 8:31 And Moses said unto Aaron and to his sons, Boil the flesh at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and there eat it with the bread that is in the basket of consecrations, as I commanded, saying, Aaron and his sons shall eat it.

Moses instructed Aaron and his sons to boil the flesh and eat it with the bread from the basket of consecrations at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. A Model of Obedience: Aaron and His Sons

2. The Significance of Tabernacle Sacrifices

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Hebrews 10:1-2 - "For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?

Leviticus 8:32 And that which remaineth of the flesh and of the bread shall ye burn with fire.

The remainder of the flesh and bread offering must be burned with fire.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Giving Up What We Hold Dear Can Bring Us Closer to God

2. The Fire of Dedication: How We Can Purify Ourselves Through Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 32:35-36 - "To me belongeth vengeance and recompence; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. For the LORD shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

Leviticus 8:33 And ye shall not go out of the door of the tabernacle of the congregation in seven days, until the days of your consecration be at an end: for seven days shall he consecrate you.

God commanded the Israelites to stay in the Tabernacle for seven days in order to consecrate them.

1. Consecration: A Sign of Dedication to God

2. Accepting God's Will and Following His Commands

1. Psalm 15:4 - "In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not."

2. John 15:14 - "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."

Leviticus 8:34 As he hath done this day, so the LORD hath commanded to do, to make an atonement for you.

God commanded the people of Israel to make an atonement for their sins as a prophetic action for the atonement for all of mankind.

1: Redemption Through Atonement - The atonement of Jesus Christ is the ultimate redemption for mankind, and it is through His atonement that we are able to access the grace and mercy of God.

2: The Power of Atonement - Atonement is a powerful and necessary action that we must take in order to experience the fullness of God's grace and mercy.

1: Romans 3:25 - "God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement through the shedding of his blood to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished"

2: Hebrews 9:22 - "In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."

Leviticus 8:35 Therefore shall ye abide at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation day and night seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD, that ye die not: for so I am commanded.

In Leviticus 8:35, God commands His people to abide at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation for seven days and to keep His charge so they don't die.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. The Joy of Servitude: Reaping the Benefits of Faithful Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 5:29 - Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Leviticus 8:36 So Aaron and his sons did all things which the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

Aaron and his sons followed the instructions of the Lord given to Moses.

1. Obedience to God's commands is essential to living a life of faith.

2. God has given us specific instructions through His word that can be trusted.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - But Samuel replied: Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

Leviticus 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 9:1-14, Aaron and his sons carry out their priestly duties for the first time. Moses instructs them to take specific offerings a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering along with an offering of a second ram for consecration. The people gather at the entrance of the tent of meeting as Aaron presents the offerings before them. He and Moses go into the tent, come out, and bless the people. Then Aaron offers the sin offering, burnt offering, and peace offering on behalf of himself and the people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 9:15-21 , Aaron proceeds to offer additional sacrifices. He brings forward the people's offering a goat for a sin offering and presents it before God. Afterward, he offers another burnt offering from among the offerings required by God. Aaron lifts his hands toward the people and blesses them before descending from performing these priestly duties.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 9:22-24 , Moses and Aaron enter into the tent of meeting once again. They come out together to bless the people once more, after which God's glory appears to all present. Fire comes forth from God's presence and consumes the burnt offering and fat portions on top of the altar. The sight is met with awe by all who witness it.

In summary:

Leviticus 9 presents:

Aaron carrying out his priestly duties for first time;

Taking specific offerings sin, burnt, consecration;

Presenting offerings before people; blessing them.

Offering additional sacrifices goat, sin, burnt;

Presenting goat as sin offering before God;

Blessing people; descending from priestly duties.

Moses and Aaron entering tent of meeting together;

Blessing people once more; appearance of God's glory;

Fire consuming burnt offerings; awe-inspiring sight.

This chapter focuses on Aaron's initiation into his role as high priest in ancient Israel.

Following Moses' instructions, Aaron takes various offerings a young bull for a sin offering, a ram for a burnt offering, along with an additional ram for consecration and presents them before both God and the gathered congregation at the entrance of the tent.

Aaron carries out further sacrifices an additional goat offered as a sin offering on behalf of himself and then presenting another burnt sacrifice according to God's commandments.

Moses joins Aaron within in entering intothe tent multiple times throughout this process together they bless those present outside and upon their final exit accompanied by blessings,a miraculous event occurs when fire comes forth from God's presence consumingthe prescribed offerings atopthe altar an awe-inspiring manifestationof His glory that leaves everyone amazed

Leviticus 9:1 And it came to pass on the eighth day, that Moses called Aaron and his sons, and the elders of Israel;

On the eighth day of the Israelites' journey from Egypt, Moses called Aaron and his sons, as well as the elders of Israel, to gather together.

1. The Importance of Working Together as a Community

2. Building a Foundation of Faith in God

1. Exodus 19:3-6

2. Ephesians 4:1-4

Leviticus 9:2 And he said unto Aaron, Take thee a young calf for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering, without blemish, and offer them before the LORD.

Aaron was told by God to take a young calf and a ram, both without blemish, and offer them as a sin offering and a burnt offering before the Lord.

1. The Power of Offering: Recognizing God's Provision in Our Lives

2. Sacrificial Living: Taking up Our Cross and Following Jesus

1. John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 9:3 And unto the children of Israel thou shalt speak, saying, Take ye a kid of the goats for a sin offering; and a calf and a lamb, both of the first year, without blemish, for a burnt offering;

God commanded the Israelites to offer a goat for a sin offering, and a calf and a lamb for a burnt offering.

1. The Meaning of Sacrificial Offerings in Leviticus 9:3

2. The Significance of the Sin Offering in Leviticus 9:3

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

2. Isaiah 53:10 - "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand."

Leviticus 9:4 Also a bullock and a ram for peace offerings, to sacrifice before the LORD; and a meat offering mingled with oil: for to day the LORD will appear unto you.

On the day of the Lord's appearance, a bullock, a ram, and a meat offering mixed with oil were sacrificed to the Lord.

1. The power of sacrifice in the Lord's presence.

2. How the Lord's appearance changes our offerings.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Isaiah 1:11 - "What are your multiplied sacrifices to me?" says the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed animals; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats."

Leviticus 9:5 And they brought that which Moses commanded before the tabernacle of the congregation: and all the congregation drew near and stood before the LORD.

The congregation brought the offerings commanded by Moses to the Tabernacle of the Congregation and they all drew near and stood before the LORD.

1. Drawing Near to the Lord - Practicing presence and connecting with God through prayer and worship.

2. Making Offerings to the Lord - Giving of ourselves to God through sacrificial offerings.

1. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Leviticus 9:6 And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD commanded that ye should do: and the glory of the LORD shall appear unto you.

Moses instructs the people to do as the Lord commanded and the glory of the Lord will be revealed to them.

1: Obey the Lord and His Glory will be Revealed

2: Living a Godly Life Brings the Lord's Glory

1: Deuteronomy 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

2: 2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Leviticus 9:7 And Moses said unto Aaron, Go unto the altar, and offer thy sin offering, and thy burnt offering, and make an atonement for thyself, and for the people: and offer the offering of the people, and make an atonement for them; as the LORD commanded.

Moses instructed Aaron to offer a sin offering, burnt offering, and atonement for himself and the people in accordance with the Lord's command.

1. The Power of Atonement - How sacrificing for others enables us to receive God's forgiveness.

2. The Importance of Obedience - Why following God's commands brings us closer to Him.

1. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Leviticus 9:8 Aaron therefore went unto the altar, and slew the calf of the sin offering, which was for himself.

Aaron offered the calf of the sin offering as a sign of repentance.

1: Repentance leads to forgiveness.

2: We can find redemption through humility.

1: Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2: Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

Leviticus 9:9 And the sons of Aaron brought the blood unto him: and he dipped his finger in the blood, and put it upon the horns of the altar, and poured out the blood at the bottom of the altar:

Aaron's sons brought the blood to him and he put it on the horns of the altar and poured the remaining at the bottom.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The power of faith in action.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

2. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Leviticus 9:10 But the fat, and the kidneys, and the caul above the liver of the sin offering, he burnt upon the altar; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses followed the Lord's command and offered a sin offering, burning the fat, kidneys, and caul above the liver of the offering on the altar.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands can result in blessings.

2. The Significance of Sacrifice - The importance of offering our very best to God.

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 9:11 And the flesh and the hide he burnt with fire without the camp.

The flesh and hide of the sin offering were burned with fire outside the camp.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Understanding the Significance of the Sin Offering

2. The Holiness of God: His Requirements for Atonement

1. Hebrews 13:11-13 - The High Priesthood of Jesus Christ

2. Romans 12:1-2 - The Power of Living a Life as a Living Sacrifice to God

Leviticus 9:12 And he slew the burnt offering; and Aaron's sons presented unto him the blood, which he sprinkled round about upon the altar.

Aaron's sons presented the blood of the burnt offering to Aaron, who sprinkled it around the altar.

1. The importance of offering sacrifices to God according to His will.

2. The power of obedience to God's commands.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 9:13 And they presented the burnt offering unto him, with the pieces thereof, and the head: and he burnt them upon the altar.

The burnt offering was presented to God with the pieces and the head, and then burnt on the altar.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever - The burnt offering is a reminder of God's mercy and how it lasts forever.

2. Surrender to the Will of God - We can learn to surrender to God's will through offering a burnt offering.

1. Leviticus 9:13 - And they presented the burnt offering unto him, with the pieces thereof, and the head: and he burnt them upon the altar.

2. Psalm 107:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leviticus 9:14 And he did wash the inwards and the legs, and burnt them upon the burnt offering on the altar.

Aaron offered a burnt offering to the Lord and washed the inwards and the legs of the offering before burning them on the altar.

1. The importance of offering worship to God with a pure heart and a willing spirit.

2. The need to offer our best to God, even when it requires hard work.

1. Psalm 51:17 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Romans 12:1 "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

Leviticus 9:15 And he brought the people's offering, and took the goat, which was the sin offering for the people, and slew it, and offered it for sin, as the first.

The people of Israel were instructed to bring an offering to the Lord and a goat was sacrificed as a sin offering.

1. The Significance of the Sin Offering: Exploring the Meaning of Sacrifice in the Old Testament

2. A Heart of Worship: Understanding the Importance of Obedience to God

1. Hebrews 10:1-4 - "For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Leviticus 9:16 And he brought the burnt offering, and offered it according to the manner.

Aaron offered a burnt offering according to the manner prescribed in Leviticus 9:16.

1. The Power of Obedience: How following God's instructions can bring blessings.

2. The Purpose of Sacrifice: Understanding why God requires us to make sacrifices.

1. Galatians 5:13-14 - "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2. 1 Peter 2:4-5 - As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Leviticus 9:17 And he brought the meat offering, and took an handful thereof, and burnt it upon the altar, beside the burnt sacrifice of the morning.

Aaron offered a meat offering to the Lord beside the burnt sacrifices of the morning.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Learning to Offer Ourselves to God

2. The Heart of Worship: Demonstrating Our Love for God Through Obedience

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 9:18 He slew also the bullock and the ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings, which was for the people: and Aaron's sons presented unto him the blood, which he sprinkled upon the altar round about,

Aaron's sons presented the blood of the bullock and ram to him, which he sprinkled on the altar as a peace offering for the people.

1. The Importance of Peace Offerings

2. The Meaning of Sacrifices in the Bible

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Leviticus 9:19 And the fat of the bullock and of the ram, the rump, and that which covereth the inwards, and the kidneys, and the caul above the liver:

The Lord commanded the Israelites to offer the fat of a bullock and a ram, including the rump, the inwards, the kidneys, and the caul above the liver.

1. The Importance of Obedience: What the Lord Asked of the Israelites

2. Offerings of Sacrifice: A Sign of Devotion and Faithfulness

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Leviticus 9:20 And they put the fat upon the breasts, and he burnt the fat upon the altar:

The priests burnt the fat of the offerings on the altar to the Lord.

1: Doing God's Will - We can show our devotion to God by willingly offering our best to Him.

2: A Heart of Obedience - We must be willing to give our all to the Lord and demonstrate our obedience in all things.

1: Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

2: Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Leviticus 9:21 And the breasts and the right shoulder Aaron waved for a wave offering before the LORD; as Moses commanded.

Aaron offered a wave offering to the Lord as commanded by Moses.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Aaron's Example

2. The Sacrifice of Surrender: What We Can Learn from Aaron's Wave Offering

1. John 14:15, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Colossians 3:23, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

Leviticus 9:22 And Aaron lifted up his hand toward the people, and blessed them, and came down from offering of the sin offering, and the burnt offering, and peace offerings.

Aaron lifted his hand to the people and blessed them after offering the sin offering, burnt offering and peace offerings.

1. The Power of Blessing - How God's blessings can impact our lives.

2. The Importance of Sacrifice - Why giving up something to God is essential for our spiritual growth.

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Leviticus 9:23 And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people.

Moses and Aaron entered the tabernacle of the congregation and came out and blessed the people, and the glory of the Lord was seen by all.

1. The Power of Blessing: How God's Blessing Brings His Glory

2. Following God's Call: Obedience and Service to the Lord

1. Psalm 67:1-2 "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations."

2. 2 Corinthians 3:18 "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."

Leviticus 9:24 And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.

The people shouted and fell on their faces when a fire came from the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and fat on the altar.

1. The Lord's Presence is Powerful and Worthy of Our Respect

2. Sacrifice as an Act of Worship

1. Isaiah 6:1-3 - In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2. Psalm 99:1-5 - The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble; he sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake.

Leviticus 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 10:1-7 tells the story of Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, who made an error by offering unauthorized fire before the Lord. This was a violation of God's commandments. As a consequence of their transgression, fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, leading to their immediate death. Moses then instructs Aaron and his other sons not to show any outward signs of mourning for Nadab and Abihu so as not to defile themselves or the entire congregation.

Paragraph 2: In Leviticus 10:8-11 , God gives specific instructions to Aaron about his priestly duties. He is commanded not to drink wine or any other fermented drink when he enters the tent of meeting so that he can distinguish between what is holy and what is common, between what is clean and unclean. This instruction underscores the importance of priests being clear-minded when performing their duties.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 10:12-20 , Moses gives additional instructions about offerings to Aaron and his remaining sons Eleazar and Ithamar. There are specific regulations regarding grain offerings that are part of a fellowship offering they must be eaten in a holy place because they are most holy and about sin offerings the meat should be eaten in a sacred place if its blood was brought into the tent of meeting for atonement in the Holy Place.

In summary:

Leviticus 10 presents:

Nadab and Abihu offering unauthorized fire before God;

Their immediate death due to divine judgment;

Instructions for Aaron's response; removal of bodies.

Specific instructions given directly by God to Aaron regarding priestly responsibilities;

Prohibition against drinking alcohol when entering tent of meeting;

The need for clear discernment between holy, unholy; clean, unclean while performing duties.

Additional regulations concerning offerings provided by Moses;

Instructions regarding grain offerings partaking within sacred confines;

Guidelines on sin offering consumption based on where its blood was used for atonement.

Leviticus 10:1 And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not.

Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, disobeyed the Lord by offering strange fire instead of the Lord's prescribed fire.

1. Heed the Lord's Commands - Leviticus 10:1

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Leviticus 10:1

1. Deuteronomy 4:2, "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you."

2. Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Leviticus 10:2 And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

The Lord's fire killed Aaron's sons for their disobedience.

1: Obey God and Avoid His Wrath

2: God Is Just and His Judgement Is Swift

1: Jeremiah 17:9-10 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

2: Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Leviticus 10:3 Then Moses said unto Aaron, This is it that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron held his peace.

This passage speaks of God's need to be glorified and respected by all who come near Him.

1. "Honor and Glorify God in All You Do"

2. "Respect the Almighty by Seeking Him in Everything"

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Leviticus 10:4 And Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said unto them, Come near, carry your brethren from before the sanctuary out of the camp.

Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and commanded them to carry their brethren away from the sanctuary in the camp.

1. The importance of following God's commands

2. The power of accepting responsibility

1. Matthew 28:20 - "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you"

2. Romans 12:1 - "present yourselves a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service"

Leviticus 10:5 So they went near, and carried them in their coats out of the camp; as Moses had said.

Moses commanded Aaron's sons to take the burnt offering that they had prepared outside the camp.

1. God's Word Must Be Obeyed - Leviticus 10:5

2. Fulfilling God's Commands - Leviticus 10:5

1. 1 Peter 1:13-14 - Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

2. Ephesians 6:5-8 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.

Leviticus 10:6 And Moses said unto Aaron, and unto Eleazar and unto Ithamar, his sons, Uncover not your heads, neither rend your clothes; lest ye die, and lest wrath come upon all the people: but let your brethren, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning which the LORD hath kindled.

Moses warned Aaron, Eleazar, and Ithamar to not uncover their heads or tear their clothes while mourning lest they die and bring wrath upon the Israelites.

1. Mourning Without Fear: How to Mourn Without Endangering Souls

2. The Power of Mournful Unity: How Working Together Brings Peace and Strength

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.

Leviticus 10:7 And ye shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: for the anointing oil of the LORD is upon you. And they did according to the word of Moses.

Moses gave instructions to the priests of the tabernacle and they followed them, warning them that they would die if they left before being anointed with the LORD's oil.

1. The Power of Obedience - The importance of following God's instructions in our lives

2. The Anointing of the Lord - The significance of the Holy Spirit in our lives

1. John 14:15-17 - Jesus promises the Holy Spirit to guide us in truth

2. Romans 8:14-17 - The Holy Spirit leads us into adoption as sons and daughters of God.

Leviticus 10:8 And the LORD spake unto Aaron, saying,

Aaron and his sons were instructed by the Lord in the duties of the priesthood.

1. God's Purpose for Ordaining Aaron and His Sons to the Priesthood

2. The Power of Obedience to God's Instructions

1. Exodus 28:1-4 - God appoints Aaron and his sons to the priesthood

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - The blessing of obedience to God's instructions.

Leviticus 10:9 Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations:

God commands the priests to abstain from drinking wine and strong drink while in the tabernacle of the congregation, so that they do not die. This is an everlasting statute for all generations.

1. The Power of Abstinence: God's Command to the Priests

2. The Commitment of the Priesthood: Obeying God's Statutes

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Isaiah 5:11-12 - "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!"

Leviticus 10:10 And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean;

This passage from Leviticus emphasizes the importance of distinguishing between what is clean and what is unclean.

1. Differentiating Between the Holy and the Unholy

2. God's Call to Righteous Living

1. Romans 12:2, And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2. James 4:7-8, Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Leviticus 10:11 And that ye may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD hath spoken unto them by the hand of Moses.

Leviticus 10:11 instructs the people of Israel to teach their children the laws of God as spoken by Moses.

1. Learning God's Word: The Importance of Teaching Our Children

2. The Power of Obedience: A Study of Leviticus 10:11

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Leviticus 10:12 And Moses spake unto Aaron, and unto Eleazar and unto Ithamar, his sons that were left, Take the meat offering that remaineth of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and eat it without leaven beside the altar: for it is most holy:

Moses instructed Aaron, Eleazar, and Ithamar to take the meat offering that remained of the offerings of the LORD made by fire and eat it without leaven beside the altar, for it was most holy.

1. The Holiness of God's Offerings

2. The Obedience of God's People

1. Matthew 5:48, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

2. Hebrews 13:15, "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

Leviticus 10:13 And ye shall eat it in the holy place, because it is thy due, and thy sons' due, of the sacrifices of the LORD made by fire: for so I am commanded.

God commanded Moses and Aaron to eat the sacrifices made to him in the holy place.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. The Meaning of Eating Sacrifices in the Holy Place

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 10:14 And the wave breast and heave shoulder shall ye eat in a clean place; thou, and thy sons, and thy daughters with thee: for they be thy due, and thy sons' due, which are given out of the sacrifices of peace offerings of the children of Israel.

The wave breast and heave shoulder must be eaten in a clean place with the family. These are their due from the peace offerings of the Israelites.

1. The importance of eating in a clean place and with family.

2. The joy of receiving blessings and offerings from others.

1. Deuteronomy 12:7 "And there ye shall eat before the Lord your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the Lord thy God hath blessed thee."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:7 "Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works."

Leviticus 10:15 The heave shoulder and the wave breast shall they bring with the offerings made by fire of the fat, to wave it for a wave offering before the LORD; and it shall be thine, and thy sons' with thee, by a statute for ever; as the LORD hath commanded.

God commanded that the heave shoulder and wave breast of every offering be waved before Him as a wave offering, and this was to be a statute forever.

1. The Lord's Commandments: Obedience as a Wave Offering

2. A Testament of God's Grace: The Heave Shoulder and Wave Breast

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Leviticus 10:16 And Moses diligently sought the goat of the sin offering, and, behold, it was burnt: and he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the sons of Aaron which were left alive, saying,

Moses was displeased with Aaron's sons, Eleazar and Ithamar, for burning the goat of the sin offering.

1. We should be careful to honor the Lord by fulfilling His commands.

2. We should avoid tempting God by not taking His commands lightly.

1. Deuteronomy 6:13 - "You shall fear the Lord your God and serve him, and shall swear by his name."

2. Hebrews 10:26-27 - "For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries."

Leviticus 10:17 Wherefore have ye not eaten the sin offering in the holy place, seeing it is most holy, and God hath given it you to bear the iniquity of the congregation, to make atonement for them before the LORD?

God commanded the priests to eat the sin offering in the holy place as it was most holy and it was given to them to make atonement for the congregation before the Lord.

1. The Importance of Atonement: A Study of Leviticus 10:17

2. The Grace of God: How God Uses Sin Offerings for Atonement

1. Romans 5:11 - "And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement."

2. Hebrews 9:11-15 - "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Leviticus 10:18 Behold, the blood of it was not brought in within the holy place: ye should indeed have eaten it in the holy place, as I commanded.

The blood of the sacrifice was not brought into the holy place as commanded.

1. The Importance of Obeying God s Commands

2. The Power of Sacrificial Obedience

1. 1 Samuel 15:22 - And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

2. Hebrews 10:7 - Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Leviticus 10:19 And Aaron said unto Moses, Behold, this day have they offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD; and such things have befallen me: and if I had eaten the sin offering to day, should it have been accepted in the sight of the LORD?

Aaron asked Moses if it would have been acceptable for him to eat the sin offering that day.

1. God is Holy and Just - Leviticus 10:19

2. The Importance of Obedience - Leviticus 10:19

1. Isaiah 6:3 - "And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

2. Hebrews 12:14 - Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Leviticus 10:20 And when Moses heard that, he was content.

Moses was pleased to hear the news.

1. Obedience is the Path to Contentment

2. The Joys of Following God's Will

1. Philippians 4:11 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Leviticus 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: In Leviticus 11:1-23, God provides dietary laws to Moses and Aaron. These laws categorize animals into clean and unclean. Land animals that chew the cud and have split hooves are considered clean (e.g., cows, sheep). However, certain animals like pigs are deemed unclean as they do not meet both criteria. Similarly, marine creatures must have fins and scales to be deemed clean; anything else in the waters is considered unclean. Birds of prey or scavengers are also classified as unclean.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 11:24-40 , God provides instructions about carcasses of dead animals. Touching the carcass of an unclean animal makes a person ritually impure until evening; any clothing or objects that come into contact with such a carcass must be washed before they can be used again. Dead insects that creep on all fours are also considered impure.

Paragraph 3: In Leviticus 11:41-47 , further prohibitions are given against eating any creature that creeps or swarms on the ground for it is detestable. The chapter ends with a summary statement about distinguishing between the unclean and clean, and between living creatures that may be eaten and those that may not.

In summary:

Leviticus 11 presents:

Dietary laws provided to Moses, Aaron;

Categorization of animals into clean, unclean based on specific criteria;

Designation of land, marine creatures, birds as either clean, unclean.

Instructions regarding handling carcasses of dead animals;

Ritual impurity from touching carcasses until evening;

Washing required for items coming into contact with such carcasses.

Prohibition against eating creeping, swarming creatures;

Distinction between clean, unclean; edible, non-edible creatures.

Reiteration of importance in obeying these commandments for holiness.

This chapter focuses on dietary laws given by God to Moses and Aaron for Israelites.

God categorizes various kinds of animals land dwellers, marine life, birds into two categories based upon specific characteristics those deemed 'clean' fit for consumption while others 'unclean' prohibited from being eaten.

Further instructions address situations involving handling dead animal bodies touching their remains results in ritualistic impurity lasting until evening necessitating washing before reuse.

The prohibition extends even towards consuming any creature creeping or swarming upon earth's surface they're regarded detestable.

The chapter concludes emphasizing these distinctions made between what's considered pure or impure along with edible or non-edible living beings the purpose behind these commandments being maintaining holiness among Israelites according to God's standards.

Leviticus 11:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them,

God speaks to Moses and Aaron, giving instructions to them.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the Example of Moses and Aaron

2. The Importance of Divine Guidance in Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13, "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul...

2. Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Leviticus 11:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth.

God commands the children of Israel to only eat certain animals that are found on the earth.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commandments

2. The Sanctity of God's Creation

1. Deuteronomy 12:15 - "Notwithstanding thou mayest kill and eat flesh in all thy gates, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee: the unclean and the clean may eat thereof, as of the roebuck, and as of the hart."

2. Matthew 22:37-38 - "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment."

Leviticus 11:3 Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat.

God commands us to only eat animals that have split hooves and chew their cud.

1. The importance of following God's Dietary Laws

2. How God leads us to make wise and healthy dietary choices

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-8

2. Matthew 15:11-20

Leviticus 11:4 Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

This passage states that camels are unclean and not to be eaten because they chew the cud but do not divide the hoof.

1. God's laws about purity and holiness.

2. The importance of following God's instructions.

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-8 - Do not eat any detestable thing.

2. Matthew 5:17-20 - Jesus came to fulfill the law and the prophets.

Leviticus 11:5 And the coney, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

This passage states that the coney is unclean to the people of Israel because it chews the cud, but does not divide the hoof.

1. God's Holiness and His Creation: Understanding the Distinction between Clean and Unclean

2. Cultivating Holiness and Separation in Our Lives

1. Genesis 1:26-27 - God created humanity in His image and likeness to have dominion over the animals of the earth.

2. Leviticus 11:44-45 - God commands the people of Israel to be holy, for He is holy.

Leviticus 11:6 And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

The hare is considered unclean to the Israelites because it chews its cud but does not divide the hoof.

1. The Holiness of God and His People

2. The Significance of Clean and Unclean Foods

1. Isaiah 52:11 - "Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord."

2. Romans 14:14 - "I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean."

Leviticus 11:7 And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he is unclean to you.

Pigs are considered unclean to the Israelites because they do not chew their cud.

1. The Holiness of God: Understanding the Dietary Laws of the Bible

2. The Call to Separation: Living a Life Set Apart for God

1. Leviticus 20:25-26 - You shall therefore make a distinction between clean animals and unclean, and between unclean birds and clean; and you shall not make yourselves detestable by beast or by bird or by anything with which the ground teems, which I have set apart for you to hold unclean. Thus you shall be holy to me, for I the Lord am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine.

2. Deuteronomy 14:4-5 - These are the beasts which you may eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat, the hart, and the gazelle, and the roebuck, and the wild goat, and the ibex, and the antelope, and the mountain sheep. And every beast that parts the hoof and has the hoof cloven in two and chews the cud, among the beasts, that you may eat.

Leviticus 11:8 Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcase shall ye not touch; they are unclean to you.

Eating the flesh of or touching the carcases of certain animals is forbidden according to the laws of Leviticus.

1. The Holiness of God: The Clean and Unclean

2. The Call to Separation: Distinguishing Between Right and Wrong

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Leviticus 11:9 These shall ye eat of all that are in the waters: whatsoever hath fins and scales in the waters, in the seas, and in the rivers, them shall ye eat.

God instructs His people to eat fish that have fins and scales.

1. "Living by God's Design: Eating Fish"

2. "Seeking God's Provision: Fish as a Source of Nourishment"

1. Psalm 104:25 - O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

2. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

Leviticus 11:10 And all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which is in the waters, they shall be an abomination unto you:

In Leviticus 11:10, it is stated that all creatures without fins and scales that move in the waters are an abomination to God.

1. God's Love for Creation: Understanding the Moral Significance of Leviticus 11:10

2. The Sanctity of Life: Appreciating God's Care for the Natural World

1. Psalm 36:6, "Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals."

2. Genesis 1:20-21, "And God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens. So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good."

Leviticus 11:11 They shall be even an abomination unto you; ye shall not eat of their flesh, but ye shall have their carcases in abomination.

The Lord forbids the eating of certain animals, and considers their carcases an abomination.

1. Taking the Lord's Dietary Law Seriously

2. The Sanctity of God's Creation

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-8

2. Psalm 24:1-2

Leviticus 11:12 Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that shall be an abomination unto you.

God instructs the Israelites to abstain from eating any sea creatures without fins or scales.

1. God's Guidance on What to Eat: Understanding Leviticus 11:12

2. Abstaining from Abomination: The Holiness of Food According to Leviticus 11:12

1. Romans 14:14 - "I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean."

2. Colossians 2:20-21 - "Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, (Touch not; taste not; handle not; which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?"

Leviticus 11:13 And these are they which ye shall have in abomination among the fowls; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray,

God commands us to abstain from consuming certain animals.

1: The Lord has provided us with many creatures and has commanded us to abstain from eating certain animals. Let us honor the Lord's commands and refrain from consuming those animals.

2: Let us abide by the Lord's will and stay away from animals He has forbidden us to consume.

1: Deuteronomy 14:2-3 "Ye shall not eat any abominable thing. These are the beasts which ye shall eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat."

2: Proverbs 6:16-19 "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."

Leviticus 11:14 And the vulture, and the kite after his kind;

This passage outlines the forbidden animals that the Israelites were not to consume.

1: Our physical health is essential to our spiritual health and so God tells us what is good for us to eat.

2: God's laws protect us from danger as we obey them.

1: Deuteronomy 8:3: "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2: Romans 14:17: "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

Leviticus 11:15 Every raven after his kind;

God commands humans to be selective with their diet.

1: We should be mindful of what we eat and choose wisely, for the Lord has provided us with specific instructions on what we should and should not consume.

2: We can take comfort in God's provision for us, as he has given us clear guidance on how to care for our bodies and lead healthy lives.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry about what we will eat, drink, or wear, but to trust that God will provide for us.

2: Deuteronomy 8:1-20 - God commands us to follow his decrees and commands, and to remember that he is the one who provides for us.

Leviticus 11:16 And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckow, and the hawk after his kind,

A variety of birds, including owls, night hawks, cuckows, and hawks, are described in Leviticus 11:16.

1: As believers, we are called to care for even the smallest creatures, as seen in Leviticus 11:16.

2: God's love is demonstrated through the variety of birds described in Leviticus 11:16, showing how he cares for all of creation.

1: Matthew 10:29-31 - Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

2: Psalm 104:12-13 - The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches. He waters the mountains from his upper chambers; the earth is satisfied by the fruit of his work.

Leviticus 11:17 And the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl,

This passage from Leviticus 11:17 mentions three birds: the little owl, the cormorant, and the great owl.

1. God's Creation: The Variety of Animals We Encounter

2. The Majesty of God's Creation: A Look at the Animals He Has Made

1. Psalm 104:24 - He makes the creatures of the earth according to his kinds the livestock, the creatures that crawl, and the wildlife.

2. Genesis 1:24-25 - And God said, Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds livestock, creeping things, and wild animals of the earth according to their kinds. And it was so. And God made the wild animals of the earth according to their kinds, and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Leviticus 11:18 And the swan, and the pelican, and the gier eagle,

The passage mentions three types of birds: the swan, the pelican, and the gier eagle.

1. The Grandeur of God's Creation: A Look at the Beauty of the Swan, the Pelican, and the Gier Eagle

2. The Power of God's Creation: Appreciating the Majesty of the Swan, the Pelican, and the Gier Eagle

1. Job 39:13-17, The wings of the ostrich wave proudly; but are they the pinions and plumage of love? For she leaves her eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a foot may crush them, and that the wild beast may trample them. She deals cruelly with her young, as if they were not hers; though her labor be in vain, yet she has no fear, because God has made her forget wisdom, and has not given her a share of understanding. When she lifts herself on high, she scorns the horse and its rider.

2. Psalm 104:12-18, By the streams the birds of the heavens dwell; they sing among the branches. From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work. You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man s heart. The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

Leviticus 11:19 And the stork, the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat.

Leviticus 11:19 lists four types of birds, the stork, heron, lapwing, and the bat.

1. God's Creation: Appreciating the Variety of Birds

2. A Call to Holiness: Living According to God's Laws

1. Genesis 1:20-21 And God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens. So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

2. Proverbs 26:2 Like a sparrow in its flitting, like a swallow in its flying, an undeserved curse does not alight.

Leviticus 11:20 All fowls that creep, going upon all four, shall be an abomination unto you.

Eating any birds that walk on all fours is considered an abomination by the Lord.

1. The Holiness of God: The Commandment to Not Eat Unclean Birds

2. The Uniqueness of God s Requirements: The Holiness of Man Compared to the Holiness of God

1. Leviticus 11:20 All fowls that creep, going upon all four, shall be an abomination unto you.

2. Isaiah 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Leviticus 11:21 Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon all four, which have legs above their feet, to leap withal upon the earth;

This passage speaks of creatures that have four legs and are able to leap on the earth.

1. God has created a wonderful world with a variety of creatures, and we should appreciate and care for them.

2. The creatures of the earth are a reflection of God's divine power and wisdom.

1. Genesis 1:20-21 - And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

2. Psalm 104:24-26 - O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein.

Leviticus 11:22 Even these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind.

The Lord instructs the Israelites to eat certain types of locusts, bald locusts, beetles, and grasshoppers.

1. God's Provision for All of His Creatures

2. The Holiness of Eating Clean Creatures

1. Psalm 104:14 - He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth.

2. Proverbs 12:10 - A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

Leviticus 11:23 But all other flying creeping things, which have four feet, shall be an abomination unto you.

God commanded that all flying and creeping creatures with four feet shall be considered an abomination.

1. Abhorring What is Abominable: Reflecting on God's Command in Leviticus 11:23

2. Loving What is Lovable: Embracing What God Desires in Leviticus 11:23

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-4 - Do not eat any detestable thing.

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him.

Leviticus 11:24 And for these ye shall be unclean: whosoever toucheth the carcase of them shall be unclean until the even.

The passage explains that whoever touches the carcass of any unclean animal mentioned in the chapter will be considered unclean until the evening.

1. We must be careful to avoid coming into contact with unclean things, as we are called to be pure and holy.

2. God's commandments are to be obeyed, even when they may seem difficult or inconvenient.

1. 2 Corinthians 6:17-18 - Therefore, Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. And, I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

2. 1 John 3:3 - And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

Leviticus 11:25 And whosoever beareth ought of the carcase of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.

In Leviticus 11:25, it is stated that anyone who touches the carcass of any of the unclean animals must wash their clothes and remain unclean until the evening.

1. Be Alert: Guard Against Uncleanliness

2. The Power of Holiness: How it Transforms Us

1. Joshua 7:13 - "Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you."

2. 1 John 1:7 - "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Leviticus 11:26 The carcases of every beast which divideth the hoof, and is not clovenfooted, nor cheweth the cud, are unclean unto you: every one that toucheth them shall be unclean.

God commanded the Israelites to not touch any animals that had hooves that were not split or that did not chew its cud, as such animals were considered unclean.

1. The Importance of Being Clean Before God

2. The Significance of Obeying God's Commandments

1. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

2. Titus 1:15-16 - To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.

Leviticus 11:27 And whatsoever goeth upon his paws, among all manner of beasts that go on all four, those are unclean unto you: whoso toucheth their carcase shall be unclean until the even.

God commanded the Israelites to not touch carcases of animals that walk on four paws, as doing so would make them unclean until the evening.

1: God has commanded us to remain pure and not to defile ourselves by coming into contact with unclean things.

2: We must be careful to observe all of God's commands, even the ones that may not seem important.

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.

2: John 15:14 - You are my friends if you do what I command.

Leviticus 11:28 And he that beareth the carcase of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: they are unclean unto you.

God commands that anyone who touches the carcasses of unclean animals must wash their clothes and remain unclean until evening.

1. The Holiness of God: Living a Life of Purity

2. Keeping the Law of God: Obeying His Commands

1. Ephesians 5:3-4 - But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

2. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Leviticus 11:29 These also shall be unclean unto you among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; the weasel, and the mouse, and the tortoise after his kind,

This passage describes how certain creatures are considered "unclean" according to the book of Leviticus.

1. Cleanliness is next to Godliness: A on the importance of cleanliness in the eyes of God.

2. The Holiness of Nature: A on the holiness of nature and the creatures that inhabit it.

1. Matthew 15:11 "What goes into a person s mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.

2. James 3:2 "For we all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check."

Leviticus 11:30 And the ferret, and the chameleon, and the lizard, and the snail, and the mole.

The passage describes different animals, such as ferrets, chameleons, lizards, snails, and moles.

1. God's creation is diverse and marvelous - Psalm 104:24

2. We should appreciate all of God's creatures - Genesis 1:31

1. Genesis 1:31 - And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

2. Psalm 104:24 - O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Leviticus 11:31 These are unclean to you among all that creep: whosoever doth touch them, when they be dead, shall be unclean until the even.

This passage from Leviticus 11:31 states that anyone who comes in contact with certain types of animals that crawl on the ground will be unclean until the evening.

1. The Power of Uncleanliness in The Bible

2. The Holiness of Keeping Clean

1. James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Leviticus 11:32 And upon whatsoever any of them, when they are dead, doth fall, it shall be unclean; whether it be any vessel of wood, or raiment, or skin, or sack, whatsoever vessel it be, wherein any work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the even; so it shall be cleansed.

Anything that falls upon a dead animal will be unclean and must be put into water to be cleansed.

1. The Power of Cleansing: How to Overcome Uncleanness

2. God's Mercy: Answering the Call for Purification

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

2. Titus 3:5 - "He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit."

Leviticus 11:33 And every earthen vessel, whereinto any of them falleth, whatsoever is in it shall be unclean; and ye shall break it.

The Lord commands that any earthen vessel that has been contaminated must be broken.

1. The importance of staying clean in the eyes of the Lord.

2. The significance of following God's commandments.

1. Mark 7:14-15 - "And he called the people unto him, and said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Leviticus 11:34 Of all meat which may be eaten, that on which such water cometh shall be unclean: and all drink that may be drunk in every such vessel shall be unclean.

This passage from Leviticus outlines that any food or drink coming into contact with unclean water is to be considered unclean.

1. The Holiness of God: Exploring the Holiness of God and how it applies to our daily lives.

2. The Nature of God's Commands: Examining the importance of obedience and how it reflects God's holiness.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 11:35 And every thing whereupon any part of their carcase falleth shall be unclean; whether it be oven, or ranges for pots, they shall be broken down: for they are unclean, and shall be unclean unto you.

God instructs the Israelites to break down any ovens or pots that have come into contact with an unclean animal.

1. The Need for Purity: A Call to Holiness

2. The Holiness of God: Obeying His Commands

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Matthew 5:48 - "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

Leviticus 11:36 Nevertheless a fountain or pit, wherein there is plenty of water, shall be clean: but that which toucheth their carcase shall be unclean.

Water sources that have plenty of water are considered clean, but anything that touches a dead body is considered unclean.

1. The Cleanliness of Water: A Study of Leviticus 11:36

2. The Power of Contamination: A Study of Leviticus 11:36

1. Jeremiah 17:13 - "O Lord, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters."

2. Hebrews 10:22 - "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Leviticus 11:37 And if any part of their carcase fall upon any sowing seed which is to be sown, it shall be clean.

God instructed the Israelites to be mindful of cleanliness, as parts of dead animals must not be allowed to contaminate sowing seed.

1. The Blessing of Cleanliness: God's Instructions to the Israelites

2. Cultivating the Heart: Achieving Spiritual Cleanliness

1. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy. "

Leviticus 11:38 But if any water be put upon the seed, and any part of their carcase fall thereon, it shall be unclean unto you.

The passage states that if any water is put on seed and any part of a dead animal falls on it, it is unclean to the Jews.

1. The Importance of Cleanliness Before the Lord

2. The Role of Obedience in Holiness

1. Leviticus 19:2, Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

2. Matthew 5:48, You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Leviticus 11:39 And if any beast, of which ye may eat, die; he that toucheth the carcase thereof shall be unclean until the even.

This verse from Leviticus states that anyone who touches a dead animal that is one of the animals deemed edible by the Israelites must be considered unclean until evening.

1. "The Importance of Maintaining Holiness: Lessons from Leviticus 11:39"

2. "God's Requirements for Cleanliness: A Study of Leviticus 11:39"

1. Numbers 19:11-22 - Instructions on ritual purification from contact with a corpse

2. Deuteronomy 14:3-21 - Laws regarding clean and unclean animals for consumption

Leviticus 11:40 And he that eateth of the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.

Those who eat or carry a carcass must wash their clothes and remain unclean until the evening.

1. The Holiness of God: The Consequences of Coming in Contact with Death

2. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: Being Unstained by Sin

1. Hebrews 12:14 - Pursue holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

2. Titus 2:11-12 - For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

Leviticus 11:41 And every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth shall be an abomination; it shall not be eaten.

Eating any of the creeping creatures on the earth is an abomination.

1. We must be careful to follow the Lord's commands and not eat abominable things.

2. Obey the Lord and abstain from eating creeping things.

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-8 - Do not eat abominable things.

2. Isaiah 66:17 - Those who keep the Lord's commands will be blessed.

Leviticus 11:42 Whatsoever goeth upon the belly, and whatsoever goeth upon all four, or whatsoever hath more feet among all creeping things that creep upon the earth, them ye shall not eat; for they are an abomination.

God commands us not to eat any animals that move on their bellies or four feet, as they are an abomination.

1. The Lord's Commandments: An Abomination of Eating Creepy Creatures

2. Living a Life of Righteousness: Abstaining from Eating Abominable Animals

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-20 - You shall not eat any abominable thing.

2. Isaiah 11:6-9 - The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

Leviticus 11:43 Ye shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make yourselves unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby.

People should not make themselves abominable by touching or coming into contact with any creeping thing, as it could lead to defilement.

1. The Danger of Impurity: Understanding the Consequences of Becoming Unclean.

2. The Sanctity of Life: Separating Yourself from Abominable Things.

1. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Psalm 119:37 - Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.

Leviticus 11:44 For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

This passage emphasizes the importance of holiness, as God is holy and commands that His people also be holy.

1. "The Call to Holiness: Responding to God's Command"

2. "Sanctify Yourself: Choosing Holiness in a Fallen World"

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - God's holiness and the call to be holy

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - Living as holy people in the world

Leviticus 11:45 For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.

This passage emphasizes the importance of holiness as a command from God, who has brought Israel out of Egypt.

1. Holiness and God s Covenant with His People

2. Living in Obedience to God s Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 7:6 - For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

2. Isaiah 43:21 - This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

Leviticus 11:46 This is the law of the beasts, and of the fowl, and of every living creature that moveth in the waters, and of every creature that creepeth upon the earth:

This passage of scripture from Leviticus 11:46 outlines God's laws for animals, birds, and creatures of the sea and land.

1. "God's Love for the Creatures of the Earth," based on Leviticus 11:46

2. "The Care We Should Take for the Creatures of God," based on Leviticus 11:46

1. Psalm 8:6-9 - "You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas."

2. Matthew 6:26 - "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

Leviticus 11:47 To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten.

God instructs the Israelites to make a distinction between the clean and unclean, as well as between animals they are permitted to eat and those they are not allowed to eat.

1. The Need for Discernment: Why We Must Discern Between Good and Evil

2. The Power of Choice: How Our Choices Reflect God's Will

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Leviticus 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 12:1-5 introduces the laws concerning purification after childbirth. A woman who gives birth to a male child is considered unclean for seven days, and on the eighth day, the child is to be circumcised. The mother continues in a state of purification for an additional thirty-three days, during which she cannot touch anything holy or enter the sanctuary. After this period, she is required to bring a lamb as a burnt offering and a pigeon or turtledove as a sin offering to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 12:6-8 , if a woman gives birth to a female child, her period of uncleanness is extended to fourteen days. The subsequent period of purification lasts sixty-six days. Similar to the previous case, she brings offerings a lamb for burnt offering and a pigeon or turtledove for sin offering to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 12 concludes by emphasizing that these laws regarding childbirth and purification are meant to highlight God's commandments and sanctify His people. It underscores that these regulations are essential for maintaining cleanliness and holiness within Israelite society.

In summary:

Leviticus 12 presents:

Laws concerning purification after childbirth;

Seven-day period of uncleanness following birth of male child;

Additional thirty-three days of purification; offerings brought before priest.

Extended period for female children fourteen-day uncleanness;

Sixty-six days total for purification; offerings presented at tent entrance.

Emphasis on importance of these laws for sanctification;

Maintaining cleanliness, holiness within Israelite society.

Highlighting God's commandments through these regulations

Leviticus 12:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage speaks of the Lord speaking to Moses and giving instructions.

1. The Lord Commands Obedience

2. God's Guidance in Everyday Life

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise.

Leviticus 12:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a woman have conceived seed, and born a man child: then she shall be unclean seven days; according to the days of the separation for her infirmity shall she be unclean.

This passage states that a woman who gives birth to a male child shall be considered unclean for seven days.

1. The Holiness of God's People - How we can strive to live a holy and pure life through obedience to His laws.

2. The Blessing of Motherhood - Celebrating the beauty and joy of motherhood and the importance of honoring it.

1. 1 Peter 1:13-16 - Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

2. Isaiah 66:13 - As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.

Leviticus 12:3 And in the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised.

This passage emphasizes the importance of circumcision on the eighth day after a male child is born.

1: God's Covenant of Circumcision: A Sign of His Love

2: The Significance of Circumcision: A Symbol of God's Covenant

1: Luke 2:21: And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS.

2: Romans 4:11: And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised.

Leviticus 12:4 And she shall then continue in the blood of her purifying three and thirty days; she shall touch no hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying be fulfilled.

This passage in Leviticus outlines a period of 33 days of purification for a woman after giving birth, during which she is not to touch anything holy or enter the sanctuary.

1. Dedicating Time to Purify Ourselves: Learning to be Holy in Everyday Life

2. The Sanctity of Life: God's Blessing of Purification After Childbirth

1. Ephesians 5:26-27 - "to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word"

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price."

Leviticus 12:5 But if she bear a maid child, then she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her separation: and she shall continue in the blood of her purifying threescore and six days.

A mother who gives birth to a girl is considered unclean for two weeks and must remain in a state of purification for 66 days.

1. God's plan for purification and holiness in childbirth.

2. The beauty of motherhood in the eyes of God.

1. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2. 1 Peter 1:13-15 - Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.

Leviticus 12:6 And when the days of her purifying are fulfilled, for a son, or for a daughter, she shall bring a lamb of the first year for a burnt offering, and a young pigeon, or a turtledove, for a sin offering, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest:

A woman who has given birth to a son or daughter must bring an offering of a lamb, pigeon, or turtledove to the priest at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Significance of Offerings in the Old Testament

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle of the Congregation

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Numbers 28:11-13 - And in the beginnings of your months ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the Lord; two young bullocks, and one ram, seven lambs of the first year without spot; And three tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one bullock; and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one ram; And a several tenth deal of flour mingled with oil for a meat offering unto one lamb; for a burnt offering of a sweet savor, a sacrifice made by fire unto the Lord.

Leviticus 12:7 Who shall offer it before the LORD, and make an atonement for her; and she shall be cleansed from the issue of her blood. This is the law for her that hath born a male or a female.

This passage from Leviticus outlines the law for a woman who has recently given birth and how she must make an atonement to the Lord for her cleansing.

1. The Cleansing Power of the Lord: How We Can Receive Forgiveness Through Faith

2. God's Mercy: Understanding the Atonement of Our Sins

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

2. Romans 5:10 - "For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life."

Leviticus 12:8 And if she be not able to bring a lamb, then she shall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons; the one for the burnt offering, and the other for a sin offering: and the priest shall make an atonement for her, and she shall be clean.

A woman who is unable to bring a lamb for a burnt offering must instead bring two turtles or two pigeons, and the priest shall make an atonement for her to be clean.

1. The Power of Atonement: How Jesus Sacrificed Himself to Cleanse Us

2. A Look at Leviticus 12:8: The Significance of Animal Sacrifices in the Old Testament

1. Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Leviticus 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 13:1-17 introduces the laws concerning skin diseases and infections. If a person develops a skin condition, they are to be brought before the priest for examination. The priest carefully examines the affected area and determines whether it is clean or unclean. Various types of skin diseases are described, including leprosy. If the disease is deemed unclean, the person is declared ceremonially impure and must dwell outside the camp until they are healed.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 13:18-46 , detailed instructions are given regarding different forms of skin conditions and their implications. The priest examines various symptoms such as swelling, discoloration, or sores on the skin to determine if it is clean or unclean. Specific guidelines are provided for diagnosing leprosy, distinguishing between its different stages and manifestations.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 13 concludes with instructions on how to handle garments that may have been contaminated by an infectious skin disease. If a garment has developed spots of infection, it is examined by the priest who determines if it is clean or unclean. In case of contamination, the garment must be burned because it cannot be purified through washing or any other means.

In summary:

Leviticus 13 presents:

Laws concerning examination of skin diseases, infections;

Priest's role in determining cleanliness, uncleanness;

Implications for ceremonial purity; dwelling outside camp until healed.

Detailed guidelines for diagnosing different forms of skin conditions;

Identification of symptoms such as swelling, discoloration, sores;

Focus on identifying leprosy's various stages, manifestations.

Instructions regarding handling contaminated garments;

Priest's examination to determine cleanliness, uncleanness;

Burning contaminated garments due to inability to purify.

This chapter focuses on the laws regarding skin diseases and infections in ancient Israel. When a person develops a skin condition, they are brought before the priest for examination. The priest carefully examines the affected area and determines whether it is clean or unclean, including specific guidelines for diagnosing leprosy. If the disease is deemed unclean, the person is declared ceremonially impure and must dwell outside the camp until they are healed.

Furthermore, Leviticus 13 provides instructions on how to handle garments that may have been contaminated by an infectious skin disease. The priest examines such garments and determines their cleanliness or uncleanness. If a garment is contaminated, it must be burned because it cannot be purified through washing or any other means.

These regulations highlight the importance of maintaining cleanliness and purity within Israelite society. They serve as a means of identifying and isolating contagious diseases to prevent their spread among the community while also emphasizing God's concern for holiness among His people.

Leviticus 13:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, saying,

This passage outlines the instructions God gave to Moses and Aaron about how to deal with people with infectious skin diseases.

1. God's Instructions: Being Wise and Caring for the Sick

2. God's Mercy: Caring for the Least of These

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"

2. James 1:27 - "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Leviticus 13:2 When a man shall have in the skin of his flesh a rising, a scab, or bright spot, and it be in the skin of his flesh like the plague of leprosy; then he shall be brought unto Aaron the priest, or unto one of his sons the priests:

When a man has a skin affliction similar to leprosy, he is to be brought to Aaron the priest or one of his sons.

1. Being Faithful to God's Commandments: Leviticus 13:2

2. The Role of the Priest: Bringing Healing to the Afflicted

1. James 5:14 - Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

2. Exodus 28:1 - And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

Leviticus 13:3 And the priest shall look on the plague in the skin of the flesh: and when the hair in the plague is turned white, and the plague in sight be deeper than the skin of his flesh, it is a plague of leprosy: and the priest shall look on him, and pronounce him unclean.

The priest is to examine the skin of an afflicted person to determine whether or not it is a plague of leprosy.

1. Recognizing God's Mercy: Reflections on Leprosy

2. Accepting God's Judgement: Finding Strength in Leprosy

1. Matthew 8:2-3 - And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

2. Luke 17:11-19 - And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

Leviticus 13:4 If the bright spot be white in the skin of his flesh, and in sight be not deeper than the skin, and the hair thereof be not turned white; then the priest shall shut up him that hath the plague seven days:

A priest must shut up a person with a skin plague for seven days if the bright spot on their skin is white and not deeper than the skin, and the hair has not turned white.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands, even when we don't understand why.

2. Trusting in God to guide us through difficult times and challenging circumstances.

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Leviticus 13:5 And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay, and the plague spread not in the skin; then the priest shall shut him up seven days more:

The priest shall examine the person with a skin condition to determine if the plague has stayed or spread.

1. "The Power of Patience: Learning to Wait on God's Timing"

2. "The Importance of Obedience: Following the Lord's Instructions"

1. James 5:7-8 - "Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Leviticus 13:6 And the priest shall look on him again the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague be somewhat dark, and the plague spread not in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean: it is but a scab: and he shall wash his clothes, and be clean.

On the seventh day of a plague, if the plague has not spread and is dark, the priest will declare the person clean and the plague a scab.

1. God's Grace is Evident in the Healing Process

2. Trusting in God During Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. James 5:14-15 - Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 13:7 But if the scab spread much abroad in the skin, after that he hath been seen of the priest for his cleansing, he shall be seen of the priest again:

This passage explains that if a person has a scab that begins to spread, they must be seen by the priest again for cleansing.

1. 'God Cares About Our Health and Well-Being'

2. 'The Importance of Following God's Laws'

1. Isaiah 33:24 - "And no inhabitant will say, I am sick ; the people who dwell there will be forgiven their iniquity."

2. James 5:14-15 - "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

Leviticus 13:8 And if the priest see that, behold, the scab spreadeth in the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is a leprosy.

If a priest sees a scab spreading in someone's skin, he must pronounce them unclean due to leprosy.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Instructions: A Study of Leviticus 13:8

2. Discerning Uncleanness: How to Follow God's Direction in Leviticus 13:8

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Leviticus 13:9 When the plague of leprosy is in a man, then he shall be brought unto the priest;

A man with leprosy is to be brought to the priest for examination.

1. God's Plan for Healing: The Priestly Role in Leprosy

2. The Importance of Examination: Leprosy and the Priestly Role

1. Matthew 8:2-3 - Jesus Heals a Man with Leprosy

2. Luke 17:11-19 - Jesus Heals Ten Men with Leprosy

Leviticus 13:10 And the priest shall see him: and, behold, if the rising be white in the skin, and it have turned the hair white, and there be quick raw flesh in the rising;

The priest is instructed to examine a person who has a skin affliction, and if it is characterized by a white coloration of the skin and hair, and is accompanied by raw flesh, he is to be declared unclean.

1: The Lord is in Control - God's laws in Leviticus show us that He is in control of even the minutest details in our lives, and that He is aware of all our afflictions.

2: God's Holiness - Leviticus 13:10 reminds us of God's holiness, and that He has made distinctions between what is clean and what is unclean, for the sake of His people.

1: 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Leviticus 13:11 It is an old leprosy in the skin of his flesh, and the priest shall pronounce him unclean, and shall not shut him up: for he is unclean.

This passage speaks of an individual who is pronounced unclean by the priest due to an old leprosy in his skin.

1. The healing power of God: Understanding the importance of physical and spiritual healing.

2. God's direction: Learn to trust God's direction for our lives, even in the midst of suffering.

1. Matthew 10:8 - Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons.

2. James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

Leviticus 13:12 And if a leprosy break out abroad in the skin, and the leprosy cover all the skin of him that hath the plague from his head even to his foot, wheresoever the priest looketh;

If a person has a leprosy, the priest must examine the affected areas of the body and determine if it is indeed a leprosy.

1. The Power of Healing: How We Can Help Others Find Hope

2. The Holiness of God: When We Submit to His Authority

1. Matthew 8:1 3 - When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

2. Isaiah 53:4 5 - Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Leviticus 13:13 Then the priest shall consider: and, behold, if the leprosy have covered all his flesh, he shall pronounce him clean that hath the plague: it is all turned white: he is clean.

The priest shall declare a person with leprosy clean if the leprosy has completely turned the person's skin white.

1. God's Mercy and Provision for Those in Need

2. Being Cleaned of Unsightly Deformities

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;"

2. John 13:10 - "Jesus said to him, Whoever has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is entirely clean.

Leviticus 13:14 But when raw flesh appeareth in him, he shall be unclean.

When a person has raw flesh on their body, they are considered unclean according to Leviticus 13:14.

1. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness - Using Leviticus 13:14 to discuss how our outward appearance reflects our spiritual condition.

2. The Power of Purity - Examining the importance of maintaining a clean physical and spiritual life, as outlined in Leviticus 13:14.

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy.

Leviticus 13:15 And the priest shall see the raw flesh, and pronounce him to be unclean: for the raw flesh is unclean: it is a leprosy.

A priest must examine a person with a raw flesh to determine if they are unclean due to leprosy.

1. The Power of Unknowing: How Jesus Heals Us Through Our Weaknesses

2. God's Mercy and Grace: How We Are Made Clean Through Our Suffering

1. John 5:6-9 (Jesus healed a man at the pool of Bethesda even though the man did not know who it was)

2. Isaiah 53:4-5 (He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not)

Leviticus 13:16 Or if the raw flesh turn again, and be changed unto white, he shall come unto the priest;

The text describes a situation where a person's raw flesh turns white, and they must go to the priest.

1: God commands us to turn to Him in times of need.

2: God is always ready to accept us with open arms.

1: Jeremiah 3:22-23 - "Return, faithless Israel," declares the Lord, "I will not look on you in anger, for I am merciful," declares the Lord, "I will not be angry forever."

2: Isaiah 1:18 - "Come, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

Leviticus 13:17 And the priest shall see him: and, behold, if the plague be turned into white; then the priest shall pronounce him clean that hath the plague: he is clean.

The priest can diagnose if a person has a plague and if the plague is cured, the person is declared clean.

1. A Clean Heart - Proverbs 4:23, Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2. God's Mercy and Forgiveness - Isaiah 1:18, Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

1. Psalm 51:10, Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

2. Micah 7:19, He will again have compassion on us, and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Leviticus 13:18 The flesh also, in which, even in the skin thereof, was a boil, and is healed,

The passage speaks of a healed boil in the skin.

1: God's grace is capable of healing all our afflictions.

2: We can be healed by trusting in God's mercy.

1: Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2: James 5:14-15 - "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

Leviticus 13:19 And in the place of the boil there be a white rising, or a bright spot, white, and somewhat reddish, and it be shewed to the priest;

This passage describes a physical symptom of a particular skin ailment and the process for determining whether or not it is contagious.

1. God s Healing Power: Learning to Trust in God in Times of Suffering

2. The Marks of God s Will: How We Can Discern His Will in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

Leviticus 13:20 And if, when the priest seeth it, behold, it be in sight lower than the skin, and the hair thereof be turned white; the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is a plague of leprosy broken out of the boil.

This passage discusses the symptoms of a plague of leprosy that is identified by a priest.

1. We are all called to be a light unto others in times of affliction.

2. God's mercy and grace is sufficient to overcome every challenge and infirmity.

1. Isaiah 9:2 - "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."

2. Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Leviticus 13:21 But if the priest look on it, and, behold, there be no white hairs therein, and if it be not lower than the skin, but be somewhat dark; then the priest shall shut him up seven days:

When a person is suspected of having leprosy, the priest inspects for white hairs and determines if the lesion is darker than the skin. If so, the person is shut up for seven days.

1. God's mercy and grace allows us to come to Him for healing and hope in times of need.

2. Even in the midst of our suffering, God's love and goodness are still present.

1. Psalm 91:14-16 - Because he has loved me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With a long life I will satisfy him and let him see My salvation.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you.

Leviticus 13:22 And if it spread much abroad in the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is a plague.

The priest is to declare a person unclean if they have a plague which has spread over their skin.

1. The Power of Purity: How God's Instructions Protect Us and Our Communities

2. The Holiness of Life: Living a Life Set Apart for God

1. Leviticus 11:44-45 For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth.

2. Matthew 5:48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Leviticus 13:23 But if the bright spot stay in his place, and spread not, it is a burning boil; and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

The bright spot is a burning boil and the priest pronounces the person clean.

1. God's Healing Power - A look at the power of faith and prayer to heal and restore.

2. God's Provision - An exploration of the ways in which God provides for our physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

1. James 5:14-15 - "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven."

2. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Leviticus 13:24 Or if there be any flesh, in the skin whereof there is a hot burning, and the quick flesh that burneth have a white bright spot, somewhat reddish, or white;

This passage from Leviticus describes a skin condition with symptoms of a hot burning sensation, and a white or reddish spot.

1. Jesus Heals Our Sickness: A Study on the Healing Power of Faith

2. God's Mercy: How God is Always Ready to Forgive and Heal

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

Leviticus 13:25 Then the priest shall look upon it: and, behold, if the hair in the bright spot be turned white, and it be in sight deeper than the skin; it is a leprosy broken out of the burning: wherefore the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is the plague of leprosy.

A priest must examine a person who has a bright spot on their skin, if the hair in the spot has turned white and the spot is deeper than the skin, it is a sign of leprosy and the priest must pronounce the person unclean.

1. The Holiness of God: How Leprosy Reveals God's Character

2. The Power of Purity: What We Can Learn from Leviticus 13

1. Luke 5:12-13 Jesus heals a leper

2. Hebrews 9:22 Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins

Leviticus 13:26 But if the priest look on it, and, behold, there be no white hair in the bright spot, and it be no lower than the other skin, but be somewhat dark; then the priest shall shut him up seven days:

The priest must examine a skin infection and decide if it is leprous or not.

1: We can find hope and healing in God, even when faced with difficult decisions.

2: We must look to God for guidance when faced with uncertainty.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2: James 1:5-6 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

Leviticus 13:27 And the priest shall look upon him the seventh day: and if it be spread much abroad in the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is the plague of leprosy.

The priest shall examine a person with leprosy on the seventh day, and if it has spread, he shall be declared unclean.

1: God's love is displayed in His caring for those who are sick and vulnerable.

2: Leprosy is a symbol of the spiritual separation between ourselves and God, and of the need for us to come back to Him.

1: Isaiah 53:4-5 - "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed."

2: 1 John 4:19 - "We love because he first loved us."

Leviticus 13:28 And if the bright spot stay in his place, and spread not in the skin, but it be somewhat dark; it is a rising of the burning, and the priest shall pronounce him clean: for it is an inflammation of the burning.

This passage speaks of a person with an inflammation of the burning, and the priest pronouncing him clean.

1. God's Mercy: Even in the Face of Difficulty

2. The Power of Pronouncement and the Authority of Priesthood

1. James 5:14-15 - Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

2. Mark 16:17-18 - And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Leviticus 13:29 If a man or woman have a plague upon the head or the beard;

The passage mentions that a plague can occur on the head or the beard of a man or woman.

1. The Power of God's Protection: How God's Love Cushions Us from Plagues

2. Embracing Our Struggles: How to Persevere When Plagues Occur

1. Psalm 91:3-4 Surely he will save you from the fowler s snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

2. Psalm 34:17-20 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. Affliction will slay the wicked; and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

Leviticus 13:30 Then the priest shall see the plague: and, behold, if it be in sight deeper than the skin; and there be in it a yellow thin hair; then the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is a dry scall, even a leprosy upon the head or beard.

A priest is to examine a plague and determine whether it is a dry scall, a form of leprosy, based on the appearance of yellow thin hair.

1. The Importance of Biblical Obedience: A Study of Leviticus 13:30

2. The Grace of God for Lepers: Jesus and the Healing of the Lepers

1. Matthew 8:1-4 (Jesus healing lepers)

2. Romans 12:1-2 (Living in obedience to God's will)

Leviticus 13:31 And if the priest look on the plague of the scall, and, behold, it be not in sight deeper than the skin, and that there is no black hair in it; then the priest shall shut up him that hath the plague of the scall seven days:

A priest must isolate someone for seven days if they have a scall that is not deep in the skin and does not have any black hair.

1. The Importance of Separation: How the Bible Teaches Us to Protect Ourselves and Others

2. The Power of God's Love: How He Cares for Us Even in Times of Crisis

1. 1 Peter 5:8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2. James 5:14-15 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.

Leviticus 13:32 And in the seventh day the priest shall look on the plague: and, behold, if the scall spread not, and there be in it no yellow hair, and the scall be not in sight deeper than the skin;

This passage describes the process of identifying a skin disease in its seventh day of observation.

1. God's merciful provision for healing - Leviticus 13:32

2. Our need for discernment and wise judgement - Leviticus 13:32

1. James 5:14-15 - Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.

2. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Leviticus 13:33 He shall be shaven, but the scall shall he not shave; and the priest shall shut up him that hath the scall seven days more:

A person with a scall must be quarantined for seven days to prevent the spread of disease.

1. The importance of quarantine in protecting our community.

2. Learning how to manage our physical and spiritual health.

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Leviticus 13:34 And in the seventh day the priest shall look on the scall: and, behold, if the scall be not spread in the skin, nor be in sight deeper than the skin; then the priest shall pronounce him clean: and he shall wash his clothes, and be clean.

This passage discusses the process a priest must go through to determine if someone is clean or unclean from a scall.

1: "The Scall of Sin: Becoming Clean Through God's Mercy"

2: "The Power of Purity: Staying Clean Through Faith"

1: John 15:3 "Now you are clean because of the word I have spoken to you".

2: Titus 2:14 "He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good."

Leviticus 13:35 But if the scall spread much in the skin after his cleansing;

The passage discusses the occurrence of a scall spreading much in the skin after cleansing.

1. God's Grace: A Blessing in Times of Trial

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Faith

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Leviticus 13:36 Then the priest shall look on him: and, behold, if the scall be spread in the skin, the priest shall not seek for yellow hair; he is unclean.

The priest must look upon someone who has a scall in their skin and determine them to be unclean, even if they lack yellow hair.

1. The Importance of Holiness: We must remain holy, even when we are afflicted with physical afflictions, according to the teachings of the Bible.

2. The Blessing of Being Unblemished: We should be thankful for our physical health and strive to remain unblemished in body and spirit.

1. Hebrews 12:14: "Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord."

2. 1 Peter 1:16: "Since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

Leviticus 13:37 But if the scall be in his sight at a stay, and that there is black hair grown up therein; the scall is healed, he is clean: and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

This passage explains that if a person has a scall and black hair begins to grow in it, the scall is healed and the person is considered clean.

1. God's Healing Power: How We Can Receive Healing Through Faith

2. Our Need for Holiness: Growing Closer to God Through Obedience

1. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2. James 5:14-16 - "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Leviticus 13:38 If a man also or a woman have in the skin of their flesh bright spots, even white bright spots;

Bright spots in skin can be a sign of infection.

1: God teaches us in Leviticus 13:38 that even small, seemingly insignificant signs of infection should not be ignored.

2: We should take seriously the warning in Leviticus 13:38 to pay attention to the signs of infection, no matter how small.

1: James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

2: Proverbs 30:5 - Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

Leviticus 13:39 Then the priest shall look: and, behold, if the bright spots in the skin of their flesh be darkish white; it is a freckled spot that groweth in the skin; he is clean.

The priest must examine a person with a freckled spot to determine if it is a clean affliction.

1. God's Mercy: A Look at the Cleansing Power of Leviticus 13:39

2. Jesus: The Ultimate Healer and the Cleansing Power of Leviticus 13:39

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

Leviticus 13:40 And the man whose hair is fallen off his head, he is bald; yet is he clean.

A man whose hair has fallen out is considered clean according to Leviticus 13:40.

1. "A Clean Heart: The Blessings of Being Bald"

2. "God's Standards of Cleanliness: No Shame in Baldness"

1. Psalm 51:10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

2. 2 Corinthians 7:1, "Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God."

Leviticus 13:41 And he that hath his hair fallen off from the part of his head toward his face, he is forehead bald: yet is he clean.

This passage from Leviticus describes a man who has baldness from the front of his face but is still considered clean.

1. Seeing God's Beauty in our Bodies: Understanding Physical Imperfections

2. The Holiness of Humility: Finding Closeness to God Through Accepting Ourselves

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well."

Leviticus 13:42 And if there be in the bald head, or bald forehead, a white reddish sore; it is a leprosy sprung up in his bald head, or his bald forehead.

The passage describes a white reddish sore on the bald head or forehead of a person as a sign of leprosy.

1. The Message of Leviticus 13:42: God is in the Details.

2. The Power of a Little Leprosy: How a Small Sign can have a Big Impact.

1. 1 Corinthians 3:18-20 - "Do not deceive yourselves. If any one of you thinks he is wise by the standards of this age, he should become a fool so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God s sight."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Leviticus 13:43 Then the priest shall look upon it: and, behold, if the rising of the sore be white reddish in his bald head, or in his bald forehead, as the leprosy appeareth in the skin of the flesh;

The priest must inspect a sore in the bald head or forehead of a person suspected to have leprosy.

1. The importance of seeking a priest's counsel in times of need.

2. God's provision of a system to help diagnose and treat leprosy.

1. James 5:14 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.

2. Matthew 9:12 - On hearing this, Jesus said, It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.

Leviticus 13:44 He is a leprous man, he is unclean: the priest shall pronounce him utterly unclean; his plague is in his head.

This passage speaks of a man with leprosy who is declared unclean by the priest.

1. The Power of Purity: God's Holiness and Our Responsibility

2. The Mercy of God: Healing in the Midst of Uncleanliness

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 - Therefore, since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

2. Psalm 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Leviticus 13:45 And the leper in whom the plague is, his clothes shall be rent, and his head bare, and he shall put a covering upon his upper lip, and shall cry, Unclean, unclean.

This passage outlines the specific clothing and behavior of a leper once they contract the plague.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Remain Faithful in Difficult Circumstances

2. Understanding the Holiness of God: Recognizing and Respecting His Standards

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

2. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Leviticus 13:46 All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the camp shall his habitation be.

When a person is suffering from plague, they must be isolated and live apart from the camp.

1. "Living in Isolation: Choosing to Love from Afar"

2. "The Value of Separation: Learning to Dwell Alone"

1. Romans 12:9-10, "Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

2. 1 John 4:7-8, "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Leviticus 13:47 The garment also that the plague of leprosy is in, whether it be a woollen garment, or a linen garment;

The plague of leprosy can affect both woollen and linen garments.

1: We must take care to recognize and treat the plague of leprosy, for it can affect us in many ways.

2: We must be aware of our surroundings and take note of the presence of leprosy, as it can affect our garments, relationships, and everyday life.

1: Matthew 9:20-22 - "And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour."

2: Luke 17:11-19 - "And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole."

Leviticus 13:48 Whether it be in the warp, or woof; of linen, or of woollen; whether in a skin, or in any thing made of skin;

The passage discusses the laws of leprosy and its effects on fabric and clothing.

1. The dangers of leprosy and how to protect oneself from it.

2. The importance of following the laws of leprosy set forth in Leviticus.

1. Leviticus 14:44-45 - "He who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, shave off all his hair, and bathe himself in water, that he may be clean. After that he shall come into the camp, and shall stay outside his tent seven days. But on the seventh day he shall shave all the hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows all his hair he shall shave off. He shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and he shall be clean."

2. Numbers 12:10-15 - "When the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys."

Leviticus 13:49 And if the plague be greenish or reddish in the garment, or in the skin, either in the warp, or in the woof, or in any thing of skin; it is a plague of leprosy, and shall be shewed unto the priest:

In Leviticus 13:49, it is stated that if there is a greenish or reddish plague in the garment, skin, warp, or woof, it is to be identified as a plague of leprosy and is to be shown to the priest.

1. The Power of the Priest: How the Priesthood is Essential in Identifying Leprosy

2. God's Care for Us: Why God Established a System to Diagnose Leprosy

1. Matthew 8:1-4 - Jesus healing the leper

2. John 9:1-7 - Jesus healing the man born blind

Leviticus 13:50 And the priest shall look upon the plague, and shut up it that hath the plague seven days:

The priest must examine a plague-ridden person and separate them from the rest of the community for seven days.

1. The importance of physical and spiritual cleanliness

2. Taking responsibility and showing compassion for those who are suffering

1. Leviticus 15:13 - "When the man has a discharge, his discharge being unclean, he shall be unclean. He shall dwell apart, his dwelling shall be outside the camp."

2. Matthew 25:35-36 - "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Leviticus 13:51 And he shall look on the plague on the seventh day: if the plague be spread in the garment, either in the warp, or in the woof, or in a skin, or in any work that is made of skin; the plague is a fretting leprosy; it is unclean.

The plague of leprosy is declared unclean in Leviticus 13:51.

1: We can be cleansed of our sins and have a new life through Jesus Christ.

2: In the same way, we can be cleansed from the uncleanness of leprosy and be made whole again.

1: John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

2: Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

Leviticus 13:52 He shall therefore burn that garment, whether warp or woof, in woollen or in linen, or any thing of skin, wherein the plague is: for it is a fretting leprosy; it shall be burnt in the fire.

If a garment is afflicted with leprosy, it should be burned in the fire.

1. The Consequence of Sin: A Reflection on Leviticus 13:52

2. The Power of Purification: What We Can Learn from Leviticus 13:52

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Leviticus 13:53 And if the priest shall look, and, behold, the plague be not spread in the garment, either in the warp, or in the woof, or in any thing of skin;

The priest is instructed to investigate a plague-infected garment to determine if the plague has spread.

1. The Power of Faithfulness: Examining How God Calls Us to Remain Faithful to Him

2. The Power of Discernment: Recognizing God's Guidance as We Navigate Life's Plagues

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Leviticus 13:54 Then the priest shall command that they wash the thing wherein the plague is, and he shall shut it up seven days more:

The priest must order for the object that is contaminated with a plague to be washed and shut up for an additional seven days.

1. God's Commandment: Obeying the Priest's Instructions

2. Faithful Obedience: Following the Lord's Decree

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess."

2. Matthew 7:21-23 - "Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness. "

Leviticus 13:55 And the priest shall look on the plague, after that it is washed: and, behold, if the plague have not changed his colour, and the plague be not spread; it is unclean; thou shalt burn it in the fire; it is fret inward, whether it be bare within or without.

The priest must examine the plague to determine if it is unclean. If it has not changed color and has not spread, it is unclean and should be burned.

1. God calls on us to be ever vigilant and discerning of what is unclean and to take necessary steps to prevent it from spreading.

2. Our lives should be a reflection of God's character, leading us to be proactive in our faith and follow His commands to keep us holy.

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Leviticus 13:56 And if the priest look, and, behold, the plague be somewhat dark after the washing of it; then he shall rend it out of the garment, or out of the skin, or out of the warp, or out of the woof:

The priest was instructed to examine and remove any plague found on clothing or skin.

1. The Need for Cleansing: How God Commands Us to Remove Impurities from Our Lives

2. God's Guidance in Our Lives: How We Receive Instructions from the Lord

1. Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Isaiah 1:18 Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Leviticus 13:57 And if it appear still in the garment, either in the warp, or in the woof, or in any thing of skin; it is a spreading plague: thou shalt burn that wherein the plague is with fire.

This passage states that if a spreading plague appears on a garment, it should be burned with fire.

1. God calls us to take action in difficult times, even when it means sacrificing something valuable.

2. We should use God's word as our guide in times of trouble and rely on His protection.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Leviticus 13:58 And the garment, either warp, or woof, or whatsoever thing of skin it be, which thou shalt wash, if the plague be departed from them, then it shall be washed the second time, and shall be clean.

A person who has been afflicted with a plague must wash the garment, warp or woof, or any leather article two times to be considered clean.

1. The Power of Cleanliness: How Cleanliness can be a Spiritual and Physical Blessing

2. The Gift of Cleansing: How God Uses Cleansing to Bring Us Closer to Him

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

2. Isaiah 1:16-18 "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow. 'Come now, and let us reason together,' Says the Lord, 'Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.'"

Leviticus 13:59 This is the law of the plague of leprosy in a garment of woollen or linen, either in the warp, or woof, or any thing of skins, to pronounce it clean, or to pronounce it unclean.

The law of leprosy in garments of wool, linen, warp, woof, or skins is outlined.

1. The Importance of Being Cautious of Contagion

2. Cleanliness vs Uncleanliness: Understanding the Distinction

1. Matthew 10:8 - Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Leviticus 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 14:1-32 provides instructions for the purification of a person who has recovered from a skin disease, particularly leprosy. When a person is healed, they are to go to the priest who examines them outside the camp. The priest performs a ritual involving two live birds, cedar wood, scarlet yarn, and hyssop. One bird is sacrificed over running water while the other bird is dipped in the blood of the sacrificed bird and released into an open field. The healed person then undergoes a process of cleansing involving washing their clothes and shaving off all their hair before being allowed back into the camp.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 14:33-53 , instructions are given regarding purification rituals for houses affected by mildew or mold. If mildew or mold appears on the walls of a house, it must be reported to the priest. The priest inspects the house and determines if it is unclean. To purify an afflicted house, it is emptied of its contents before being scraped and plastered with new mortar mixed with fresh water and birds' blood. If after this process the affliction returns, it indicates deep-seated contamination that requires demolishing the house.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 14 concludes with guidelines for dealing with skin diseases that cannot be cured or houses that cannot be purified despite following prescribed procedures. If an individual's skin disease persists or if a house remains contaminated even after appropriate actions have been taken, they are declared unclean and must be isolated from others to prevent spreading impurity within Israelite society.

In summary:

Leviticus 14 presents:

Instructions for purification after recovery from skin diseases;

Ritual involving live birds; sacrifice over running water;

Cleansing process including washing clothes, shaving hair.

Guidelines for purifying houses affected by mildew, mold;

Inspection by the priest; scraping and plastering with new mortar;

Demolition required if affliction returns after purification attempts.

Declaration of uncleanness for incurable skin diseases, unpurifiable houses;

Isolation to prevent spreading impurity within the community.

This chapter focuses on the purification rituals for individuals who have recovered from skin diseases, particularly leprosy. When a person is healed, they are to go to the priest who performs a ritual involving live birds, cedar wood, scarlet yarn, and hyssop. The healed person undergoes a process of cleansing before being readmitted into the camp.

Additionally, Leviticus 14 provides instructions for dealing with houses affected by mildew or mold. If such an affliction appears on the walls of a house, it must be reported to the priest who inspects it and determines its cleanliness status. The afflicted house undergoes a purification process involving scraping and plastering with new mortar mixed with birds' blood.

The chapter concludes by addressing situations where skin diseases cannot be cured or houses cannot be purified despite following prescribed procedures. In such cases, individuals are declared unclean and must be isolated from others to prevent spreading impurity within Israelite society. These regulations emphasize God's concern for maintaining cleanliness and holiness among His people while also addressing practical matters related to hygiene and public health in ancient times.

Leviticus 14:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage discusses the Lord speaking to Moses about how to cleanse those who had been infected with leprosy.

1. Healing Through Faith: How to Receive God's Blessing in Times of Affliction

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions for Wholeness

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

Leviticus 14:2 This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest:

The Law of the Lepers in Leviticus prescribed a ritual of cleansing for those with leprosy.

1. The Healing Power of God: The Cleansing of Lepers in Leviticus

2. Unconditional Love: Jesus and The Leper's Healing

1. Matthew 8:1-4 - Jesus Heals a Leper

2. Mark 1:40-45 - Jesus Heals a Man with Leprosy

Leviticus 14:3 And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, if the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper;

The priest is to go out of the camp and observe if the leper has been healed of their leprosy.

1. The Power of God's Healing: How God Heals Us Physically and Spiritually

2. The Power of Compassion: How We Can Reach Out to Those in Need

1. Matthew 8:2-3 - And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean.

2. 1 Peter 2:24 - Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Leviticus 14:4 Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

The priest commands to take two birds alive and clean, cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop for someone to be cleansed.

1. The Power of Cleansing: How Jesus' Death and Resurrection Offer Healing and Restoration

2. The Priesthood: A Call to Serve and Represent God's People

1. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Hebrews 7:24-25 - But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Leviticus 14:5 And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water:

The priest is commanded to kill one of the birds in an earthen vessel over running water.

1. The importance of following instructions in our faith

2. The power of obedience in our spiritual lives

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Leviticus 14:6 As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:

This passage outlines the instructions for purification of a leper with the use of a live bird, cedar wood, scarlet, hyssop, and the blood of a bird killed over running water.

1. How Even in Times of Impurity, God Offers a Way to Purity

2. The Significance of Water and Blood in Spiritual Cleansing

1. Ezekiel 36:25-27 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

2. 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 14:7 And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field.

The passage describes a process of cleansing someone from leprosy. The person being cleansed must be sprinkled with water seven times and a living bird must be let loose into an open field.

1. "The Cleansing Power of God"

2. "Living a Cleansed Life"

1. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2. Psalm 51:7 - "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow."

Leviticus 14:8 And he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean: and after that he shall come into the camp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days.

Someone who needs to be cleansed must wash their clothes, shave all their hair, and wash themselves in water to be clean, and then remain outside of their tent for seven days.

1. The importance of cleansing and the way it impacts our lives.

2. God's plan for purifying us of our sins.

1. Isaiah 1:16-18 - Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong.

2. Romans 6:17-18 - But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Leviticus 14:9 But it shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes, also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.

A person who has been healed of a skin disorder must shave off all of their hair, wash their clothes and body, and be declared clean on the seventh day.

1. God s Healing Power: A Look at Leviticus 14:9

2. A Reflection on Cleansing: Wash Your Clothes, Wash Your Body, and be Clean

1. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

2. Matthew 8:3 - Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. I am willing, he said. Be clean! Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.

Leviticus 14:10 And on the eighth day he shall take two he lambs without blemish, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish, and three tenth deals of fine flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and one log of oil.

On the eighth day, the priest shall take two he lambs and one ewe lamb of the first year, three tenth deals of fine flour for a meat offering mixed with oil, and one log of oil.

1. The Significance of the Priestly Sacrifices in Leviticus 14

2. The Holiness of the Priesthood and Its Role in the Tabernacle

1. Numbers 18:8-10 - And the Lord spake unto Aaron, Behold, I also have given thee the charge of mine heave offerings of all the hallowed things of the children of Israel; unto thee have I given them by reason of the anointing, and to thy sons, by an ordinance for ever. This shall be thine of the most holy things, reserved from the fire: every oblation of theirs, every meat offering of theirs, and every sin offering of theirs, and every trespass offering of theirs, which they shall render unto me, shall be most holy for thee and for thy sons.

2. Exodus 28:41 - And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office.

Leviticus 14:11 And the priest that maketh him clean shall present the man that is to be made clean, and those things, before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

The priest must present the man to be cleansed before the Lord at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

1: Jesus is the ultimate source of cleansing and healing for us.

2: God desires that we seek Him out for cleansing and healing.

1: Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2: James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

Leviticus 14:12 And the priest shall take one he lamb, and offer him for a trespass offering, and the log of oil, and wave them for a wave offering before the LORD:

The priest was instructed to take one lamb and offer it as a trespass offering, along with a log of oil, and wave them before the Lord as a wave offering.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How the Trespass Offering in Leviticus 14:12 Points to Jesus

2. How Giving Up What is Dear to Us is a Sign of True Faith: A Study in Leviticus 14:12

1. Matthew 10:37-39, "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it."

2. Isaiah 53:4-6, "Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Leviticus 14:13 And he shall slay the lamb in the place where he shall kill the sin offering and the burnt offering, in the holy place: for as the sin offering is the priest's, so is the trespass offering: it is most holy:

The priest is to slay the lamb in the holy place, as the sin offering and the trespass offering belong to him and are most holy.

1. The Sacrifice of Jesus - Understanding the Cost of Our Salvation

2. The Holiness of the Priesthood - The Importance of Holiness in the Ministry

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Hebrews 7:26 - For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.

Leviticus 14:14 And the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest shall put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

The priest would take some of the blood of the trespass offering and place it on the right ear, thumb, and great toe of the person to be cleansed.

1. The Power of Blood - How the Blood of Jesus Cleanses Us

2. The Significance of Right Hand, Right Ear, and Right Foot - What God's Symbols Mean to Us

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."

2. Isaiah 52:15 - "So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider."

Leviticus 14:15 And the priest shall take some of the log of oil, and pour it into the palm of his own left hand:

The priest is instructed to take some of the log of oil and pour it into his left hand.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Directives

2. The Significance of Oil: How Symbols Represent God's Love and Mercy

1. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Matthew 7:24-25 - Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

Leviticus 14:16 And the priest shall dip his right finger in the oil that is in his left hand, and shall sprinkle of the oil with his finger seven times before the LORD:

The priest is commanded to dip his right finger in the oil in his left hand and sprinkle it seven times before the Lord.

1. A Heart of Obedience: Understanding the Importance of Sacrificial Service

2. Consecration of the Priest: A Call to Holiness and Righteousness

1. Isaiah 1:15-17 - When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

2. Matthew 6:6-8 - But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Leviticus 14:17 And of the rest of the oil that is in his hand shall the priest put upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot, upon the blood of the trespass offering:

The priest is to anoint a person being cleansed with oil on their right ear, right hand, and right foot, symbolizing the blood of the trespass offering.

1. The Power of Anointing: How God Uses Symbolic Rituals to Symbolize His Love and Mercy

2. The Significance of the Right Hand, Ear, and Foot: Understanding the Meaning Behind Leviticus 14:17

1. Isaiah 11:2 - The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord

2. James 5:14-15 - Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up.

Leviticus 14:18 And the remnant of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall pour upon the head of him that is to be cleansed: and the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD.

The priest must pour the remainder of the oil on the head of the one to be cleansed and make an atonement to the Lord.

1. The Atonement of the Lord: A Sign of Grace and Mercy

2. The Power of Pouring Oil: A Symbol of Redemption and Atonement

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Leviticus 14:19 And the priest shall offer the sin offering, and make an atonement for him that is to be cleansed from his uncleanness; and afterward he shall kill the burnt offering:

The priest must offer a sin offering in order to atone for a person's uncleanness before sacrificing the burnt offering.

1. The Way of Atonement: A Reflection on Leviticus 14:19

2. Seeking Cleansing Through Sacrificial Love

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Hebrews 10:14 - For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

Leviticus 14:20 And the priest shall offer the burnt offering and the meat offering upon the altar: and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and he shall be clean.

The priest in Leviticus 14:20 performs a burnt offering and meat offering on the altar as a means of atonement for the person in need of cleansing.

1. The Atonement of the Priest: How We Are Made Clean Through Sacrificial Offerings

2. The Power of Forgiveness: What It Means to Be Made Clean Through Atonement.

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Leviticus 14:21 And if he be poor, and cannot get so much; then he shall take one lamb for a trespass offering to be waved, to make an atonement for him, and one tenth deal of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering, and a log of oil;

A poor person who cannot afford a costly offering can offer one lamb for a trespass offering, a tenth deal of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering, and a log of oil.

1. The Value of Sacrifice: How Atonement Can Be Achieved Through Simple Offerings

2. The Power of Compassion: How Mercy and Understanding Bring Blessings

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Leviticus 14:22 And two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, such as he is able to get; and the one shall be a sin offering, and the other a burnt offering.

In Leviticus 14:22, it is commanded that two turtledoves or two young pigeons be sacrificed. One is to be a sin offering and the other a burnt offering.

1. The Sacrifice of Two Turtledoves: How God's Plan of Redemption Brings Joy

2. The Significance of Sacrifice: What We Can Learn from Leviticus 14:22

1. Isaiah 53:6 - "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Leviticus 14:23 And he shall bring them on the eighth day for his cleansing unto the priest, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, before the LORD.

On the eighth day of a person's cleansing ritual, they must bring their offerings to the priest at the entrance of the tabernacle of the congregation before the Lord.

1. The Need for Holiness - Leviticus 14:23

2. Offering Ourselves to God - Leviticus 14:23

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Leviticus 14:24 And the priest shall take the lamb of the trespass offering, and the log of oil, and the priest shall wave them for a wave offering before the LORD:

This passage speaks of the priest offering a trespass offering of a lamb and a log of oil to the Lord.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Receive and Give Mercy

2. The Significance of the Wave Offering: An Exploration of its Meaning and Purpose

1. Psalm 51:1-2, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!"

2. Isaiah 43:25, "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

Leviticus 14:25 And he shall kill the lamb of the trespass offering, and the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

The priest is to take the blood of the trespass offering and put it upon the right ear, thumb and great toe of the person to be cleansed.

1. The Power of the Blood of Jesus for Cleansing

2. God's Mercy and Forgiveness Through Sacrifice

1. 1 John 1:7 - But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Leviticus 14:26 And the priest shall pour of the oil into the palm of his own left hand:

The priest is to pour oil into the palm of his left hand.

1. God's Provision: The Blessings of Anointing with Oil

2. The Priesthood: Serving the Lord with Dedication and Humility

1. James 5:14 - Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

2. Exodus 30:23-25 - Take thou also unto thee principal spices, of pure myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet cinnamon half so much, even two hundred and fifty shekels, and of sweet calamus two hundred and fifty shekels, And of cassia five hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, and of oil olive an hin: And thou shalt make it an oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary: it shall be an holy anointing oil.

Leviticus 14:27 And the priest shall sprinkle with his right finger some of the oil that is in his left hand seven times before the LORD:

The priest must sprinkle oil with his right finger seven times before the Lord.

1. God's Call for Worship: The Priest and the Oil.

2. The Seven-Fold Blessing of the Lord.

1. Exodus 29:7 - Take the anointing oil and anoint him by pouring it on his head.

2. Exodus 30:30 - Anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, so they may serve me as priests.

Leviticus 14:28 And the priest shall put of the oil that is in his hand upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot, upon the place of the blood of the trespass offering:

The priest will apply oil to the right ear, right thumb, and right great toe of the person being cleansed, in the same place as the blood of the trespass offering.

1. The Healing Power of God: God's Mercy for Cleansing and Restoration

2. Sacrificial Love: The Significance of the Trespass Offering

1. John 8:36, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

2. Hebrews 9:22, "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission."

Leviticus 14:29 And the rest of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall put upon the head of him that is to be cleansed, to make an atonement for him before the LORD.

The priest is instructed to use the rest of the oil in his hand to make an atonement for the person being cleansed before the Lord.

1. The Power of Atonement: Exploring the Ritual of Cleansing in Leviticus 14:29

2. The Significance of Anointing in Biblical Times: Examining the Ritual of Atonement in Leviticus 14:29

1. Isaiah 53:4-5 - "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed."

2. Hebrews 9:11-12 - "But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption."

Leviticus 14:30 And he shall offer the one of the turtledoves, or of the young pigeons, such as he can get;

This passage speaks of offering one of the two birds, a turtledove or a young pigeon, as a sacrifice.

1: We must learn to give sacrificially, even when it is difficult.

2: The power of small sacrifices can be greater than we think.

1: Luke 9:23-24 - "Then he said to them all: Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it."

2: Philippians 4:12-13 - "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Leviticus 14:31 Even such as he is able to get, the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering, with the meat offering: and the priest shall make an atonement for him that is to be cleansed before the LORD.

The Priest shall make an atonement for those who are to be cleansed before the Lord by providing them with a sin offering and a burnt offering.

1. Atonement: God's Gift to Us

2. The Power of Reconciliation Through Atonement

1. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 14:32 This is the law of him in whom is the plague of leprosy, whose hand is not able to get that which pertaineth to his cleansing.

This passage outlines the law for someone with leprosy whose resources are not sufficient to procure the materials necessary for their cleansing.

1. God's Mercy is Unlimited - Romans 5:8

2. The Power of Restoration - Isaiah 61:1-3

1. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds?

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne.

Leviticus 14:33 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

The LORD commanded Moses and Aaron to purify a house from leprosy.

1: We must purify not only our bodies but our homes as well.

2: We must be obedient to the Lord's commands.

1: Ephesians 5:25-27 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 14:34 When ye be come into the land of Canaan, which I give to you for a possession, and I put the plague of leprosy in a house of the land of your possession;

This passage speaks of God giving the Israelites land in Canaan and warning them of the plague of leprosy if they disobey His commands.

1. Abiding By God's Word - The Israelites were given a great gift in the land of Canaan, and God warned them to follow His commands or risk the plague of leprosy.

2. Reaping What You Sow - God shows us in Leviticus 14:34 that if we are disobedient, we may suffer the consequences of the plague of leprosy.

1. Deuteronomy 12:28 - Observe and obey all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, when thou doest that which is good and right in the sight of the Lord thy God.

2. Isaiah 1:19-20 - If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Leviticus 14:35 And he that owneth the house shall come and tell the priest, saying, It seemeth to me there is as it were a plague in the house:

The owner of a house must report to the priest if they suspect a plague is present in their home.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble: Learning from the Example of the House Owner in Leviticus 14:35

2. Having the Courage to Report: The House Owner in Leviticus 14:35 as a Model for Our Lives

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Leviticus 14:36 Then the priest shall command that they empty the house, before the priest go into it to see the plague, that all that is in the house be not made unclean: and afterward the priest shall go in to see the house:

The priest is commanded to empty a house before entering to inspect the plague so that nothing inside is made unclean.

1: We must always be mindful of the things we allow into our lives. We must make sure that the things we invest our time, energy and money in do not lead us away from God.

2: We must not take the Lord's commands lightly. We must take them to heart and be mindful of the consequences of our actions.

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.

2: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Leviticus 14:37 And he shall look on the plague, and, behold, if the plague be in the walls of the house with hollow strakes, greenish or reddish, which in sight are lower than the wall;

The Lord commands the people to look for hollow strakes in the walls of a house that are greenish or reddish and lower than the wall.

1. The Lord's Eye of Discernment: Seeing the Unseen

2. The Lord's Call to Obedience: Following Commands

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Proverbs 3:1-7 - "My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart."

Leviticus 14:38 Then the priest shall go out of the house to the door of the house, and shut up the house seven days:

The priest is instructed to leave the house and close it for seven days.

1. God's Justice - We can trust God's justice, even when we don't understand the consequences of our actions.

2. Obedience - Following the instructions of God brings us closer to His will.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Leviticus 14:39 And the priest shall come again the seventh day, and shall look: and, behold, if the plague be spread in the walls of the house;

The priest will come back to inspect the house on the seventh day to see if the plague has spread.

1. The Importance of Inspecting the House: A Study on Leviticus 14:39

2. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times: Examining Leviticus 14:39

1. Deuteronomy 7:15 - "And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you know, on you; but will lay them on all those who hate you."

2. Jeremiah 33:6 - "Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth."

Leviticus 14:40 Then the priest shall command that they take away the stones in which the plague is, and they shall cast them into an unclean place without the city:

The priest in Leviticus 14:40 orders that the stones containing the plague be removed from the city and cast into an unclean place.

1. Understanding God's Mercy in a Plague-Filled World

2. The Power of Purity and Holiness in Everyday Life

1. Psalm 107:17-20 - Some were fools through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities suffered affliction; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction.

2. Isaiah 33:14-16 - The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless: Who among us can dwell with the consuming fire? Who among us can dwell with everlasting flames? He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking on evil.

Leviticus 14:41 And he shall cause the house to be scraped within round about, and they shall pour out the dust that they scrape off without the city into an unclean place:

The scraping of the house is a symbolic gesture of purification.

1: We must cleanse our lives of sin and impurity, that we may be right with God.

2: We must strive to keep our lives clean and holy, so that we may reflect the glory of God.

1: Psalm 51:2 - "Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!"

2: 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Leviticus 14:42 And they shall take other stones, and put them in the place of those stones; and he shall take other morter, and shall plaister the house.

The instructions given in Leviticus 14:42 are to take stones and mortar and use them to plaister a house.

1. God's Plan for Our Lives: A Look at Leviticus 14:42

2. Building a Home with God's Guidance: A Study of Leviticus 14:42

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Leviticus 14:43 And if the plague come again, and break out in the house, after that he hath taken away the stones, and after he hath scraped the house, and after it is plaistered;

If the plague returns to a house after it has been treated, the stones, scrapings, and plaster must be removed again.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions: A Study in Leviticus 14:43

2. God's Protection: An Examination of Leviticus 14:43

1. Deuteronomy 7:15 - And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

2. Psalm 91:10 - There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

Leviticus 14:44 Then the priest shall come and look, and, behold, if the plague be spread in the house, it is a fretting leprosy in the house: it is unclean.

The priest is to inspect a house for signs of leprosy and if found, the house is declared unclean.

1. The Holiness of God: Why Uncleanliness Matters.

2. The Healing Power of God: Cleansing the Unclean.

1. Leviticus 14:44 - "Then the priest shall come and look, and, behold, if the plague be spread in the house, it is a fretting leprosy in the house: it is unclean."

2. Exodus 15:26 - "And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee."

Leviticus 14:45 And he shall break down the house, the stones of it, and the timber thereof, and all the morter of the house; and he shall carry them forth out of the city into an unclean place.

A person with leprosy must break down the house they are living in and remove all the materials to an unclean place outside of the city.

1. The Cleansing Power of God: How Following the Laws of Leviticus Can Make Us Holy

2. The Power of Obedience: Why We Should Always Follow the Laws of Leviticus

1. Matthew 8:1-4 - Jesus heals a leper, showing God's power to cleanse us from sin.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 - We are a new creation in Christ, no longer living in sin.

Leviticus 14:46 Moreover he that goeth into the house all the while that it is shut up shall be unclean until the even.

This verse of Leviticus 14 instructs that anyone who enters a house while it is shut up will be considered unclean until evening.

1. "The Power of Purity: The Holiness of the Lord's House"

2. "The Importance of Keeping the Lord's House Holy"

1. Hebrews 9:14 - "How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!"

2. 1 Peter 1:16 - "For it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Leviticus 14:47 And he that lieth in the house shall wash his clothes; and he that eateth in the house shall wash his clothes.

In Leviticus 14:47 it is mentioned that people who are staying in a house should wash their clothes, as well as those who are eating in the house.

1. Living Cleanly - Encouraging others to live a life of holiness and purity.

2. Obedience to God's Commandments - Understanding the importance of following God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 29:29 - "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 14:48 And if the priest shall come in, and look upon it, and, behold, the plague hath not spread in the house, after the house was plaistered: then the priest shall pronounce the house clean, because the plague is healed.

The priest is given the authority to declare a house clean if the plague has been healed after the house was plastered.

1. God's Love and Mercy for His People - Leviticus 14:48

2. The Power of Prayer and Faith - Leviticus 14:48

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. James 5:14-15 - Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 14:49 And he shall take to cleanse the house two birds, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

This passage describes the cleansing of a house using two birds, cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop.

1: Jesus cleanses us with his blood, just like the birds, cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop cleansed the house.

2: The cleansing of the house in Leviticus 14:49 teaches us that God's commands are to be followed with faith and obedience.

1: Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2: 1 John 1:7 - But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Leviticus 14:50 And he shall kill the one of the birds in an earthen vessel over running water:

The Lord commanded that one of two birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water.

1: Our obedience to the Lord is paramount, even when it doesn't make sense.

2: The Lord's commands are to be followed without hesitation.

1: Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2: John 14:21 - "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

Leviticus 14:51 And he shall take the cedar wood, and the hyssop, and the scarlet, and the living bird, and dip them in the blood of the slain bird, and in the running water, and sprinkle the house seven times:

This passage describes the ritual of cleansing a house of leprosy, which involves taking cedar wood, hyssop, scarlet, and a living bird, and dipping them in the blood of a slain bird and running water, then sprinkling the house seven times.

1. His Blood Sprinkled Seven Times: The Power of Jesus' Sacrifice

2. Cleansing Our Lives through the Water of the Word

1. Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God s grace.

2. Titus 3:5 - He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Leviticus 14:52 And he shall cleanse the house with the blood of the bird, and with the running water, and with the living bird, and with the cedar wood, and with the hyssop, and with the scarlet:

The cleansing of a house is done with blood, running water, a living bird, cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet.

1. The Cleansing Power of Faith

2. The Beauty of Obedience to God's Commands

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Leviticus 14:53 But he shall let go the living bird out of the city into the open fields, and make an atonement for the house: and it shall be clean.

A living bird is to be released into the open fields as a way to make atonement for a house and to make it clean.

1.The Bird of Atonement How Christ Redeems Us

2.Sacrificial Love What God s Atonement Means for Us

1.Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2.Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Leviticus 14:54 This is the law for all manner of plague of leprosy, and scall,

This passage outlines the law concerning leprosy and scall.

1. The Mercy of the Lord: How God's Law Offers Healing and Restoration

2. The Life-Changing Impact of Obeying the Lord's Commands

1. Psalm 103:3 - Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

2. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Leviticus 14:55 And for the leprosy of a garment, and of a house,

This passage speaks of the cleansing of leprosy in garments and houses.

1. The Power of Cleansing: An Examination of Leviticus 14:55

2. The Significance of Purification: A Study of God's Holiness

1. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.

2. Matthew 8:3-4 - And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Leviticus 14:56 And for a rising, and for a scab, and for a bright spot:

This passage talks about the regulations for dealing with skin conditions in Leviticus.

1: We are reminded of the importance of following God's commands, even when we may not understand why they are given.

2: God's laws are given to us for our protection and to show us His love for us.

1: Deuteronomy 6:5-6 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts."

2: James 1:22-25 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

Leviticus 14:57 To teach when it is unclean, and when it is clean: this is the law of leprosy.

This passage outlines the laws of leprosy and how to distinguish between clean and unclean.

1. The Holiness of God: Understanding the Laws of Leprosy

2. How to be a Clean Vessel: The Spiritual Significance of Leprosy

1. Leviticus 11:44-45 For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming creature that moves on the earth.

2. Matthew 5:48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Leviticus 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 15:1-15 introduces the laws regarding bodily discharges. It addresses both male and female discharges that render a person unclean. Various types of discharges are described, including abnormal genital discharge, menstrual flow in women, and emissions of semen from men. The chapter provides guidelines on how these conditions affect a person's ceremonial cleanliness and what actions they must take to regain purity.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 15:16-33 , the chapter further details the regulations concerning bodily discharges. It emphasizes the importance of personal hygiene during these times of impurity and highlights that anyone who touches an unclean person or their belongings also becomes unclean until evening. Specific instructions are given for cleansing oneself after the period of impurity ends, including washing one's clothes and bathing in water.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 15 concludes by emphasizing that these laws are essential for maintaining cleanliness within the Israelite community. It stresses that failure to observe these regulations results in defilement not only for individuals but also for their dwelling places and objects they come into contact with. The chapter underscores God's concern for holiness among His people by providing clear guidelines on how to handle situations related to bodily discharges.

In summary:

Leviticus 15 presents:

Laws regarding bodily discharges rendering a person unclean;

Descriptions of various types of discharges affecting both males, females;

Guidelines on actions required to regain ceremonial purity.

Importance of personal hygiene during periods of impurity;

Transmission of uncleanness through touch, contact with unclean persons or belongings;

Instructions for cleansing oneself after period ends washing clothes, bathing.

Emphasis on maintaining cleanliness within Israelite community;

Defilement extending to dwelling places, objects through failure to observe regulations;

God's concern for holiness among His people reflected in these guidelines.

This chapter focuses on the laws concerning bodily discharges and their impact on ceremonial cleanliness within the Israelite community. It addresses various types of discharges that render a person unclean, including abnormal genital discharge, menstrual flow in women, and emissions of semen from men. The chapter provides detailed guidelines on how these conditions affect a person's purity status and outlines the necessary actions to regain ceremonial cleanliness.

Furthermore, Leviticus 15 emphasizes personal hygiene during periods of impurity and highlights that contact with an unclean person or their belongings also results in temporary uncleanness until evening. Specific instructions are given for cleansing oneself after the period of impurity ends, including washing clothes and bathing in water.

The chapter concludes by underscoring the importance of maintaining cleanliness within the Israelite community. It warns that failure to observe these regulations not only defiles individuals but also affects their dwelling places and objects they come into contact with. These laws demonstrate God's concern for holiness among His people by providing clear guidelines on how to handle situations related to bodily discharges while emphasizing personal hygiene and maintaining ceremonial purity.

Leviticus 15:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying,

This passage outlines the Lord's instructions to Moses and Aaron about how to handle bodily discharges.

1: God instructs us to be mindful of our bodies, and to care for them according to His commands.

2: In matters of physical health, we must always seek God's guidance and follow His instructions.

1: Proverbs 3:7-8 - "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones."

2: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Leviticus 15:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When any man hath a running issue out of his flesh, because of his issue he is unclean.

God instructs the Israelites that any man with a running issue from his flesh is unclean.

1. The Power of Purity: Learning to Live by God's Guidelines

2. Understanding Uncleanliness: God's Laws on Physical Impurities

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Leviticus 18:19-20 - "Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness. Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her."

Leviticus 15:3 And this shall be his uncleanness in his issue: whether his flesh run with his issue, or his flesh be stopped from his issue, it is his uncleanness.

This passage describes the uncleanness of running or stopped bodily discharge.

1. God's Holiness and Our Cleanliness

2. Keeping Ourselves Set Apart for God

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 15:4 Every bed, whereon he lieth that hath the issue, is unclean: and every thing, whereon he sitteth, shall be unclean.

Every bed and item of furniture that someone with a discharge sits or lies on is unclean.

1. "A Clean Conscience Before the Lord"

2. "The Power of Holiness in our Lives"

1. Proverbs 4:23 - "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 15:5 And whosoever toucheth his bed shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

This passage from Leviticus outlines the ritual of purification for those who come into contact with an unclean person or object.

1. Purifying Ourselves: Practicing Rituals of Cleanliness and Holiness

2. The Holiness of God: Responding to Contamination with Purity

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 - Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

2. Matthew 15:17-19 - Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated? But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man.

Leviticus 15:6 And he that sitteth on any thing whereon he sat that hath the issue shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

This passage from Leviticus speaks of uncleanness and the actions required to be purified.

1: Jesus is our purity and He alone can wash us white as snow.

2: We must seek to be cleansed and purified from our sin to experience God's grace.

1: 2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2: Titus 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Leviticus 15:7 And he that toucheth the flesh of him that hath the issue shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

This passage describes the process of purification after touching someone with a bodily discharge.

1. The Power of Purification: How God Gives Us Strength to Be Clean

2. The Blessing of Holiness: A Guide to Living with Purity

1. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

2. Psalm 51:7 - Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Leviticus 15:8 And if he that hath the issue spit upon him that is clean; then he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

A person who has an issue of blood must not come into contact with another person who is clean, or the clean person must wash their clothes and bathe in water to become unclean until the evening.

1. The Power of Cleanliness: How to Stay Holy in an Unclean World

2. Separation of the Clean and Unclean: Understanding Leviticus 15:8

1. Matthew 23:25-26 - Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

2. Psalm 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Leviticus 15:9 And what saddle soever he rideth upon that hath the issue shall be unclean.

This passage states that any saddle ridden by a person who has a discharge shall be considered unclean.

1. Holiness in the Sight of God: A Biblical Study of Uncleanness

2. The Importance of Sanctification and Cleanliness in our Lives

1. Numbers 19:11-16 - Instructions for ritual cleansing

2. Deuteronomy 23:12-14 - Rules for sanitation in a camp

Leviticus 15:10 And whosoever toucheth any thing that was under him shall be unclean until the even: and he that beareth any of those things shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

A person who touches something that was under a person who is unclean must wash their clothes and bathe in water to become clean again.

1: God cares deeply about cleanliness and it is important to be aware of our surroundings and be diligent in our efforts to remain clean.

2: We should not take the commandments of God lightly, for He has given us His laws to keep us safe and in His favor.

1: Psalm 51:2 - Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

2: Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Leviticus 15:11 And whomsoever he toucheth that hath the issue, and hath not rinsed his hands in water, he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

Those who come into contact with someone with an issue must immediately wash their hands in water and their clothes, and bathe themselves in water before sundown in order to remain clean.

1. God's Word is Clear: We Must Remain Clean

2. Obedience is Key: Follow God's Instructions to Remain Clean

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

Leviticus 15:12 And the vessel of earth, that he toucheth which hath the issue, shall be broken: and every vessel of wood shall be rinsed in water.

In Leviticus 15:12, it is stated that any pottery vessel which has been touched by someone with a bodily discharge should be broken, and any wooden vessel should be rinsed in water.

1. The Importance of Holiness and Separation from Impurity

2. The Power of Cleanliness in our Lives

1. Numbers 19:19-22 Anyone who touches a dead body, any human bone or grave, must be unclean for seven days. To purify themselves, they must wash their clothes and bathe with water and remain in isolation for seven days.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Leviticus 15:13 And when he that hath an issue is cleansed of his issue; then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in running water, and shall be clean.

A person with a bodily issue must be cleansed and must observe seven days of cleansing to be clean. This includes washing their clothes and bathing in running water.

1. The Power of Cleansing: What We Can Learn from Leviticus 15:13

2. Seven Days of Holiness: Understanding the Significance of the Cleansing Process in Leviticus

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Galatians 5:16-17 - But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Leviticus 15:14 And on the eighth day he shall take to him two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, and come before the LORD unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and give them unto the priest:

On the eighth day, a person must take two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the tabernacle of the congregation and give them to the priest.

1. The Significance of the Eighth Day - Exploring the symbolism and meaning behind this ritual in Leviticus.

2. Sacrifice and Obedience - Exploring the importance of sacrifice and obedience to the Lord.

1. Isaiah 1:11-17 - Context of sacrifice being an inadequate substitute for obedience

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - Context of reconciling with others before making a sacrifice to the Lord.

Leviticus 15:15 And the priest shall offer them, the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering; and the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD for his issue.

The priest provides a sin offering and a burnt offering to make atonement for someone with an issue before the LORD.

1. The Power of Atonement: How Christ's Sacrifice Unlocks Forgiveness

2. Understanding Holiness: How to Live Set Apart in a Fallen World

1. Isaiah 53:4-5 (Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.)

2. Romans 5:8 (But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.)

Leviticus 15:16 And if any man's seed of copulation go out from him, then he shall wash all his flesh in water, and be unclean until the even.

A man is considered unclean if his semen is released and he must wash his body in water to become clean again.

1. God has established standards of purity for us to follow.

2. Recognizing and maintaining our holiness is an important part of our spiritual lives.

1. 1 John 3:3 - And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

2. Titus 2:11-14 - For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

Leviticus 15:17 And every garment, and every skin, whereon is the seed of copulation, shall be washed with water, and be unclean until the even.

This passage outlines the need for washing of garments or skin that have come into contact with semen, as they are considered unclean until the evening.

1. "Be Holy as He is Holy: Abide by the Laws of Cleanliness"

2. "The Power of Purity: Respect God's Instructions for Separation"

1. Genesis 2:24-25 - Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

2. Hebrews 12:14 - Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Leviticus 15:18 The woman also with whom man shall lie with seed of copulation, they shall both bathe themselves in water, and be unclean until the even.

A man and woman engaging in sexual intercourse must both bathe and be considered unclean until sundown.

1. Be Pure: A Call to Holiness in Intimate Relationships

2. Cleanliness is Next to Holiness: A Study of the Holiness Code in Leviticus

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 - Paul's exhortation to holiness and self-control

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Paul's call to be transformed and to offer our bodies as living sacrifices to God.

Leviticus 15:19 And if a woman have an issue, and her issue in her flesh be blood, she shall be put apart seven days: and whosoever toucheth her shall be unclean until the even.

This passage from Leviticus 15:19 describes the laws of purification for a woman with a monthly issue of blood.

1. The Holiness of God: Purification and Separation

2. Rediscovering the Rituals of the Ancient Israelites

1. Numbers 31:19-20 - And do ye abide without the camp seven days: whosoever hath killed any person, and whosoever hath touched any slain, purify both yourselves and your captives on the third day, and on the seventh day. And purify all your raiment, and all that is made of skins, and all work of goats' hair, and all things made of wood.

2. Ezekiel 36:25 - Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Leviticus 15:20 And every thing that she lieth upon in her separation shall be unclean: every thing also that she sitteth upon shall be unclean.

Leviticus 15:20 outlines the uncleanliness of any object that a woman lies or sits upon during her period of separation.

1. "The Uncleanliness of Separation: What Leviticus 15:20 Teaches Us"

2. "Why Cleanliness Matters: An Exploration of Leviticus 15:20"

1. Deuteronomy 22:11 - "You shall not wear a garment of cloth made of two kinds of material mixed together."

2. Leviticus 11:44 - "For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy."

Leviticus 15:21 And whosoever toucheth her bed shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

If someone touches a bed of a woman who is menstruating, they must wash their clothes, bathe, and remain unclean until sundown.

1. God's commands provide us with guidance and a sense of holiness.

2. God's commands are designed to keep us safe and prevent us from harm.

1. Exodus 30:19-20 - "For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: when they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD."

2. Mark 7:1-4 - "Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem. And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault. For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders. And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables."

Leviticus 15:22 And whosoever toucheth any thing that she sat upon shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

This passage from Leviticus instructs people that any objects touched by a menstruating woman must be washed and anyone who touches it must also clean themselves in water and be unclean until evening.

1. The Holiness of God: A Study of Leviticus 15:22

2. The Spiritual Significance of Menstruation: A Study of Leviticus 15:22

1. Luke 2:22-24 - And when the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses was completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord.

2. Exodus 19:14-15 - So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people, and they washed their garments. And he said to the people, Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman.

Leviticus 15:23 And if it be on her bed, or on any thing whereon she sitteth, when he toucheth it, he shall be unclean until the even.

This passage states that if a person touches something that a woman with a discharge has been in contact with, they will be unclean until the evening.

1. The Holiness of God: Staying Pure and Righteous in a World of Uncleanliness

2. The Power of Purity: Maintaining Holiness Despite Life's Challenges

1. Galatians 5:19-23 - The works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit

2. 1 Peter 1:13-16 - Living a holy and blameless life in God's sight

Leviticus 15:24 And if any man lie with her at all, and her flowers be upon him, he shall be unclean seven days; and all the bed whereon he lieth shall be unclean.

This passage from Leviticus 15:24 emphasizes the need for holiness and cleanliness, both physical and spiritual.

1. "The Power of Holiness: The Call to an Upright Life"

2. "Why Cleanliness Matters: A Study of Leviticus 15:24"

1. Proverbs 4:23-24 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Leviticus 15:25 And if a woman have an issue of her blood many days out of the time of her separation, or if it run beyond the time of her separation; all the days of the issue of her uncleanness shall be as the days of her separation: she shall be unclean.

This passage explains that if a woman has any kind of menstrual flow outside of her normal cycle, she is considered unclean.

1. Our bodies are sacred and to be respected, and we should take care of them in a way that is pleasing to God.

2. We should not be ashamed of our bodies or any natural functions that occur, but instead be grateful to God for the blessing of life.

1. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Leviticus 15:26 Every bed whereon she lieth all the days of her issue shall be unto her as the bed of her separation: and whatsoever she sitteth upon shall be unclean, as the uncleanness of her separation.

The bed of a woman during her period of menstruation and anything she sits on is to be considered unclean according to the laws of Leviticus 15:26.

1. Reaffirming God's Holiness: How the Laws of Leviticus 15:26 Demonstrate the Holiness of God

2. The Power of Separation: How the Laws of Leviticus 15:26 Promote Holiness and Separation from Impurity

1. Deuteronomy 23:14-15 - For the Lord thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.

2. Isaiah 6:3 - And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Leviticus 15:27 And whosoever toucheth those things shall be unclean, and shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

In Leviticus 15:27, it is described that when someone touches something unclean, they must wash their clothes and bathe in water in order to be considered clean again.

1. The importance of being clean in the eyes of the Lord.

2. Practicing purity in our everyday lives.

1. Hebrews 9:13-14 - For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. Titus 2:11-12 - For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say No to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

Leviticus 15:28 But if she be cleansed of her issue, then she shall number to herself seven days, and after that she shall be clean.

A woman who has been cleansed from her issue must wait seven days before being considered clean.

1. God's Mercy and Patience: A Study of Leviticus 15:28

2. Faith in God's Promises: Understanding Cleanliness and Holiness in Leviticus 15:28

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2. Hebrews 10:22 - "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Leviticus 15:29 And on the eighth day she shall take unto her two turtles, or two young pigeons, and bring them unto the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

On the eighth day after a woman's period, she is to present two turtle doves or two pigeons as a sacrifice to the priest.

1. The Symbolism of Sacrifice: What do turtle doves and pigeons represent in the Bible?

2. The Significance of the Eighth Day: Why is the eighth day a special day of offering for women?

1. Leviticus 5:7 "But if he cannot afford two turtledoves or two young pigeons, then he shall bring as his offering for the sin that he has committed a tenth of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering."

2. Luke 2:22-24 "And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord ) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

Leviticus 15:30 And the priest shall offer the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering; and the priest shall make an atonement for her before the LORD for the issue of her uncleanness.

The priest must offer two sacrifices in order to atone for a woman's uncleanness according to the laws of Leviticus 15:30.

1. The Power of Atonement: Understanding the Sacrificial Practices of Leviticus 15:30.

2. The Sanctity of Forgiveness: Exploring the Meaning of Leviticus 15:30.

Cross-

1. Romans 5:11 - "And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement."

2. Hebrews 10:10 - "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Leviticus 15:31 Thus shall ye separate the children of Israel from their uncleanness; that they die not in their uncleanness, when they defile my tabernacle that is among them.

God commanded the Israelites to separate themselves from their uncleanness in order to prevent them from defiling His tabernacle.

1. The Power of God's Command: How Obedience to God Brings Life

2. Keeping Ourselves Holy: A Call to Separate from Uncleanness

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. 1 John 1:5-7 - "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Leviticus 15:32 This is the law of him that hath an issue, and of him whose seed goeth from him, and is defiled therewith;

This passage discusses the laws that relate to those who have a discharge.

1: God's laws are designed to protect us and provide a path to holiness.

2: We must be mindful of our actions and strive to obey God's laws, even if they are difficult to understand.

1: Galatians 5:13-14 - For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2: 1 John 3:4 - Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

Leviticus 15:33 And of her that is sick of her flowers, and of him that hath an issue, of the man, and of the woman, and of him that lieth with her that is unclean.

This passage from Leviticus 15:33 explains the regulations regarding the contact with those who are sick or have an issue.

1. God's Holiness: Understanding the Regulations of Leviticus 15:33

2. The Power of Healing: How to Reach Out to Those with an Issue

1. Matthew 26:41 - "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

2. James 5:14-15 - "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

Leviticus 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 16:1-10 introduces the Day of Atonement, a significant annual ritual for the Israelites. The chapter begins by recounting the tragic deaths of Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, when they offered unauthorized fire before the Lord. God instructs Moses to warn Aaron that he should not enter the Most Holy Place at any time he chooses but only on the Day of Atonement. On this day, Aaron is to prepare himself by washing and putting on sacred garments. He then presents offerings for his own sins and those of the people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 16:11-28 , detailed instructions are given for the rituals performed by Aaron on the Day of Atonement. Two goats are chosen one as a sin offering and one as a scapegoat. The sin offering goat is sacrificed to make atonement for Aaron and his household, while its blood is used to purify the Most Holy Place. The scapegoat has all the sins of Israel symbolically placed upon it before being sent away into the wilderness.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 16 concludes with regulations regarding observing the Day of Atonement as a lasting ordinance for future generations. It emphasizes that this day is set apart as a Sabbath of solemn rest, during which no work is to be done by anyone in Israelite society. The chapter stresses that through these rituals and observances, atonement is made for all their sins once a year.

In summary:

Leviticus 16 presents:

Introduction to significant ritual Day of Atonement;

Instructions given specifically to Aaron;

Preparation involving washing, sacred garments.

Detailed instructions regarding rituals performed on Day of Atonement;

Selection, offerings of two goats one for sin offering, one as scapegoat;

Sacrifice to make atonement, blood purification, symbolic transfer of sins.

Regulations for observing Day of Atonement as a lasting ordinance;

Designation as a Sabbath of solemn rest no work allowed;

Emphasis on annual atonement for all sins through these rituals.

This chapter focuses on the instructions and rituals associated with the Day of Atonement, a significant event in Israelite religious practice. The chapter begins by recounting the deaths of Aaron's sons and God's command to Aaron regarding his entry into the Most Holy Place. On the Day of Atonement, Aaron is to prepare himself through washing and wearing sacred garments before presenting offerings for his own sins and those of the people.

Furthermore, Leviticus 16 provides detailed instructions for the rituals performed on this day. Two goats are chosen one as a sin offering and one as a scapegoat. The sin offering goat is sacrificed to make atonement for Aaron and his household, while its blood is used to purify the Most Holy Place. The scapegoat has all the sins symbolically placed upon it before being sent away into the wilderness.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing that observing the Day of Atonement is a lasting ordinance for future generations. It designates this day as a Sabbath of solemn rest when no work is to be done by anyone in Israelite society. Through these prescribed rituals and observances, atonement is made once a year for all their sins. This highlights God's provision for forgiveness and reconciliation between Himself and His people through specific acts performed by designated individuals on this special day.

Leviticus 16:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered before the LORD, and died;

The LORD spoke to Moses after the death of Aaron's two sons, who offered a sacrifice to the LORD and died.

1. Remembrance of God's Faithfulness in Times of Grief

2. Learning from Aaron's Sons: The Power of Obedience

1. Psalm 34:18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings.

Leviticus 16:2 And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat.

God instructed Moses to tell Aaron not to enter the Most Holy Place within the veil at any time, or he would die, because God will appear in the cloud on the mercy seat.

1. The Holiness of God: Respect His Boundaries

2. The Mercy of God: His Presence is Enough

1. Psalm 99:1 - The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth [between] the cherubims; let the earth be moved.

2. Exodus 25:22 - And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all [things] which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

Leviticus 16:3 Thus shall Aaron come into the holy place: with a young bullock for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering.

Aaron is to enter the holy place with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.

1. The Importance of God's Holiness and Our Need for Atonement

2. The Greatness of God's Mercy and Forgiveness

1. Romans 3:23-24 - "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

Leviticus 16:4 He shall put on the holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches upon his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen mitre shall he be attired: these are holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and so put them on.

Aaron is to put on holy garments and wash his flesh before doing so.

1. The Holiness of Our Preparation - Let us remember the importance of preparation as we approach our worship of the Lord.

2. The Power of Holy Garments - We are called to recognize the power of these garments and how they set us apart.

1. Isaiah 52:11 - "Depart, depart, go out from there; touch no unclean thing; go out from the midst of her, purify yourselves, you who bear the vessels of the Lord."

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Leviticus 16:5 And he shall take of the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering.

The Lord commanded the children of Israel to bring two goats and one ram for a sin and burnt offering.

1. The Importance of Offering Sacrifices to God

2. The Significance of Atonement and Forgiveness

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Hebrews 10:4-10 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book. When he said above, You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings (these are offered according to the law), then he added, Behold, I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second.

Leviticus 16:6 And Aaron shall offer his bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself, and for his house.

Aaron was commanded to offer a bullock as a sin offering to make atonement for himself and his house.

1. The Power of Atonement in the Old Testament

2. The Significance of Making Atonement in Leviticus

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Leviticus 16:7 And he shall take the two goats, and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Aaron is instructed to take two goats and bring them to the tabernacle of the congregation to present them to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. Sacrifice and Atonement in the Old Testament

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?"

2. Isaiah 53:10 - "Yet it was the Lord s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand."

Leviticus 16:8 And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for the scapegoat.

Aaron was instructed to cast lots over two goats, one for the Lord and one for the scapegoat.

1. "The Scapegoat and God's Mercy"

2. "Atonement Through the Sacrificial System"

1. Isaiah 53:6 - "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

Leviticus 16:9 And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the LORD's lot fell, and offer him for a sin offering.

Aaron must offer a goat as a sin offering to the Lord according to the will of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Sacrificial Obedience

2. The Holiness of God and Our Need for Atonement

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Hebrews 9:12-15 - He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Leviticus 16:10 But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

The goat on which the lot fell is to be presented alive before the Lord to make an atonement and to be released into the wilderness.

1. Atonement through Release: Exploring the Significance of the Scapegoat in Leviticus

2. The Nature of Atonement: An Exploration of Leviticus 16:10

1. Hebrews 9:22 - In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness

2. Isaiah 53:4-6 - Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Leviticus 16:11 And Aaron shall bring the bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and shall make an atonement for himself, and for his house, and shall kill the bullock of the sin offering which is for himself:

Aaron was to bring a bullock for a sin offering and make atonement for himself and his house.

1. The Power of Atonement

2. The Importance of Repentance

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Hebrews 9:14 - How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Leviticus 16:12 And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it within the vail:

Aaron, the High Priest, was commanded to take coals of fire from off the altar of the LORD and sweet incense beaten small, and bring them within the vail.

1. Our faith is an offering of fire: the importance of sacrificing for the Lord.

2. A fragrant offering: the power of prayer and worship to the Lord.

1. Isaiah 6:6-7: "Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.

2. Psalm 141:2: "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!"

Leviticus 16:13 And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony, that he die not:

Aaron, the high priest, is instructed to put incense on the fire before the Lord so that a cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony and he will not die.

1. The Importance of Offering Incense to God

2. The Mercy and Protection of God in the Atonement

1. Psalm 141:2 - Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

2. Hebrews 9:5 - And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

Leviticus 16:14 And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.

The blood of a bullock is sprinkled with a finger seven times on the mercy seat eastward.

1: The mercy of God is everlasting and can never be fully expressed through human means.

2: We must continually present our sins to God for forgiveness and mercy.

1: Isaiah 53:5-6 "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2: Hebrews 10:19-22 "Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water."

Leviticus 16:15 Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that is for the people, and bring his blood within the vail, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat:

1. The Blood of the Sin Offering: Why It Is Necessary for Our Redemption

2. The Significance of the Mercy Seat: God's Provision for Our Salvation

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

2. Romans 3:23-25 - "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith."

Leviticus 16:16 And he shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

The Lord instructed Moses to make atonement for the holy place and the tabernacle of the congregation due to the sins of the children of Israel.

1. The Power of Atonement: How God's Mercy Can Overcome Our Sins

2. The Holiness of the Tabernacle: A Lesson on the Importance of God's Commandments

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 9:11-15 - "But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!"

Leviticus 16:17 And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goeth in to make an atonement in the holy place, until he come out, and have made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the congregation of Israel.

On the Day of Atonement, no one is to enter the tabernacle while the High Priest makes atonement for himself, his family and all of Israel.

1. The Importance of Atonement: How God's Mercy Transforms Our Lives

2. The Power of Atonement: Experiencing God's Forgiveness and Renewal

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake; and I will not remember your sins.

2. Hebrews 9:14 - How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Leviticus 16:18 And he shall go out unto the altar that is before the LORD, and make an atonement for it; and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put it upon the horns of the altar round about.

This passage describes the atonement process prescribed by God for the altar of the Lord.

1. Atonement: The Cost of Reconciliation

2. The Necessity of Atonement

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Romans 5:10 - For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Leviticus 16:19 And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

Aaron, the High Priest, was instructed to sprinkle the blood of the sacrifice on the altar seven times to cleanse and hallow it from the uncleanness of the Israelites.

1. The Power of Cleansing Blood - How Jesus' sacrifice cleanses us from sin.

2. The Holiness of God's Altar - How God's altar is set apart for His glory.

1. Hebrews 9:14 - "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

2. John 15:3 - "Now you are clean through the word which I have spoken to you."

Leviticus 16:20 And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat:

The High Priest must offer a live goat in reconciliation after completing all the necessary steps in the tabernacle.

1: The importance of reconciliation in our lives

2: The value of offerings in God's eyes

1: Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2: Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

Leviticus 16:21 And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness:

Aaron was instructed to lay both of his hands on the head of a live goat and confess all of the sins of the Israelites, transferring them onto the goat, who would then be sent away into the wilderness.

1. The Atonement of Sin - How the Lord Provided Redemption Through Sacrifice

2. Understanding God's Plan of Redemption - The Purpose of the Scapegoat

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Leviticus 16:22 And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

This passage speaks of a goat bearing the people's iniquities and releasing it in a wilderness.

1. God's Grace and Forgiveness - How Jesus Became the Ultimate Sacrifice

2. The Power of Letting Go - Learning to Surrender to God

1. Isaiah 53:4-6 - Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Leviticus 16:23 And Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall put off the linen garments, which he put on when he went into the holy place, and shall leave them there:

Aaron is to enter the tabernacle of the congregation and remove the linen garments that he put on when he entered the holy place.

1. The importance of holiness and reverence when approaching the Lord

2. Clothing yourself in righteousness before God

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall be joyful in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

2. Romans 13:14 - But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Leviticus 16:24 And he shall wash his flesh with water in the holy place, and put on his garments, and come forth, and offer his burnt offering, and the burnt offering of the people, and make an atonement for himself, and for the people.

This passage describes how a priest must wash himself, put on his garments, and offer burnt offerings in order to make atonement for himself and the people.

1. The Priestly Duty of Atonement

2. The Significance of Sacrificial Offerings

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Leviticus 16:25 And the fat of the sin offering shall he burn upon the altar.

The sin offering must be burned upon the altar as a form of sacrifice.

1: We must always be willing to give up something of ourselves to God in order to be forgiven.

2: As God gave us the ultimate sacrifice in Jesus, we must be willing to offer up our own sacrifices to Him.

1: Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2: Philippians 4:18 - I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

Leviticus 16:26 And he that let go the goat for the scapegoat shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp.

The man who sends away the goat for the scapegoat is instructed to wash his clothes and bathe before returning to the camp.

1. The Importance of Cleanliness Before Entering the Camp

2. The Symbolism of the Scapegoat

1. James 4:8 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression.

Leviticus 16:27 And the bullock for the sin offering, and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, shall one carry forth without the camp; and they shall burn in the fire their skins, and their flesh, and their dung.

The blood of a bull and a goat were offered in the Holy Place to make atonement for sin. The bull and the goat were then carried out of the camp and burned.

1. The Power of Atonement: Understanding the Significance of Blood Offering in the Bible

2. The Sacrificial System of Ancient Israel: Exploring the Meaning Behind the Rituals

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Hebrews 9:11-14 - When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Leviticus 16:28 And he that burneth them shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp.

This passage speaks of the need for priests to wash their clothes and bathe in water before entering the camp.

1. The Importance of Ritual Purification

2. Washing Away Sin and Cleansing our Souls

1. Romans 6:4-5 - We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Leviticus 16:29 And this shall be a statute for ever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth among you:

This passage is about the annual Day of Atonement in the seventh month of the Hebrew calendar.

1. A Call to Remember: Embracing the Day of Atonement

2. Seeking Forgiveness: The Purpose of the Day of Atonement

1. Isaiah 58:5-7

2. Psalm 103:12-14

Leviticus 16:30 For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the LORD.

The priest makes an atonement for the people to cleanse them from their sins.

1. The Power of Atonement: How Jesus Christ's Sacrifice Cleanses Us from Our Sins

2. The Priestly Role of Atonement: How We Can Find Forgiveness and Reconciliation

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 16:31 It shall be a sabbath of rest unto you, and ye shall afflict your souls, by a statute for ever.

Leviticus 16:31 commands that a Sabbath of rest be observed and that one's soul should be afflicted as a permanent ordinance.

1. God's Commandment to Rest: The Significance of Sabbath

2. Abiding in Holiness and Atonement: Afflicting Your Soul

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the Lord honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words.

Leviticus 16:32 And the priest, whom he shall anoint, and whom he shall consecrate to minister in the priest's office in his father's stead, shall make the atonement, and shall put on the linen clothes, even the holy garments:

The priest appointed in place of the deceased priest's father shall make atonement and put on the linen holy garments.

1. The Priestly Atonement: The Clothed in Holiness

2. The Priestly Exchange: God's Provision of Atonement

1. Hebrews 10:14-17 - For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

2. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Leviticus 16:33 And he shall make an atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make an atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar, and he shall make an atonement for the priests, and for all the people of the congregation.

This passage from Leviticus describes how the priest was to make an atonement for the holy sanctuary, the tabernacle of the congregation, the altar, the priests, and all the people of the congregation.

1. Atonement: The Path to Sanctification

2. Forgiveness through Atonement: A Path to Reconciliation

1. Hebrews 9:15 - And for this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leviticus 16:34 And this shall be an everlasting statute unto you, to make an atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year. And he did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses was commanded by the LORD to make an atonement for the children of Israel once a year, and he followed this instruction.

1. The Need for Atonement: Understanding the Importance of Reconciliation with God

2. The Holiness of God and Our Need for Repentance

1. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

2. Romans 5:11 - And not only this, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Leviticus 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 17:1-9 introduces the regulations regarding the proper handling of animal sacrifices. The chapter emphasizes that all Israelites are to bring their animal sacrifices to the entrance of the tent of meeting and present them before the Lord. It prohibits offering sacrifices to goat idols or in any other location outside the designated place of worship. The purpose behind these regulations is to prevent the people from engaging in idolatry and ensure that they worship and offer sacrifices exclusively to God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 17:10-16 , specific instructions are given regarding consuming blood. The chapter states that no one among the Israelites, as well as any foreigners residing among them, is allowed to eat blood. This prohibition extends not only to animals hunted for food but also includes domesticated animals slaughtered for meat. Blood is considered sacred because it represents life, and it is through lifeblood that atonement is made on the altar.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 17 concludes by emphasizing that blood must be poured out on the ground when an animal is killed for food. It explains that this act symbolizes returning life back to God who gave it, acknowledging His authority over life and death. The chapter reiterates that consuming blood carries severe consequences and results in being cut off from God's people.

In summary:

Leviticus 17 presents:

Regulations concerning proper handling of animal sacrifices;

Requirement to bring offerings before the Lord at designated place;

Prohibition against offering sacrifices outside authorized worship site.

Instructions prohibiting consumption of blood by Israelites, foreigners;

Extension of prohibition beyond hunted animals includes domesticated ones;

Significance of blood representing life; atonement made through lifeblood.

Emphasis on pouring out blood on ground during animal slaughter;

Symbolic act of returning life to God; acknowledging His authority;

Warning of severe consequences for consuming blood being cut off from the community.

This chapter focuses on the regulations regarding the handling of animal sacrifices and the prohibition against consuming blood. It emphasizes that all Israelites are to bring their animal sacrifices to the designated place of worship, presenting them before the Lord. Offering sacrifices outside this authorized location or to goat idols is strictly prohibited to prevent idolatry and ensure exclusive worship of God.

Leviticus 17 also provides specific instructions regarding the consumption of blood. It states that neither Israelites nor foreigners residing among them are allowed to eat blood, extending this prohibition beyond hunted animals to include domesticated animals slaughtered for food. The chapter highlights that blood is considered sacred as it represents life, and it is through lifeblood that atonement is made on the altar.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing the pouring out of blood on the ground during animal slaughter as a symbolic act of returning life back to God who gave it. This act acknowledges God's authority over life and death. Leviticus 17 warns against consuming blood, highlighting severe consequences such as being cut off from God's people for those who violate this prohibition. These regulations underscore the importance of proper worship practices and reverence for God's ordained rituals in Israelite society.

Leviticus 17:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD spoke to Moses to give instructions to the Israelites about the proper way to worship.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 12:13-14 - "Take care that you do not offer your burnt offerings at any place that the LORD your God chooses, but at the place that the LORD your God will choose in one of your tribes, there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I am commanding you.

2. Psalm 119:4 - You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

Leviticus 17:2 Speak unto Aaron, and unto his sons, and unto all the children of Israel, and say unto them; This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, saying,

This passage commands Aaron and his sons, as well as all the children of Israel, to heed the Lord's instructions.

1. "Obedience to God's Commands: A Call to Holiness"

2. "The Blessing of Following God's Will"

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "What does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

2. Philippians 2:12-13 - "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

Leviticus 17:3 What man soever there be of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth it out of the camp,

The Lord commanded the Israelites that whoever killed an ox, lamb, or goat in or out of the camp must be held responsible.

1. The Lord's Commandment: Obeying God in Every Situation

2. The Responsibility of Man: Taking Ownership of Our Actions

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 You shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God has commanded you: you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you...

2. Romans 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Leviticus 17:4 And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people:

A person who brings an offering to the Lord outside of the tabernacle of the congregation will be held responsible for the shedding of blood and will be cut off from his people.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands brings blessings and protection

2. The Need for Atonement - Why we must take responsibility for our sins

1. Isaiah 55:7-8 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD."

2. John 3:16-17 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Leviticus 17:5 To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them for peace offerings unto the LORD.

God commanded the Israelites to bring their sacrifices to the tabernacle of the congregation and offer them to the Lord as peace offerings.

1. The Power of Offering Sacrifices to God

2. The Value of Peace Offerings to the Lord

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Leviticus 17:6 And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the LORD.

The priest is commanded to sprinkle the blood of the sacrifice upon the altar of the LORD and to burn the fat as a sweet savour unto the LORD.

1. The Sweet Savor of Sacrifice

2. The Power of Obedience in the Old Testament

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Leviticus 17:7 And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.

The Lord commands that His people shall no longer offer sacrifices to false gods. This is a law that stands for all generations.

1. The Lord's Commandment: No More False Gods

2. Rejecting Idolatry: An Eternal Statute

1. Deuteronomy 32:17 - "They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not."

2. Psalm 106:37-38 - "Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood."

Leviticus 17:8 And thou shalt say unto them, Whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers which sojourn among you, that offereth a burnt offering or sacrifice,

God commanded the Israelites to tell anyone residing in the land that whoever offers a burnt offering or sacrifice to the Lord must do so at the entrance of the meeting tent.

1. The Lord's Offerings: A Study in Worship

2. The Lord's Commandment: An Invitation to Obedience

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Psalm 50:14-15 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.

Leviticus 17:9 And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer it unto the LORD; even that man shall be cut off from among his people.

A person who fails to bring an offering to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation will be cut off from their people.

1. The Importance of Offering to God

2. The Consequences of Not Offering to God

1. Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Leviticus 17:10 And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people.

God commands that those in the house of Israel and strangers who sojourn among them must not eat any kind of blood, lest they be cut off from the people.

1. The Danger of Eating Blood - A message on the consequences of disobeying God's commands.

2. The Importance of Holiness - A message on how to live a holy life in accordance with God's Word.

1. Galatians 5:19-21 - "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy. "

Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

God has given us the lifeblood of animals to make atonement for our souls.

1. The Power of the Atonement: Understanding the Significance of Blood Sacrifice

2. The Gift of Atonement: How God's Mercy is Manifest in Christ's Blood

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Leviticus 17:12 Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood.

God commanded the Israelites not to consume the blood of any animal, even those that sojourned with them.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the Israelites to Obey God's Commands

2. The Holiness of Blood: God's Intention for Blood to be Holy

1. Deuteronomy 12:15-16 - However, you may slaughter and eat meat within any of your gates, whatever you desire, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you; the unclean and the clean may eat of it, of the gazelle and the deer alike. Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it on the earth like water.

2. Acts 15:28-29 - For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well.

Leviticus 17:13 And whatsoever man there be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust.

God commands the Israelites and strangers living among them to pour out the blood of any animal or bird they hunt and eat, and to cover it with dust.

1. The Significance of Blood and Sacrifice in the Old Testament

2. The Holiness of Life: God's Command to Respect and Care for Creation

1. Genesis 9:4 "But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood."

2. Deuteronomy 12:23-25 "Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life; you may not eat the life with the meat."

Leviticus 17:14 For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.

God commanded the Israelites to not consume the blood of any type of animal, as the life of all flesh is in its blood.

1. "The Sanctity of Life"

2. "God's Commandments: The Key to Life"

1. Matthew 5:17-19, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

2. Revelation 22:14, "Blessed are those who do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

Leviticus 17:15 And every soul that eateth that which died of itself, or that which was torn with beasts, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger, he shall both wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even: then shall he be clean.

This passage speaks of the need for purification and cleanliness after coming into contact with something that has died or been torn by beasts.

1. "Living a Life of Purity: The Blessing of Holiness"

2. "The Path of Holiness: God's Command to Purify"

1. Psalm 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

2. Titus 2:11-12 - For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

Leviticus 17:16 But if he wash them not, nor bathe his flesh; then he shall bear his iniquity.

This passage highlights the importance of washing oneself as a sign of atonement.

1. The Power of Purification: God's Command to Wash Away Iniquity

2. Holiness Without and Within: Achieving Spiritual Cleansing

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Leviticus 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 18:1-18 begins by emphasizing the importance of following God's laws and not adopting the immoral practices of other nations. The chapter specifically addresses prohibited sexual relationships within the Israelite community. It outlines various degrees of forbidden sexual relations, including incestuous relationships with close relatives such as parents, siblings, and children. These laws aim to maintain moral purity and prevent societal degradation.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 18:19-23 , additional prohibitions regarding sexual conduct are presented. The chapter forbids engaging in sexual relations during a woman's menstrual period and condemns adultery, bestiality, and homosexual acts. These regulations highlight God's standards for sexual morality and emphasize the importance of maintaining purity within intimate relationships.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 18 concludes by underscoring that these laws are given to Israel as a means of distinguishing them from other nations. The chapter emphasizes that violating these regulations defiles the land and brings judgment upon both individuals and the entire community. It warns against imitating the sinful practices of neighboring cultures and stresses obedience to God's commands for righteousness.

In summary:

Leviticus 18 presents:

Emphasis on following God's laws; avoiding immoral practices;

Prohibited sexual relationships within Israelite community incestuous unions;

Maintaining moral purity; preventing societal degradation.

Additional prohibitions regarding sexual conduct during menstruation;

Condemnation of adultery, bestiality, homosexual acts;

Standards for sexual morality; importance of maintaining purity.

Instructions given to distinguish Israel from other nations;

Violation defiles land; brings judgment upon individuals, community;

Warning against imitating sinful practices; obedience to God's commands.

This chapter focuses on God's instructions regarding prohibited sexual relationships within the Israelite community. It begins by emphasizing the importance of following God's laws and not adopting the immoral practices of other nations. Leviticus 18 specifically addresses incestuous relationships with close relatives such as parents, siblings, and children, highlighting the need to maintain moral purity and prevent societal degradation.

Furthermore, Leviticus 18 presents additional prohibitions regarding sexual conduct. It forbids engaging in sexual relations during a woman's menstrual period and condemns adultery, bestiality, and homosexual acts. These regulations establish God's standards for sexual morality within the Israelite community and emphasize the importance of maintaining purity within intimate relationships.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing that these laws are given to Israel as a means of distinguishing them from other nations. Violating these regulations is said to defile the land and bring judgment upon both individuals and the entire community. Leviticus 18 warns against imitating sinful practices observed in neighboring cultures while stressing obedience to God's commands for righteousness. These laws serve as a guide for maintaining holiness among God's chosen people.

Leviticus 18:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, commanding him to follow His laws.

1. Obeying God's Word: The Blessing of Obedience

2. The Responsibility of Following God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 8:1-2 - The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

2. Joshua 1:7-9 - Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Leviticus 18:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, I am the LORD your God.

God speaks to the Israelites, reminding them that He is their Lord and God.

1. "A Call to Remember: Reaffirming Our Covenant with God"

2. "Living as God's People: Obedience and Faithfulness to the Lord"

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Exodus 19:5-6 - Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

Leviticus 18:3 After the doings of the land of Egypt, wherein ye dwelt, shall ye not do: and after the doings of the land of Canaan, whither I bring you, shall ye not do: neither shall ye walk in their ordinances.

God commands the Israelites to not follow the practices and customs of the Egyptians or Canaanites, but rather to follow His laws.

1. God's Law is Above Man's Law

2. How to Follow God's Commands in our Everyday Lives

1. Proverbs 6:20-23 - "My son, keep thy father s commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life"

2. Joshua 1:7-8 - "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success"

Leviticus 18:4 Ye shall do my judgments, and keep mine ordinances, to walk therein: I am the LORD your God.

The Lord instructs the people to obey His judgments and ordinances and to walk in them.

1. Living in Obedience to the Lord's Commands

2. Walking in Righteousness and Holiness

1. Ephesians 4:17-24

2. Romans 12:1-2

Leviticus 18:5 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the LORD.

This verse encourages us to obey the Lord's laws and decrees, so that we may live in them.

1: God's Laws are for our own good.

2: Obeying God brings life and blessing.

1: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 - Choose Life.

2: Romans 8:13-14 - Being led by the Spirit.

Leviticus 18:6 None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD.

This passage teaches us to respect boundaries and maintain modesty in our relationships.

1. Understand the boundaries of modesty in relationships

2. Embrace the importance of respecting the boundaries of others

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 - "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 18:7 The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

This passage speaks about honoring one's parents by not uncovering their nakedness.

1: Respect your Parents - Honor your Parents by protecting their dignity.

2: The Sacredness of Family - Honor and protect the bond between family members.

1: Ephesians 6:2-3 "Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2: Proverbs 20:20 "If someone curses his father or mother, his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness."

Leviticus 18:8 The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness.

The passage emphasizes the importance of respecting the boundaries between a father and his wife.

1. Respect and Honor Your Parents: An Overview of Leviticus 18:8

2. The Sanctity of Marriage: Our Family Relationships in Light of Leviticus 18:8

1. Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-4 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

Leviticus 18:9 The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover.

It is forbidden to uncover the nakedness of a sister, whether born at home or abroad.

1. "Living in Holiness: What the Bible Says About Modesty"

2. "The Blessing of Family: God's Unique Design"

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 - For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God.

2. Ephesians 5:3 - But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints.

Leviticus 18:10 The nakedness of thy son's daughter, or of thy daughter's daughter, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover: for theirs is thine own nakedness.

This passage emphasizes the importance of protecting the purity of relationships within the family.

1. Understanding the Sacredness of Family Relationships

2. The Holiness of Honoring Intimacy Within the Family

1. Matthew 19:4-6 - He answered, Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh ? So they are no longer two but one flesh.

2. Ephesians 5:31-32 - Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

Leviticus 18:11 The nakedness of thy father's wife's daughter, begotten of thy father, she is thy sister, thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

This passage emphasizes the importance of avoiding incestuous relationships between family members.

1: Family relationships are sacred and must be respected.

2: Honor your father and mother by avoiding incestuous relationships.

1: Ephesians 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

2: 1 Corinthians 5:1-2 "It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles; that a man has his father's wife! And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you."

Leviticus 18:12 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's sister: she is thy father's near kinswoman.

It is forbidden to uncover the nakedness of a father's sister, as she is a close relative.

1. The importance of honoring family relationships and respecting boundaries.

2. The power of loving and protecting the family unit.

1. Ephesians 5:31-32 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

2. Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Leviticus 18:13 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister: for she is thy mother's near kinswoman.

This passage emphasizes the importance of respecting family relationships by not engaging in sexual activity with a close relative.

1: "Honor Your Family Relationships"

2: "Love and Respect Your Relatives"

1: Matthew 12:48-50 - "Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

2: 1 Timothy 5:1-2 - "Treat older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity."

Leviticus 18:14 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's brother, thou shalt not approach to his wife: she is thine aunt.

It is forbidden to have sexual relations with your father's brother's wife, who is your aunt.

1. The Importance of Respect in Relationships

2. Keeping God's Commandments

1. Exodus 20:14 - You shall not commit adultery.

2. Proverbs 6:32 - Whoever commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.

Leviticus 18:15 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy daughter in law: she is thy son's wife; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

This passage is a warning from God against committing incest with one's daughter in law.

1. The importance of honoring family relationships and avoiding immoral behavior.

2. The consequences of disregarding God's commands and laws.

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

2. Ephesians 5:3-5 - "But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God."

Leviticus 18:16 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother's wife: it is thy brother's nakedness.

It is forbidden to uncover the nakedness of one's brother's wife.

1. "The Value of Honor in Relationships"

2. "God's View of Fidelity"

1. Proverbs 6:32-33 "Whoever commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself. He will get wounds and dishonor, and his disgrace will not be wiped away."

2. Romans 12:10 "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Leviticus 18:17 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, neither shalt thou take her son's daughter, or her daughter's daughter, to uncover her nakedness; for they are her near kinswomen: it is wickedness.

The passage warns against uncovering the nakedness of a woman and her family, as it is considered wickedness.

1. "The Power of Kinship: Why We Must Respect Our Family Relationships"

2. "Remembering Our Responsibility to God's Law: Why We Must Obey Leviticus 18:17"

1. 1 Timothy 5:1-2 - "Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity."

2. Genesis 2:24 - "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

Leviticus 18:18 Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister, to vex her, to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her life time.

This passage from Leviticus prohibits taking a wife to her sister, as it would cause her great distress and humiliation.

1: God's love demonstrates respect for people and their relationships.

2: The importance of guarding against envy and jealousy.

1: Matthew 5:43-44 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2: James 4:11-12 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

Leviticus 18:19 Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness.

This passage from Leviticus describes the commandment to not uncover the nakedness of a woman while she is in a state of uncleanness.

1. "God's Plan for Sexual Purity"

2. "Stewarding Our Bodies"

1. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 - "All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be enslaved by anything."

2. Matthew 5:27-28 - "You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

Leviticus 18:20 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her.

The Lord forbids adultery and sexual immorality with one's neighbor's wife.

1. The Lord's Love: Rejecting Adultery and Sexual Immorality

2. God's Gift of Faithfulness: Staying Away from Adultery and Sexual Immorality

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

2. Hebrews 13:4 - "Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous."

Leviticus 18:21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.

This verse from the book of Leviticus warns against participating in the pagan practice of sacrificing children to the god Molech.

1: God is a loving God who desires a relationship with us, not a sacrifice.

2: We must honor and glorify God's name by avoiding any activity that would profane it.

1: Ephesians 5:1-2 - "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

2: Jeremiah 7:31 - "And they have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart."

Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

This passage is a reminder that engaging in homosexual activity is sinful and an abomination.

1. We must remember to uphold God's commands and not be swayed by the world's sinful behaviors.

2. We must strive to live lives pleasing to God, rather than engaging in activities that He has forbidden.

1. Romans 1:26-27 - For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 - Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

Leviticus 18:23 Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.

It is prohibited for a person to have sexual relations with an animal, as it is considered to be an abomination.

1. A Godly Life: The Meaning of Holiness (Leviticus 18:23)

2. The Sanctity of Marriage and the Sin of Bestiality (Leviticus 18:23)

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

Leviticus 18:24 Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you:

The passage emphasizes God's warning that His people should not behave just like the nations that He had cast out before them.

1: God's Warning Against Immorality

2: Living a Life of Holiness

1: Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2: Ephesians 5:3-4 - "But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving."

Leviticus 18:25 And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants.

The land is being defiled and God is punishing the inhabitants for their iniquity.

1: We must strive to live in accordance with God's law so that we will not suffer the punishment of His wrath.

2: We must repent of our sins and seek God's forgiveness if we are to be saved from His judgement.

1: Isaiah 1:18-20 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leviticus 18:26 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations; neither any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you:

God commands the Israelites to obey His statutes and judgments, and warns against any abominations, whether committed by members of their own nation or strangers who live among them.

1. Our Obligation to Obey God's Commandments

2. The Danger of Abominations

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Leviticus 18:27 (For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled;)

This passage from Leviticus speaks about the abominations of the people in the land before the Israelites.

1. We must recognize and repent of our sins in order to be forgiven by God.

2. We must not follow the sinful ways of those who have gone before us.

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

2. James 4:7-8 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Leviticus 18:28 That the land spue not you out also, when ye defile it, as it spued out the nations that were before you.

God's warning to not defile the land so as to avoid being spued out.

1. God's warning against defiling the land and the consequences of disobedience

2. The importance of respecting and caring for the land

1. Deuteronomy 4:25-31 - God's warning to the Israelites to obey His laws and statutes and to not turn away from them

2. Proverbs 11:30 - "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

Leviticus 18:29 For whosoever shall commit any of these abominations, even the souls that commit them shall be cut off from among their people.

The consequences of disobeying God's commands are severe - even to the point of being cut off from one's people.

1. Obey God's Commands or Risk Severe Consequences

2. Live a Life Worthy of Your Creator

1. Genesis 2:17 - "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Leviticus 18:30 Therefore shall ye keep mine ordinance, that ye commit not any one of these abominable customs, which were committed before you, and that ye defile not yourselves therein: I am the LORD your God.

God commands His people not to participate in the abominable customs practiced before them, and to remain holy before Him.

1. The Importance of Holiness: Staying Away from Abominable Customs

2. Abide by God's Ordinances: Obeying His Commands

1. Psalm 39:1 - "I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me."

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

Leviticus 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 19:1-10 begins with God instructing Moses to convey a message to the Israelites, emphasizing the call to be holy as God is holy. The chapter outlines various ethical and moral guidelines for righteous living. It highlights the importance of revering parents, observing the Sabbath, and refraining from idolatry. The Israelites are also instructed to leave some of their harvest for the poor and to deal honestly in business transactions.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 19:11-18 , specific instructions are given regarding interpersonal relationships. The chapter emphasizes honesty and integrity by forbidding theft, deceit, false oaths, and oppression of others. It promotes fairness in judgment and prohibits slander or bearing false witness against one's neighbor. The Israelites are commanded not to seek revenge or hold grudges but instead love their neighbors as themselves.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 19 concludes by addressing various regulations related to personal conduct and holiness. It prohibits mixing different kinds of livestock or sowing fields with two types of seed. The chapter instructs men not to shave their beards or make cuts on their bodies for mourning practices associated with pagan rituals. It also warns against engaging in divination or seeking guidance from mediums or spiritists.

In summary:

Leviticus 19 presents:

Call for holiness be holy as God is holy;

Ethical, moral guidelines for righteous living;

Reverence for parents; observance of Sabbath; avoidance of idolatry.

Instructions on fair treatment leaving harvest for poor; honest business dealings;

Prohibition against theft, deceit, false oaths; oppression of others;

Promotion of fairness in judgment; prohibition against slander, false witness.

Regulations regarding personal conduct prohibition of mixed livestock, seeds;

Instructions on mourning practices; warning against divination, mediums;

Emphasis on personal holiness and separation from pagan practices.

This chapter focuses on God's call for the Israelites to be holy as He is holy, providing them with ethical and moral guidelines for righteous living. Leviticus 19 begins by emphasizing reverence for parents, observance of the Sabbath, and avoidance of idolatry. It also highlights acts of kindness such as leaving some harvest for the poor and conducting honest business transactions.

Furthermore, Leviticus 19 provides specific instructions regarding interpersonal relationships. It promotes honesty and integrity by forbidding theft, deceit, false oaths, and oppression of others. The chapter emphasizes fairness in judgment and prohibits slander or bearing false witness against one's neighbor. The Israelites are commanded to love their neighbors as themselves, refraining from seeking revenge or holding grudges.

The chapter concludes by addressing various regulations related to personal conduct and holiness. It prohibits mixing different kinds of livestock or sowing fields with two types of seed. Leviticus 19 instructs men not to shave their beards or make cuts on their bodies for mourning practices associated with pagan rituals. It warns against engaging in divination or seeking guidance from mediums or spiritists, emphasizing the importance of personal holiness and separation from pagan practices in order to maintain a distinct identity as God's chosen people.

Leviticus 19:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord speaks to Moses, commanding him to instruct the Israelites to act righteously.

1. "Living Righteously: Obedience in the Face of Commandments"

2. "Living a Life of Righteousness: Answering God's Call"

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-8 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Leviticus 19:2 Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God am holy.

Be holy as the Lord your God is holy.

1. Living a Holy Life in the Lord

2. Making God's Holiness a Part of Your Character

1. 1 Peter 1:13-16 - Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

2. Ephesians 5:1-2 - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Leviticus 19:3 Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I am the LORD your God.

Be respectful of your parents and keep God's commandments.

1: Respect your parents and keep God's laws.

2: Honor your parents and keep the Sabbath.

1: Ephesians 6:2-3 "Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2: Exodus 20:8 "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."

Leviticus 19:4 Turn ye not unto idols, nor make to yourselves molten gods: I am the LORD your God.

Do not worship idols or make statues of false gods, for I am the LORD your God.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Why We Must Reject False Gods

2. The Faithfulness of God: Trusting in the LORD our God

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - Take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

2. Isaiah 44:9-20 - All who make idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit; their witnesses neither see nor know, that they may be put to shame.

Leviticus 19:5 And if ye offer a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD, ye shall offer it at your own will.

The verse from Leviticus 19:5 instructs people to offer sacrifices to the Lord as a peace offering of their own free will.

1. The Lord Requires Us to Offer Sacrifices Out of Our Own Free Will

2. Serving the Lord Out of Love and Obedience

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Leviticus 19:6 It shall be eaten the same day ye offer it, and on the morrow: and if ought remain until the third day, it shall be burnt in the fire.

The Israelites are instructed to eat their sacrificial offerings on the same day they offer it, or the following day, and anything left over after that should be burned in the fire.

1. The importance of immediacy in responding to God's love.

2. Making the most of the opportunities God places before us.

1. Luke 9:23-25 - And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

2. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Leviticus 19:7 And if it be eaten at all on the third day, it is abominable; it shall not be accepted.

Eating food on the third day after it has been cooked is an abomination and will not be accepted.

1. "The Power of Obedience" - A on the importance of following God's commands.

2. "The Sanctity of God's Word" - A emphasizing the importance of respecting and honoring the Scriptures.

1. Deuteronomy 28:58 - If you do not carefully follow all the words of this law, which are written in this book, and do not revere this glorious and awesome name the Lord your God "

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Leviticus 19:8 Therefore every one that eateth it shall bear his iniquity, because he hath profaned the hallowed thing of the LORD: and that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

Eating a hallowed thing of the LORD will bring one's own iniquity and will result in being cut off from among his people.

1. The Consequences of Eating Hallowed Things

2. The Importance of Respecting God's Holiness

1. Exodus 34:31-34 - God's commands to be holy and keep the Sabbath

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teachings on oaths and truthfulness

Leviticus 19:9 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest.

God commands his people to leave some of the harvest in the corners of their fields and to gather the gleanings from their harvest.

1. The Generosity of God: Understanding the Command to Leave Some of the Harvest

2. The Blessing of Gleanings: Appreciating God's Provision

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

2. Deuteronomy 24:19 - When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

Leviticus 19:10 And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God.

This passage reminds us of our obligation to care for the poor and strangers in our midst.

1. The Duty of Sharing: A on Leviticus 19:10

2. The Heart of Generosity: A on Caring for the Poor and Strangers

1. Isaiah 58:10 "And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day"

2. James 1:27 "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Leviticus 19:11 Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.

This passage from Leviticus encourages us to be honest in our dealings with others.

1: Honesty is the Best Policy

2: Speak Truth in Love

1: Ephesians 4:15 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

2: Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Leviticus 19:12 And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.

This passage emphasizes the importance of not taking the Lord's name in vain.

1: We should respect the name of the Lord and never use it to deceive or harm others.

2: We must always take God's name seriously and not cheapen it by using it for our own purposes.

1: James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by any other oath. Let your Yes be yes, and your No, no, or you will be condemned.

2: Exodus 20:7 - You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

Leviticus 19:13 Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbour, neither rob him: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning.

The Lord commands us to be fair and honest in our dealings with others.

1: We must be honest and just in our dealings with our neighbors.

2: We must never take advantage of or defraud our neighbors.

1: James 2:8 - If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well.

2: Proverbs 11:1 - A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight.

Leviticus 19:14 Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear thy God: I am the LORD.

This passage reminds us that we must be respectful and compassionate towards those with disabilities and put aside our prejudices to show God s love.

1. "Love Your Neighbor: Practicing Compassion for Those with Disabilities"

2. "The Power of Respect: How to Treat the Disabled with Dignity"

1. Matthew 22:36-40 - "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

2. James 2:1-4 - My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

Leviticus 19:15 Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour.

We should not show favoritism when judging our neighbor, but instead judge them fairly and without bias.

1. Showing Mercy in Judgment: Living Righteousness in the Eyes of God

2. Loving Our Neighbor Through Fairness: How God Wants Us to Judge

1. James 2:1-13 - The importance of treating others fairly, without favoritism.

2. Proverbs 21:3 - Doing what is right and just in the sight of the Lord.

Leviticus 19:16 Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD.

Do not spread rumors about others or take part in any malicious gossip. Respect the life and dignity of your fellow man.

1. Love Thy Neighbor: The Importance of Respecting Others

2. Bearing False Witness: The Consequences of Spreading Rumors

1. Proverbs 11:13 - A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.

2. Proverbs 16:28 - A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.

Leviticus 19:17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

We should not harbor hate in our hearts towards our neighbor, but should instead seek to rebuke them and prevent them from doing wrong.

1. The Power of Love: How to Love Our Neighbors Despite Our Differences

2. The Responsibility of Love: How to Uphold Others in Righteousness

1. Romans 12:17-18 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

2. Proverbs 27:5-6 - "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy."

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

We must love our neighbor as ourselves and not seek revenge or hold grudges against them.

1. The Power of Love - How to show love to our neighbors

2. The Power of Forgiveness - Learning to forgive and move on

1. Matthew 5:43-44 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:17-21 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Leviticus 19:19 Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee.

God commands that animals, plants, and garments should not be mixed.

1. God's commands should be followed at all times.

2. God's laws demonstrate His perfect wisdom.

1. Deuteronomy 22:9-11 - Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled.

2. James 3:17 - But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Leviticus 19:20 And whosoever lieth carnally with a woman, that is a bondmaid, betrothed to an husband, and not at all redeemed, nor freedom given her; she shall be scourged; they shall not be put to death, because she was not free.

A person who has sexual relations with a female slave who is betrothed to an owner but has not been redeemed or freed shall be scourged, but not put to death.

1. "The Value of Freedom: A Study of Leviticus 19:20"

2. "The Need for Redemption: A Look at Leviticus 19:20"

1. Galatians 5:1-14 - Freedom in Christ

2. Ephesians 1:7 - Redemption through Jesus' Blood

Leviticus 19:21 And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, even a ram for a trespass offering.

Leviticus 19:21 instructs people to bring a ram as a trespass offering to the Lord at the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Importance of Atonement: The Significance of the Trespass Offering

2. The Holiness of God: The Necessity of Offering a Ram

1. Hebrews 10:4-10 - For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

5. Isaiah 53:11 - He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

Leviticus 19:22 And the priest shall make an atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering before the LORD for his sin which he hath done: and the sin which he hath done shall be forgiven him.

The priest shall make an atonement for a person's sin with a ram of the trespass offering, and the person's sin shall be forgiven.

1. The Power of Atonement: Why We Need Forgiveness

2. The Forgiveness of God: How We Can Receive It

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Leviticus 19:23 And when ye shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food, then ye shall count the fruit thereof as uncircumcised: three years shall it be as uncircumcised unto you: it shall not be eaten of.

When people enter the Promised Land, they are to count the fruit of its trees as uncircumcised for three years. The fruit cannot be eaten during this time.

1. The Significance of Circumcision: How God's Covenant with Israel is Meant to Transform Us

2. The Promise of the Land: How God's Blessing Equips Us to Fulfill His Will

1. Genesis 17:9-14 - The Significance of Circumcision in the Covenant with God

2. Deuteronomy 8:7-9 - The Promise of the Land and the Blessing of Obedience to God

Leviticus 19:24 But in the fourth year all the fruit thereof shall be holy to praise the LORD withal.

In the fourth year of the harvest, all the fruit must be dedicated to the Lord as an act of praise.

1. The Harvest of Praise: Understanding the Significance of Dedicating All Fruit to the Lord

2. Reaping the Rewards of Obedience: The Blessings of Dedicating All Fruit to the Lord

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name.

2. Deuteronomy 26:10 - And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which You, O Lord, have given me. Then you shall set it before the Lord your God, and worship before the Lord your God.

Leviticus 19:25 And in the fifth year shall ye eat of the fruit thereof, that it may yield unto you the increase thereof: I am the LORD your God.

God commands His people to wait five years before harvesting the fruit of a newly planted tree, so that it may yield a greater increase.

1. God's Commandments: A Path to Abundance

2. Cultivating Faith: Waiting on the Lord's Blessing

1. James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

2. Psalm 33:18-19 - But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

Leviticus 19:26 Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

This passage warns against eating anything with blood, using enchantment, and observing times.

1. The Importance of Abiding by God's Laws

2. Relying on God's Word instead of Enchantment

1. Deuteronomy 12:29-31 - When the Lord thy God shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land; Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise.

2. Jeremiah 10:2-3 - Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

Leviticus 19:27 Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard.

God instructs the Israelites not to cut the corners of their heads or beards.

1. The Beauty of Godliness: How to Honor God through Respectful Grooming

2. Blessing Ourselves and Others By Refraining From Excess

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God s sight."

2. Proverbs 16:31 - "Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life."

Leviticus 19:28 Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD.

Do not deface your body in mourning for the dead.

1: God has made us in His image and we should not tamper with it.

2: Honor those you have lost without dishonoring yourself.

1: Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2: Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Leviticus 19:29 Do not prostitute thy daughter, to cause her to be a whore; lest the land fall to whoredom, and the land become full of wickedness.

This passage encourages against the practice of prostitution, calling it an abomination that would lead to further wickedness in the land.

1. "To Abstain from Abominations: Why Prostitution is Wrong"

2. "The Effects of Wickedness: The Danger of Prostitution in Our Society"

1. Deuteronomy 22:21 - "then they shall bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die."

2. Proverbs 5:3-7 - "For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell."

Leviticus 19:30 Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.

God commands His people to keep His Sabbaths and to reverence His sanctuary, for He is the Lord.

1. The Holiness of the Sabbath: Why We Must Respect God's Day of Rest

2. Reverencing God's Sanctuary: Finding Strength in Communion with the Lord

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

2. Psalm 150:1-2 - Praise the Lord in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens. Praise Him for His acts of power; praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

Leviticus 19:31 Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.

Do not seek after the spiritual guidance of those who consult the dead or practice divination; I am the Lord your God.

1. God's Guidance is Enough: Trusting in the Lord's Will

2. Stay Away from the Occult: Avoiding the Temptation of False Guidance

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Leviticus 19:32 Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD.

Respect your elders as a sign of reverence for God.

1. "Honoring Our Elders: A Sign of Reverence for God"

2. "Respect and Fear of God: The Foundation of Honor for Our Elders"

1. Proverbs 16:31 "Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained by a righteous life."

2. Romans 13:7 "Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor."

Leviticus 19:33 And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him.

The Lord instructs the people of Israel to not mistreat strangers who live among them.

1. "Love the Stranger in Your Midst"

2. "Treating Strangers with Respect"

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me"

2. James 1:27 - "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Leviticus 19:34 But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

God commands us to love strangers as ourselves, reminding us that we were once strangers in Egypt.

1. The Importance of Loving Strangers: A on Leviticus 19:34

2. The Love of God for Strangers: The Biblical Imperative of Leviticus 19:34

1. Deuteronomy 10:19 - Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Leviticus 19:35 Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure.

God calls us to be fair and just in our dealings with others.

1. "What is Justice and How do We Achieve it?"

2. "Achieving Fairness and Equality in the World Around Us"

1. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

2. James 2:8-9 - "If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, Love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers."

Leviticus 19:36 Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.

This passage emphasizes the importance of justice, fairness, and equality in God's eyes.

1. "The Measure of Justice: A on Leviticus 19:36"

2. "The Heart of Justice: Equally Weighted in God's Eyes"

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - "Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering. All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?"

2. Zechariah 7:9-10 - "Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother: And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart."

Leviticus 19:37 Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD.

The Lord commands that all of His statutes and judgments should be obeyed.

1. The Power of Obedience - The importance of following God's commands.

2. God's Word - Learning to trust and obey the Lord's statutes and judgments.

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Leviticus 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 20:1-9 begins by addressing the punishment for those who engage in idolatrous practices, particularly offering their children as sacrifices to the false god Molech. The chapter emphasizes that anyone who participates in such practices will be cut off from the community and face severe consequences. It also warns against consulting mediums or spiritists and highlights that anyone who does so will be held accountable.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 20:10-16 , specific regulations regarding sexual morality are presented. The chapter condemns various forbidden sexual relationships, including adultery, incestuous unions, and homosexual acts. It stresses that engaging in these prohibited behaviors defiles both individuals and the land. The punishment for violating these laws is death for both parties involved.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 20 concludes by outlining additional regulations related to personal conduct and holiness. It prohibits engaging in bestiality, emphasizing that such acts defile individuals involved. The chapter also addresses issues of purity within familial relationships, forbidding a man from marrying both a woman and her mother or having sexual relations with his sister-in-law while his brother is still alive.

In summary:

Leviticus 20 presents:

Punishment for idolatrous practices offering children as sacrifices;

Warning against consulting mediums, spiritists; accountability for such actions;

Severe consequences being cut off from community.

Regulations regarding sexual morality condemnation of adultery, incestuous unions;

Prohibition against homosexual acts; defilement of individuals, land;

Punishment death for violators of these laws.

Prohibition against bestiality; emphasis on defilement caused by such acts;

Regulation of familial relationships prohibition on marrying woman, mother or sister-in-law while brother is alive;

Emphasis on personal conduct and holiness.

This chapter focuses on the regulations and consequences outlined in Leviticus 20. It begins by addressing the punishment for those who engage in idolatrous practices, particularly offering their children as sacrifices to the false god Molech. The chapter warns against consulting mediums or spiritists, emphasizing accountability for such actions and the severe consequences of being cut off from the community.

Leviticus 20 also presents specific regulations regarding sexual morality. It condemns various forbidden sexual relationships, including adultery, incestuous unions, and homosexual acts. The chapter emphasizes that engaging in these prohibited behaviors not only defiles individuals but also defiles the land itself. The punishment for violating these laws is death for both parties involved.

The chapter concludes by outlining additional regulations related to personal conduct and holiness. It prohibits engaging in bestiality due to its defiling nature. Leviticus 20 also addresses issues of purity within familial relationships, forbidding a man from marrying both a woman and her mother or having sexual relations with his sister-in-law while his brother is still alive. These regulations emphasize the importance of personal conduct and maintaining holiness within Israelite society.

Leviticus 20:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord speaks to Moses to deliver a message to the people of Israel.

1. Obeying God's Word: The Importance of Following His Instructions

2. Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites' Mistakes

1. Deuteronomy 30:16 - "For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess."

2. Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.

Leviticus 20:2 Again, thou shalt say to the children of Israel, Whosoever he be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn in Israel, that giveth any of his seed unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death: the people of the land shall stone him with stones.

God commands that any Israelite or stranger living in Israel who sacrifices any of their offspring to Molech must be put to death by stoning.

1. The Unfathomable Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Need to Follow God's Instructions and Not Human Desires

1. Deuteronomy 17:2-5 - If there be found among you, within any of thy gates which the LORD thy God giveth thee, man or woman, that hath wrought wickedness in the sight of the LORD thy God, in transgressing his covenant,

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Leviticus 20:3 And I will set my face against that man, and will cut him off from among his people; because he hath given of his seed unto Molech, to defile my sanctuary, and to profane my holy name.

God will punish those who sacrifice their children to Molech by cutting them off from the people of Israel.

1. The Lord's Uncompromising Stance on Idolatry

2. The Consequences of Defiling God's Name

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me."

2. Deuteronomy 12:31 - "You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way; for every abomination to the LORD which He hates they have done to their gods."

Leviticus 20:4 And if the people of the land do any ways hide their eyes from the man, when he giveth of his seed unto Molech, and kill him not:

God prohibits the offering of children to Molech and commands that those who do so be put to death.

1. The Sin of Offering Children to Molech: A Warning from Leviticus

2. The Wrath of God for Disobeying His Commands: An Analysis of Leviticus 20:4

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 18:10 - There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer.

Leviticus 20:5 Then I will set my face against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people.

God is against those who worship Molech and will cut off any who follow after them.

1. The importance of staying devoted to God alone.

2. The consequences of idolatry.

1. Deuteronomy 13:6-11

2. Romans 12:1-2

Leviticus 20:6 And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

God condemns those who turn to familiar spirits and wizards and will punish them by cutting them off from the community.

1. The Grave Consequences of Idolatry

2. The Danger of Turning Away from God

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 - "There shall not be found among you anyone who...practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord."

2. Jeremiah 10:2-3 - "Thus says the Lord: Learn not the way of the nations, nor be dismayed at the signs of the heavens because the nations are dismayed at them, for the customs of the peoples are vanity.

Leviticus 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God.

This verse encourages the Israelites to prepare themselves for the LORD and become holy, as He is their God.

1. The Call to Holiness: Prepare Yourself for the LORD

2. Living a Holy Life: Obeying God's Command

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Matthew 5:48 - "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

Leviticus 20:8 And ye shall keep my statutes, and do them: I am the LORD which sanctify you.

God commands the Israelites to keep His statutes and do them, and He will be the one to sanctify them.

1. The Lord is Our Sanctifier: Understanding the Holiness of God

2. Keeping God's Statutes: Obedience and the Path to Sanctification

1. Philippians 2:12-13 - "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

2. Deuteronomy 6:17 - "You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you."

Leviticus 20:9 For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him.

This passage in Leviticus 20:9 states that any person who curses their parents shall be put to death as a consequence for their transgression.

1. "The Power of Words: Respect for Parents"

2. "Honor Your Father and Mother: A Command From God"

1. Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Proverbs 15:20 A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish man despises his mother.

Leviticus 20:10 And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

Adultery is punishable by death according to Leviticus 20:10.

1. The Consequences of Adultery: Learning from the Book of Leviticus

2. Keeping Our Hearts Pure: The Warning from Leviticus 20:10

1. Proverbs 6:32 - "But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul."

2. Matthew 5:27-28 - "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."

Leviticus 20:11 And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

This passage from Leviticus teaches that any man who lies with his father s wife shall be put to death.

1: God's Holiness Is Our Highest Standard

2: Respect for Authority and Family

1: Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Leviticus 20:12 And if a man lie with his daughter in law, both of them shall surely be put to death: they have wrought confusion; their blood shall be upon them.

This passage from Leviticus states that if a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them must be put to death for the confusion they have caused.

1. "Love and Respect: The Foundation of Family Relationships"

2. "The Consequences of Immoral Behaviour"

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Deuteronomy 22:22-27

Leviticus 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

This passage from Leviticus 20:13 states that anyone who commits homosexual acts should be put to death.

1. We must stand firm in our faith and uphold God s law, even when it is unpopular.

2. We must not allow ourselves to be swayed by the culture around us, but instead stand firm in our faith and trust in God.

1. Deuteronomy 17:12 - The man who acts presumptuously by not obeying the priest who stands to minister there before the Lord your God, or the judge, that man shall die. So you shall put away the evil from Israel.

2. Romans 1:18-32 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.

Leviticus 20:14 And if a man take a wife and her mother, it is wickedness: they shall be burnt with fire, both he and they; that there be no wickedness among you.

This verse from Leviticus states that it is wickedness for a man to marry both a woman and her mother, and that they should all be burned for this sin in order to maintain righteousness among the people.

1. "The Wickedness of Sin" - A exploring the gravity of certain sins, using Leviticus 20:14 as an example.

2. "Love Above All" - A emphasizing the importance of loving one another above all else, using Leviticus 20:14 as an example of what not to do.

1. Matthew 22:36-40 - Jesus teaching on the greatest commandments and to love God and others.

2. Romans 12:9-21 - Paul's teaching on living a life of love and putting others first.

Leviticus 20:15 And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast.

God forbids having sexual relations with animals and decrees that both parties will be put to death.

1. God's Standards: The Consequences of Not Following Them

2. The Unacceptable Nature of Interactions With Beasts

1. Romans 1:26-27, "For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, "Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body."

Leviticus 20:16 And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

This verse from Leviticus commands the death of any woman who lies down with an animal.

1. God's Warning: Don't Defy His Commands

2. The Danger of Disobedience: A Lesson from Leviticus

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Leviticus 20:17 And if a man shall take his sister, his father's daughter, or his mother's daughter, and see her nakedness, and she see his nakedness; it is a wicked thing; and they shall be cut off in the sight of their people: he hath uncovered his sister's nakedness; he shall bear his iniquity.

A man who sees his sister's nakedness and she sees his nakedness will be considered a wicked thing and will be cut off from their people.

1. The Consequences of Immoral Actions - Leviticus 20:17

2. God's Mercy and Justice - Leviticus 20:17

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Leviticus 20:18 And if a man shall lie with a woman having her sickness, and shall uncover her nakedness; he hath discovered her fountain, and she hath uncovered the fountain of her blood: and both of them shall be cut off from among their people.

A man and woman who engage in intercourse while the woman is menstruating are both to be put to death.

1. God's Holiness and Justice in the Law of Moses

2. The Power of Sin and the Inevitability of Judgment

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Leviticus 20:19 And thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister, nor of thy father's sister: for he uncovereth his near kin: they shall bear their iniquity.

It is forbidden to uncover the nakedness of one's mother's or father's sister as this is considered uncovering close family members and they will be held accountable for their actions.

1. God's Word is Clear: Do Not Uncover the Nakedness of Close Family Members

2. The Consequences of Uncovering the Nakedness of Close Family Members

1. Genesis 2:24 - Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

2. 1 Timothy 5:8 - But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

Leviticus 20:20 And if a man shall lie with his uncle's wife, he hath uncovered his uncle's nakedness: they shall bear their sin; they shall die childless.

This passage speaks about a man who commits the sin of lying with his uncle's wife and the consequences of this act. The man and woman will bear their sin and be childless.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Leviticus 20:20

2. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Move On from Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. John 8:10-11 - "Jesus stood up and said to her, Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you? She said, No one, Lord. And Jesus said, Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.

Leviticus 20:21 And if a man shall take his brother's wife, it is an unclean thing: he hath uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless.

The passage speaks of the punishment for a man who takes his brother's wife: they will have no children.

1: The Lord holds us to high standards and expects us to honor our commitments and relationships.

2: We must look to God and His Word for guidance on all matters, including those that are difficult and challenging.

1: Matthew 19:4-6 Haven t you read, he replied, that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh ? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.

2: Hebrews 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Leviticus 20:22 Ye shall therefore keep all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: that the land, whither I bring you to dwell therein, spue you not out.

God instructed the Israelites to obey all His statutes and judgments, so that He would not expel them from the land He brought them to dwell in.

1. God's Grace and Mercy: The Importance of Keeping His Laws

2. The Importance of Obedience: Heeding God's Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you this day for your good?

2. Jeremiah 7:22-23 - For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices. But this thing I commanded them, saying, 'Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.'

Leviticus 20:23 And ye shall not walk in the manners of the nation, which I cast out before you: for they committed all these things, and therefore I abhorred them.

God warns the Israelites not to follow the same immoral behavior as the people who previously occupied the land, as God abhors such actions.

1. The Warning of God: Obeying God's Will and Avoiding Temptations.

2. True Holiness: Living a Life of Faith and Not Following the World.

1. Ephesians 5:1-11 - Imitating God and Living as Children of Light.

2. Romans 12:2 - Transforming Our Minds and Renewing Our Thinking.

Leviticus 20:24 But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the LORD your God, which have separated you from other people.

God tells the Israelites that He will give them a land flowing with milk and honey and has separated them from other people.

1. God's Promise of Inheritance - How God has kept His promise to provide for His people.

2. The Power of Separation - How God has set us apart and given us an identity.

1. Romans 8:14-17 - For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Leviticus 20:25 Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean, and between unclean fowls and clean: and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean.

God commands His people to distinguish between clean and unclean animals, and to avoid associating with unclean animals.

1. The Distinction between Clean and Unclean: How We are to Follow God's Commands.

2. Holiness: Separating Ourselves from What is Unholy.

1. 1 Peter 1:16 - "because it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Leviticus 20:26 And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.

God has set apart His people and made them holy so that they can be His own.

1. The Holiness of God and Its Impact on Our Lives

2. The Boundaries of Holiness - Our Responsibility to Uphold God's Standards

1. Isaiah 6:3 - And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Leviticus 20:27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

This passage speaks of the punishment for those who practice sorcery.

1. "The Danger of the Occult: The Consequences of Dabbling in the Supernatural"

2. "God's Warning: The Spiritual Dangers of Witchcraft and Divination"

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 - "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD"

2. Isaiah 8:19 - "And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?"

Leviticus 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 21:1-9 outlines the regulations regarding the holiness of the priests. The chapter emphasizes that priests are to maintain a higher level of purity and sanctity due to their role as mediators between God and the people. It prohibits priests from defiling themselves by coming into contact with corpses, except for close relatives such as their parents, children, siblings, or unmarried sisters. Priests are also instructed not to shave their heads or trim their beards and must avoid any actions that would bring dishonor upon themselves.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 21:10-15 , specific regulations are given regarding the eligibility of priests to marry. The chapter states that a priest may only marry a woman who is a virgin or a widow of another priest. They are prohibited from marrying divorced women or those who have been involved in prostitution. This requirement ensures that the priestly lineage remains pure and untainted.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 21 concludes by addressing physical blemishes or deformities that disqualify priests from performing certain sacred duties. It states that no priest with any visible defects such as blindness, lameness, dwarfism, disfigurement, or scoliosis is allowed to approach the altar or offer sacrifices to God. These regulations aim to uphold the idea of presenting offerings without physical imperfections and emphasize the importance of maintaining purity within the priesthood.

In summary:

Leviticus 21 presents:

Regulations regarding holiness of priests;

Prohibition against contact with corpses exceptions for close relatives;

Instructions against shaving heads, trimming beards; avoiding dishonor.

Requirements for eligibility in marriage marrying virgins, widows of other priests;

Prohibition against marrying divorced women, prostitutes;

Maintaining purity of priestly lineage.

Disqualification of priests with visible defects from performing sacred duties;

Prohibition against approaching altar, offering sacrifices;

Emphasis on presenting offerings without physical imperfections; maintaining purity within the priesthood.

This chapter focuses on the regulations regarding the holiness and eligibility of priests in their service to God. Leviticus 21 begins by emphasizing that priests are to maintain a higher level of purity and sanctity due to their role as mediators between God and the people. It prohibits priests from defiling themselves by coming into contact with corpses, except for specific close relatives. The chapter also instructs priests not to shave their heads or trim their beards and emphasizes the importance of avoiding actions that would bring dishonor upon themselves.

Furthermore, Leviticus 21 provides specific regulations regarding the eligibility of priests to marry. It states that a priest may only marry a woman who is a virgin or a widow of another priest. They are prohibited from marrying divorced women or those who have been involved in prostitution. This requirement ensures that the priestly lineage remains pure and untainted.

The chapter concludes by addressing physical blemishes or deformities that disqualify priests from performing certain sacred duties. Leviticus 21 states that no priest with any visible defects such as blindness, lameness, dwarfism, disfigurement, or scoliosis is allowed to approach the altar or offer sacrifices to God. These regulations aim to uphold the idea of presenting offerings without physical imperfections and emphasize the importance of maintaining purity within the priesthood.

Leviticus 21:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto the priests the sons of Aaron, and say unto them, There shall none be defiled for the dead among his people:

The Lord commanded Moses to instruct the priests, the sons of Aaron, not to become defiled when tending to the dead.

1. The Power of the Priestly Office: How We Can Follow the Lord's Commandments

2. Holiness and Respect for the Dead: The Importance of Following God's Instructions

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

2. Deuteronomy 18:10-13 - Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord.

Leviticus 21:2 But for his kin, that is near unto him, that is, for his mother, and for his father, and for his son, and for his daughter, and for his brother,

This scripture emphasizes that priests should show reverence and respect for their close family members.

1: We are Called to Love and Honor our Family

2: Cultivating a Heart of Respect for our Kin

1: Ephesians 6:2 "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with a promise

2: Proverbs 3:1-2 "My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you."

Leviticus 21:3 And for his sister a virgin, that is nigh unto him, which hath had no husband; for her may he be defiled.

A man in the Levitical code may not marry his sister, even if she is a virgin.

1. The Holiness of Marriage: The Levitical Code's Restrictions on Interfamilial Marriages

2. The Importance of Sanctity: Honoring God Through Upholding His Laws

1. Proverbs 18:22 - He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2 - But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

Leviticus 21:4 But he shall not defile himself, being a chief man among his people, to profane himself.

The chief of a people should not profane himself by engaging in activities that would defile him.

1. The Responsibility of Leadership: Maintaining Integrity as an Example to Others

2. Setting a Good Example: The Power of Living a Holy Life

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

Leviticus 21:5 They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cuttings in their flesh.

God's priests are commanded to not cut their hair, shave their beards, or make any cuttings in their flesh.

1. The Power of Holiness: Why We Are Called to a Higher Standard

2. Setting Ourselves Apart: What It Means to Be a Priest of God

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. James 4:8 - "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

Leviticus 21:6 They shall be holy unto their God, and not profane the name of their God: for the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and the bread of their God, they do offer: therefore they shall be holy.

The priests of the LORD must remain holy in order to offer the offerings of the LORD and the bread of their God.

1. The Priesthood of God - The Call to Holiness

2. The Bread of Life - Finding Nourishment in the LORD

1. 1 Peter 2:5 - You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

2. Isaiah 61:6 - But you shall be named the priests of the LORD, They shall call you the servants of our God. You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory you shall boast.

Leviticus 21:7 They shall not take a wife that is a whore, or profane; neither shall they take a woman put away from her husband: for he is holy unto his God.

The Lord commands that priests shall not marry a promiscuous person, nor a woman who has already been divorced.

1. The Holiness of the Priesthood

2. The Sanctity of Marriage

1. 1 Timothy 3:2-3 "Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach..."

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 "But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

Leviticus 21:8 Thou shalt sanctify him therefore; for he offereth the bread of thy God: he shall be holy unto thee: for I the LORD, which sanctify you, am holy.

This passage speaks of the holiness of those who offer the bread of God and the importance of sanctifying them.

1. The Holiness of Offering God's Bread

2. Sanctification: A Necessary Step

1. Matthew 5:48: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

2. 1 Peter 1:16: "Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

Leviticus 21:9 And the daughter of any priest, if she profane herself by playing the whore, she profaneth her father: she shall be burnt with fire.

The daughter of a priest is prohibited from engaging in sexual immorality, and will be punished with death by fire if she violates this rule.

1. The Consequences of Immoral Behavior

2. God's Standard of Righteousness

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality; all other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.

Leviticus 21:10 And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes;

The high priest is forbidden from uncovering his head or rending his clothes when wearing the garments of consecration.

1. The Importance of Reverence in Worship

2. Obedience to God's Commands

1. Exodus 28:2-4 - "[The Lord said to Moses,] Tell the people of Israel to bring me gifts; you shall accept gifts for me from everyone whose heart so moves them. And these are the gifts you shall accept from them: gold, silver, and bronze, blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, goats' hair, tanned rams' skins, goatskins, acacia wood, oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, and onyx stones and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece."

2. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Leviticus 21:11 Neither shall he go in to any dead body, nor defile himself for his father, or for his mother;

In Leviticus 21:11, it is commanded that a priest should not defile himself by coming into contact with dead bodies, even if they are of his own family.

1: We must remember the importance of reverence and respect for the dead, even when they are of our own family.

2: We must not take advantage of religious authority to avoid our personal responsibilities.

1: Ecclesiastes 8:11 - "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

2: Romans 12:17-18 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

Leviticus 21:12 Neither shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the crown of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.

The priest must not leave the sanctuary or desecrate it, as the anointing oil from God is on him.

1. The Power of the Anointing

2. The Holiness of the Priesthood

1. Psalm 133:2 - It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

2. Matthew 3:16 - And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him.

Leviticus 21:13 And he shall take a wife in her virginity.

The passage states that a man must marry a woman who is a virgin.

1. The sanctity of marriage - Leviticus 21:13

2. The importance of purity - Leviticus 21:13

1. 1 Corinthians 7:2 - But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

2. John 15:12 - This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Leviticus 21:14 A widow, or a divorced woman, or profane, or an harlot, these shall he not take: but he shall take a virgin of his own people to wife.

A man cannot marry a widow, divorced woman, non-virgin, or prostitute, but must marry a virgin from his own people.

1. The Importance of Chastity in Marriage

2. The Sanctity of Marriage

1. 1 Corinthians 7:2 - "But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband."

2. Ephesians 5:22-25 - "Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."

Leviticus 21:15 Neither shall he profane his seed among his people: for I the LORD do sanctify him.

The Lord commands His people to not profane their seed among their people, as He sanctifies them.

1. The Power of Sanctification and Holiness - How Our Actions Affect Future Generations

2. The Importance of Honoring God in Our Lives - Showing Respect To God Through Our Actions

1. Deuteronomy 5:16 - "Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

2. Psalm 15:2 - "He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart."

Leviticus 21:16 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord commanded Moses to speak to the priests about their behavior.

1. The Importance of Holiness in the Priesthood

2. The Value of Obeying the Lord's Commands

1. Leviticus 21:16 - And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying

2. 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Leviticus 21:17 Speak unto Aaron, saying, Whosoever he be of thy seed in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God.

God commands Aaron that none of his descendants with physical blemishes should approach to offer the bread of God.

1. The Power of God's Commandments: Exploring the Meaning of Leviticus 21:17

2. Understanding the Holiness of God: Becoming Worthy to Offer the Bread of God

1. James 2:10 - "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it."

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

Leviticus 21:18 For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous,

This passage emphasizes that those with physical deformities, such as blindness, lameness, and a flat nose, are not to approach the Lord.

1. How do we love and care for people with physical deformities?

2. The importance of being open and accepting of people with physical deformities.

1. Psalm 139:13-14 - For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

2. Matthew 18:5 - And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

Leviticus 21:19 Or a man that is brokenfooted, or brokenhanded,

God speaks to Moses and Aaron about priestly purity and the prohibition of a priest from having a physical defect.

1. The Holiness of God: How We Are Called to Reflect His Image

2. The High Standards of Priesthood: Obedience and Purity in Service to God

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

Leviticus 21:20 Or crookbackt, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken;

This passage describes the disqualification of someone from priesthood who has any sort of physical abnormality.

1. God's Love Is Unconditional: The Inclusion of Those With Physical Abnormalities

2. The Priesthood: A Reflection of God's Perfection

1. 1 Corinthians 12:22-23 - On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty

2. Isaiah 35:5-6 - Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy

Leviticus 21:21 No man that hath a blemish of the seed of Aaron the priest shall come nigh to offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire: he hath a blemish; he shall not come nigh to offer the bread of his God.

A man with a blemish of the seed of Aaron the priest is not allowed to offer offerings to the Lord.

1. The Beauty of Holiness: Learning to Be Set Apart

2. God's Perfection: The Requirements For Worship

1. Ephesians 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Leviticus 21:22 He shall eat the bread of his God, both of the most holy, and of the holy.

God commands His priests to eat the most holy and holy bread of His.

1. The Power of God's Command: How Obedience to God's Word Brings Blessings

2. The Holiness of God's Provision: How the Bread of His Provides Strength and Renewal

1. John 6:35 - "Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.'"

2. Psalm 78:25 - "Man ate the bread of the mighty; he sent them food in abundance."

Leviticus 21:23 Only he shall not go in unto the vail, nor come nigh unto the altar, because he hath a blemish; that he profane not my sanctuaries: for I the LORD do sanctify them.

God commands that those with physical defects must not approach the veil or altar, as He sanctifies them.

1. The Holiness of the Sanctuary: Respecting the Place of Worship

2. God's Love for All, Despite Inadequacies: Embracing Our Imperfections

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. 1 Samuel 16:7 - But the LORD said to Samuel, Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

Leviticus 21:24 And Moses told it unto Aaron, and to his sons, and unto all the children of Israel.

Moses instructed Aaron, his sons, and all the Israelites on the Lord's commands.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Word

2. The Benefits of Following God's Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse 27 the blessing if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today; 28 the curse if you disobey the commands of the Lord your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

Leviticus 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 22:1-9 outlines the regulations regarding the holiness of the offerings brought to the Lord. The chapter emphasizes that only those who are ceremonially clean and not defiled by contact with a dead body may eat the holy offerings. It prohibits priests and their immediate family members from eating holy food while in a state of uncleanness. Additionally, it establishes guidelines for when a priest's daughter can partake of the holy food.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 22:10-16 , specific instructions are given regarding the eligibility of priests and their households to eat consecrated offerings. The chapter states that only those who are properly initiated into priestly service or born into a priestly family may partake of these offerings. It also highlights that unauthorized individuals who eat such food will face severe consequences.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 22 concludes by addressing acceptable qualifications for animals to be offered as sacrifices. It specifies that animals must be free from any physical defects or blemishes in order to be considered suitable for offering to God. The chapter emphasizes that presenting unblemished sacrifices is an act of reverence and obedience, ensuring that only the best is offered on God's altar.

In summary:

Leviticus 22 presents:

Regulations regarding holiness of offerings brought to God;

Prohibition against eating holy food while ceremonially unclean;

Guidelines for eligibility of priests, their families to partake in consecrated offerings.

Instructions on proper initiation, birthright for eating consecrated food;

Severe consequences for unauthorized individuals consuming such offerings;

Maintaining purity within priestly households.

Requirements for animals offered as sacrifices freedom from physical defects, blemishes;

Emphasis on presenting unblemished sacrifices as an act of reverence;

Ensuring that only the best is offered on God's altar.

This chapter focuses on the regulations regarding the holiness of offerings brought to God and the eligibility of priests and their households to partake in consecrated food. Leviticus 22 begins by emphasizing that only those who are ceremonially clean and not defiled by contact with a dead body may eat the holy offerings. It prohibits priests and their immediate family members from eating holy food while in a state of uncleanness. The chapter also establishes guidelines for when a priest's daughter can partake of the holy food.

Furthermore, Leviticus 22 provides specific instructions regarding who is eligible to eat consecrated offerings. It states that only those who are properly initiated into priestly service or born into a priestly family may partake of these offerings. The chapter emphasizes that unauthorized individuals who eat such food will face severe consequences, highlighting the importance of maintaining purity within priestly households.

The chapter concludes by addressing acceptable qualifications for animals offered as sacrifices. Leviticus 22 specifies that animals must be free from any physical defects or blemishes in order to be considered suitable for offering to God. Presenting unblemished sacrifices is seen as an act of reverence and obedience, ensuring that only the best is offered on God's altar. These regulations underscore the significance of offering pure and unblemished sacrifices as an expression of devotion to God.

Leviticus 22:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord commands Moses to ensure that the priests shall be holy.

1: Holiness is a Command - God commands us to be holy as He is holy.

2: The Call to Holiness - As followers of Christ, we are given the call to pursue holiness.

1: 1 Peter 1:14-16 - As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.

2: Hebrews 12:14 - Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Leviticus 22:2 Speak unto Aaron and to his sons, that they separate themselves from the holy things of the children of Israel, and that they profane not my holy name in those things which they hallow unto me: I am the LORD.

The Lord commands Aaron and his sons to separate themselves from the holy things of the Israelites and not to profane his holy name by using them for their own purposes.

1. The Lord's Command to Separate from the World

2. Profaning the Lord's Holy Name

1. Philippians 2:15-16 - "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world. Holding forth the word of life."

2. James 4:4 - "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

Leviticus 22:3 Say unto them, Whosoever he be of all your seed among your generations, that goeth unto the holy things, which the children of Israel hallow unto the LORD, having his uncleanness upon him, that soul shall be cut off from my presence: I am the LORD.

This passage emphasizes the importance of holiness and obedience to God, as those who are unclean are to be cut off from His presence.

1. The Importance of Holiness: Living in Obedience to God

2. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: Keeping Ourselves Pure

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Hebrews 12:14 - "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."

Leviticus 22:4 What man soever of the seed of Aaron is a leper, or hath a running issue; he shall not eat of the holy things, until he be clean. And whoso toucheth any thing that is unclean by the dead, or a man whose seed goeth from him;

A man of the seed of Aaron who is a leper or has a running issue is not allowed to eat holy things until he is clean, and any person who touches something unclean or a man whose seed goes from him is also prohibited from eating holy things.

1. The Power of Holiness: How to Live in a Manner that is Pleasing to God

2. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: Understanding the Holiness of God

1. Leviticus 19:2- Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16- But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Leviticus 22:5 Or whosoever toucheth any creeping thing, whereby he may be made unclean, or a man of whom he may take uncleanness, whatsoever uncleanness he hath;

This passage speaks of avoiding contact with unclean things as a way to remain holy.

1: We are called to a life of holiness, and one way to live this out is to avoid contact with unclean things.

2: In order to be obedient to God, we must take steps to remain holy, and this includes avoiding contact with unclean things.

1: Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

2: 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Leviticus 22:6 The soul which hath touched any such shall be unclean until even, and shall not eat of the holy things, unless he wash his flesh with water.

This passage from Leviticus outlines the rules for approaching holy items, stating that anyone who touches them must wash themselves with water to be clean until the evening.

1. Keeping Ourselves Clean Before God

2. The Holiness of God and Our Responsibility

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 Wash You, Make You Clean

2. Psalm 51:2 Wash Me Throughly from Mine Iniquity

Leviticus 22:7 And when the sun is down, he shall be clean, and shall afterward eat of the holy things; because it is his food.

When the sun goes down, a person can become clean and consume holy things, as these are his food.

1. Nourishment from God: Accepting and Appreciating the Gift.

2. Cleanliness: The Necessity of Spiritual Purification.

1. John 6:35, "Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.'"

2. Hebrews 12:14, "Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord."

Leviticus 22:8 That which dieth of itself, or is torn with beasts, he shall not eat to defile himself therewith: I am the LORD.

This passage emphasizes the importance of not defiling oneself with animals that have died of natural causes or been killed by wild animals.

1. Abiding by the Lord's Commandments: An Examination of Leviticus 22:8

2. The Holiness of Life: Purifying Ourselves from Defilement

1. Deuteronomy 14:3-21 - God's commandment for Israelites to abstain from certain foods

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Presenting ourselves as a living sacrifice to God, holy and acceptable to Him

Leviticus 22:9 They shall therefore keep mine ordinance, lest they bear sin for it, and die therefore, if they profane it: I the LORD do sanctify them.

God commands the Israelites to follow His ordinances to avoid bearing sin and dying.

1. The importance of keeping God's commandments.

2. The consequences of not following God's commandments.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

Leviticus 22:10 There shall no stranger eat of the holy thing: a sojourner of the priest, or an hired servant, shall not eat of the holy thing.

Strangers and hired servants are not allowed to eat of the holy things.

1. The Power of Holiness - Exploring the importance of honoring God's holiness and keeping it separate from the world.

2. The Value of Others - Understanding the value of all people, regardless of their background and their relationship to God.

1. 1 Peter 1:16 - "because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy.'"

2. James 2:1-9 - "My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory."

Leviticus 22:11 But if the priest buy any soul with his money, he shall eat of it, and he that is born in his house: they shall eat of his meat.

The priest is allowed to buy and consume food with his own money, and those born in his house are also allowed to eat the food.

1. The Power of Provision - How God provides for His servants

2. The Blessing of the Priesthood - God's blessing for those who serve Him

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Philippians 4:19 - But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Leviticus 22:12 If the priest's daughter also be married unto a stranger, she may not eat of an offering of the holy things.

A priest's daughter may not eat of an offering of holy things if she is married to a stranger.

1. The Importance of Holiness: Why We Must Separate Ourselves from the World

2. The Value of Obedience: How We Obey God's Commands

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Ephesians 5:11 - Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

Leviticus 22:13 But if the priest's daughter be a widow, or divorced, and have no child, and is returned unto her father's house, as in her youth, she shall eat of her father's meat: but there shall no stranger eat thereof.

The priest's daughter is allowed to eat of her father's food if she is a widow, divorced, or has no children, but no stranger is allowed to partake.

1. God's Provision for Widows and Divorced Women

2. The Importance of Respecting Authority

1. Exodus 22:22-24 - God's protection for widows and orphans

2. 1 Peter 2:13-15 - Respect for authority figures

Leviticus 22:14 And if a man eat of the holy thing unwittingly, then he shall put the fifth part thereof unto it, and shall give it unto the priest with the holy thing.

This passage from Leviticus describes a requirement for a person who has unwittingly eaten a holy thing to add a fifth part of its value and give it to the priest along with the holy thing.

1. "Be Mindful of God's Requirements"

2. "Living in Obedience to God's Laws"

1. Deuteronomy 5:1-2 "And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them. The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb."

2. Matthew 22:37-40 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Leviticus 22:15 And they shall not profane the holy things of the children of Israel, which they offer unto the LORD;

The holy things of the children of Israel should not be profaned.

1. The Power of Holiness - The importance of maintaining holiness in our lives.

2. Guarding the Sacred - The importance of protecting and respecting the things we deem sacred.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Leviticus 22:16 Or suffer them to bear the iniquity of trespass, when they eat their holy things: for I the LORD do sanctify them.

God commands His people to avoid breaking His commandments and be holy, and that He will protect them from punishment for their mistakes.

1. God calls us to holiness and He will protect us from the consequences of our mistakes.

2. We must strive to live according to God's commandments and He will sanctify us.

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2. Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Leviticus 22:17 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The passage emphasizes the need for the Israelites to be holy and keep the commandments of the Lord.

1. Holiness Is More Than Just A Commandment - We Must Choose To Follow God's Ways

2. Obedience to God's Word Brings Blessing - Honor His Commands To Receive His Favor

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-18 You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers.

2. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Leviticus 22:18 Speak unto Aaron, and to his sons, and unto all the children of Israel, and say unto them, Whatsoever he be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers in Israel, that will offer his oblation for all his vows, and for all his freewill offerings, which they will offer unto the LORD for a burnt offering;

God instructed Moses to tell the Israelites that anyone, either native or foreign, who wished to offer their offerings to the Lord for a burnt offering should do so.

1. Understanding the Power of Worship - How our Worship Pleases God

2. The Beauty of Selfless Sacrifice - The Rewards of Offering to the Lord

1. Psalm 50:14-15 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 22:19 Ye shall offer at your own will a male without blemish, of the beeves, of the sheep, or of the goats.

God commands that offerings to Him must be of animals without blemish, that can be either beeves, sheep, or goats.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Understanding the Meaning of Making Offerings to God

2. Wholehearted Worship: Appreciating the Importance of Offering Without Fault

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

Leviticus 22:20 But whatsoever hath a blemish, that shall ye not offer: for it shall not be acceptable for you.

An offering to God should be without blemish, otherwise it will not be accepted.

1. The Importance of Offering Our Best to God

2. A Heart of Obedience: Presenting Perfect Gifts to God

1. Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Leviticus 22:21 And whosoever offereth a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD to accomplish his vow, or a freewill offering in beeves or sheep, it shall be perfect to be accepted; there shall be no blemish therein.

God requires that sacrifices be perfect and without blemish when offered to the Lord.

1. The Perfect Sacrifice: Understanding the Requirements of Worship

2. Offerings to the Lord: Honoring God with Obedience

1. Philippians 4:18 I have received full payment, and more; I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

2. Hebrews 13:15 16 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leviticus 22:22 Blind, or broken, or maimed, or having a wen, or scurvy, or scabbed, ye shall not offer these unto the LORD, nor make an offering by fire of them upon the altar unto the LORD.

This passage emphasizes that God only accepts perfect sacrifices and offerings.

1. Perfection in Our Offerings to God

2. The Holiness of God and His Expectations

1. Matthew 5:48 - "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

2. Hebrews 12:14 - "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."

Leviticus 22:23 Either a bullock or a lamb that hath any thing superfluous or lacking in his parts, that mayest thou offer for a freewill offering; but for a vow it shall not be accepted.

Offerings of animals with deformities are accepted for free will offerings, but not for vows.

1. The Value of Free Will Offerings

2. Offering Our Best: Perfection Before God

1. Genesis 4:3-5 - Cain's offering of the fruit of the ground was inferior to Abel's offering of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Dedicate your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Leviticus 22:24 Ye shall not offer unto the LORD that which is bruised, or crushed, or broken, or cut; neither shall ye make any offering thereof in your land.

It is forbidden to make offerings to the Lord that are bruised, crushed, broken, or cut.

1. The importance of offering our best to God.

2. Giving God our undivided attention and devotion.

1. Deuteronomy 15:21 - And if there be any blemish therein, as if it be lame, or blind, or have any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the Lord thy God.

2. Isaiah 1:11-15 - What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

Leviticus 22:25 Neither from a stranger's hand shall ye offer the bread of your God of any of these; because their corruption is in them, and blemishes be in them: they shall not be accepted for you.

This passage emphasizes that offerings to God must not come from a stranger and must be without blemish or corruption.

1. The importance of offering pure and holy sacrifices to God

2. Taking time to make sure that our offerings are acceptable to God

1. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Leviticus 22:26 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage from Leviticus describes God speaking to Moses about the laws of sacrifices and offerings.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God's Commands in Leviticus 22:26

2. Giving to God: The Importance of Sacrifices and Offerings in Leviticus 22:26

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Leviticus 22:27 When a bullock, or a sheep, or a goat, is brought forth, then it shall be seven days under the dam; and from the eighth day and thenceforth it shall be accepted for an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

This passage describes how animals brought for sacrifice must be under the dam for seven days and accepted as an offering from the eighth day onward.

1. God's provision for us: How the sacrifice of animals was an act of worship in the Old Testament.

2. The importance of waiting on the Lord: Why patience and obedience are critical components of our faith.

1. Genesis 22:2-3 - "He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

3. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Leviticus 22:28 And whether it be cow or ewe, ye shall not kill it and her young both in one day.

It is forbidden to kill both a cow and its calf in the same day.

1. The Sanctity of Life: A Study of Leviticus 22:28

2. The Bond of Life: A Look at the Responsibility We Have Toward All Creatures

1. Exodus 20:13 - "You shall not murder."

2. Psalm 36:6 - "Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O Lord."

Leviticus 22:29 And when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the LORD, offer it at your own will.

Sacrifices of thanksgiving are to be offered to the Lord freely.

1. Offer Thanks to the Lord with Joy and Gratitude

2. The Gift of Gratitude: Giving Thanks to the Lord

1. Psalm 95:2 - Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

2. Colossians 3:15-17 - And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Leviticus 22:30 On the same day it shall be eaten up; ye shall leave none of it until the morrow: I am the LORD.

God commands that any food that is consecrated must be eaten on the same day and nothing should be left until the following day.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The sanctity of God's consecrated food and the need to honour it.

1. Luke 6:46-49 - Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and do not do what I tell you?

2. 1 Corinthians 10:16 - The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

Leviticus 22:31 Therefore shall ye keep my commandments, and do them: I am the LORD.

God commands us to obey Him and keep His commandments.

1. "Living a Life of Obedience"

2. "The Necessity of Keeping God's Commands"

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus replied: " Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

2. James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

Leviticus 22:32 Neither shall ye profane my holy name; but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel: I am the LORD which hallow you,

God commands us to uphold His holy name and treat it with reverence.

1: A Call to Holiness - We are called to uphold the holiness of God's name and to reverence it.

2: Living in Holiness - To be hallowed by God, we must strive to live holy lives as children of Israel.

1: Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

2: Isaiah 8:13 - "Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread."

Leviticus 22:33 That brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD.

God reminds the Israelites that he is the one who brought them out of Egypt and is their God.

1: We must remember that God has been with us since the beginning and that He has always been our God.

2: We must be thankful for God's deliverance and recognize Him as our Lord.

1: Deuteronomy 5:15 - And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

2: Exodus 20:2 - I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Leviticus 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 23:1-8 outlines the appointed feasts or holy convocations that the Israelites are commanded to observe. The chapter begins by emphasizing the importance of keeping these designated times as sacred assemblies. It highlights the Sabbath day as a weekly observance and introduces the annual feasts, including the Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the Feast of Firstfruits. These celebrations serve as reminders of God's deliverance and provision for His people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 23:9-22 , specific instructions are given regarding the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost. The chapter establishes that this feast is to be observed seven weeks after the presentation of firstfruits. It involves offering a new grain offering to God and observing a sacred assembly. Additionally, it addresses regulations concerning gleaning from harvests and leaving portions for those in need.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 23 concludes by presenting further instructions regarding appointed times and observances. It introduces the Feast of Trumpets, which marks a day of blowing trumpets and serves as a memorial or reminder to gather together before God. The chapter also outlines regulations for observing the Day of Atonement a solemn occasion where fasting and affliction of souls are required to make atonement for sins committed throughout the year. Finally, it presents guidelines for celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths a week-long commemoration involving dwelling in temporary shelters to remember Israel's time in wilderness.

In summary:

Leviticus 23 presents:

Commanded observance of appointed feasts, holy convocations;

Emphasis on keeping designated times as sacred assemblies;

Introduction to weekly Sabbath; annual feasts Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits.

Instructions for observing Feast of Weeks, Pentecost offering new grain;

Regulations on gleaning and leaving portions for the needy;

Emphasis on gratitude and provision.

Introduction to Feast of Trumpets blowing of trumpets; gathering before God;

Observance of Day of Atonement fasting, affliction of souls for atonement;

Guidelines for celebrating Feast of Tabernacles, Booths dwelling in temporary shelters; remembering Israel's time in wilderness.

This chapter focuses on the appointed feasts or holy convocations that the Israelites are commanded to observe. Leviticus 23 begins by emphasizing the importance of keeping these designated times as sacred assemblies. It introduces the weekly observance of the Sabbath and presents annual feasts such as the Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, and Feast of Firstfruits. These celebrations serve as reminders to the Israelites about God's deliverance and provision throughout their history.

Furthermore, Leviticus 23 provides specific instructions regarding additional observances. It outlines regulations for observing the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost, which involves offering a new grain offering to God after seven weeks from presenting firstfruits. The chapter also addresses gleaning from harvests and leaving portions for those in need during this feast, highlighting gratitude and provision.

The chapter concludes by introducing other appointed times and observances. Leviticus 23 presents guidelines for observing the Feast of Trumpets a day marked by blowing trumpets as a memorial before God. It also outlines regulations for observing the solemn Day of Atonement, which requires fasting and affliction of souls to make atonement for sins committed throughout the year. Finally, it provides guidelines for celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths a week-long commemoration involving dwelling in temporary shelters to remember Israel's time in wilderness. These feasts serve as significant occasions for the Israelites to gather, remember, and express their faith and gratitude to God.

Leviticus 23:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, instructing him on how to observe religious festivals.

1. The Lord is Still Speaking: How to Listen and Respond to God's Instructions

2. Biblical Holidays: Celebrating God's Promises

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

Leviticus 23:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to proclaim holy days as holy convocations.

1. How to Celebrate God's Holiness

2. Keeping God's Holy Days

1. Mark 2:27-28 - And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.

2. Colossians 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days.

Leviticus 23:3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

God commands us to work for six days and keep the seventh day as a Sabbath, a holy convocation, as it is the day of rest for the Lord.

1. Work diligently for six days and devote the seventh day to rest and worship.

2. Rest is essential for our spiritual and physical well-being, and the Lord commands us to keep the Sabbath day holy.

1. Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 "There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience."

Leviticus 23:4 These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

The Lord has given us holy convocations for us to celebrate in their appointed times.

1. Celebrating the Lord in His Appointed Times

2. Finding Joy in the Feasts of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 16:16 - "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:"

2. Luke 4:16-21 - "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Leviticus 23:5 In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD's passover.

The Lord's Passover is celebrated on the fourteenth day of the first month in the evening.

1. The Lord's Passover: A Celebration of Redemption

2. Remembering the Lord's Sacrifice: The Meaning of the Passover

1. Exodus 12:1-14 - God's instructions to Israel on how to observe the Passover

2. John 12:1 - Jesus' attendance at a Passover meal with his disciples

Leviticus 23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.

The feast of unleavened bread is celebrated on the 15th day of the same month and it is required to eat unleavened bread for seven days.

1. The importance of celebrating the feast of unleavened bread.

2. The meaning behind seven days of eating unleavened bread.

1. Exodus 12:15-20 - Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

2. Luke 22:7-9 - Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover. Where do you want us to prepare for it? they asked.

Leviticus 23:7 In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to observe a holy convocation on the first day of the week.

1: The Lord calls us to dedicate the first day of the week to Him, setting it apart for holy use.

2: We are to use the first day of the week to glorify God, not to engage in our own pursuits.

1: Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2: Colossians 2:16-17 - Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

Leviticus 23:8 But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

God commands the Israelites to make a burnt offering to the Lord for seven days, with the seventh day being a holy convocation, not allowing any work to be done.

1. The Power of Consecration: Learning to Set Apart Time for God

2. The Importance of Keeping the Sabbath: A Reflection on Obedience to God's Commandments

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord s holy day honorable, and honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs, then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Leviticus 23:9 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving instructions.

1. Be Obedient to God's Commandments

2. Reaffirm Your Covenant with the Lord

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2. Deuteronomy 5:2-3 - The Lord our God made a covenant with us at Horeb. The Lord did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, who are all of us here alive today.

Leviticus 23:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

God commands the children of Israel to bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of their harvest to the priest when they enter the land He has given them.

1. Reaping the Harvest: A Reflection on Leviticus 23:10

2. Abundance and Blessing: A Study of Firstfruits in Leviticus 23:10

1. Deuteronomy 26:1-11 - The Israelites are instructed to bring a basket of firstfruits to the priest when they enter the Promised Land.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and the firstfruits of your harvest.

Leviticus 23:11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.

On the day after the Sabbath, the priest is to wave a sheaf of grain before the Lord to be accepted as an offering.

1. "The Power of a Wave: The Significance of the Wave Offering"

2. "The Sabbath Cycle: A Journey of Faithful Obedience"

1. Psalm 121:1-2 "I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth."

2. Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

Leviticus 23:12 And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD.

This passage instructs the Israelites to offer an unblemished lamb as a burnt offering to the Lord on the day of the waving of the sheaf.

1. The Lord's Call to Sacrifice: Examining the Obligation of Offering a Burnt Offering to the Lord

2. The Meaning of Unblemished: Living a Life of Sacrifice and Obedience to the Lord

1. Isaiah 53:7 - He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Leviticus 23:13 And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto the LORD for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin.

A meat offering to the Lord is to be two tenth deals of fine flour mixed with oil, and a drink offering of wine, a fourth part of an hin.

1. Offerings of Sacrifice: The importance of giving to God through offerings.

2. Gratefulness: Appreciating the Lord through a sweet savour.

1. 1 Chronicles 16:29 - Give to the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

2. Isaiah 43:24 - Thou hast bought me no sweet cane with money, neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices: but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins, thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities.

Leviticus 23:14 And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

God commanded the Israelites to not eat bread, parched corn, and green ears until they had offered an offering to Him as a statute for all generations.

1. The Importance of Offering Our Sacrifices to God

2. The Blessings of Obeying God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 26:1-15 - When a person brings their offering before the Lord, they will be blessed.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - If someone is offering a gift to God, it is important that they first make peace with their brother.

Leviticus 23:15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

This passage from Leviticus 23:15 instructs that seven sabbaths should be counted from the day of the wave offering.

1. Living a Life of Obedience: The Importance of Keeping the Sabbath

2. Keeping the Sabbath: A Time for Worship and Reflection

1. Matthew 12:1-14 - Jesus defends his disciples for picking grain on the Sabbath

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - God's commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy

Leviticus 23:16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to count fifty days and offer a new grain offering to Him after the seven weeks of the harvest season.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How God Rewards Those Who Follow His Commandments

2. The Joy of Giving: Celebrating God's Provision Through Gratitude

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promise of blessings for obedience

2. Luke 6:38 - The principle of giving and receiving

Leviticus 23:17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baken with leaven; they are the firstfruits unto the LORD.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to bring two loaves of leavened fine flour to be offered as firstfruits.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

2. The Significance of Offering Firstfruits to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - Remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Leviticus 23:18 And ye shall offer with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year, and one young bullock, and two rams: they shall be for a burnt offering unto the LORD, with their meat offering, and their drink offerings, even an offering made by fire, of sweet savour unto the LORD.

1: We must give offerings to the Lord in order to honor Him.

2: We must offer a sacrifice to show our devotion to God.

1: John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

2: Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Leviticus 23:19 Then ye shall sacrifice one kid of the goats for a sin offering, and two lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace offerings.

God commanded the Israelites to sacrifice one goat for a sin offering and two lambs for a peace offering.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of God's Command

2. The Gift of Forgiveness: The Message of the Sin Offering

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

Leviticus 23:20 And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits for a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs: they shall be holy to the LORD for the priest.

The priest is instructed to wave two lambs with the bread of the firstfruits as an offering before the Lord, and these two lambs will be holy to the Lord for the priest.

1. The Power of Offering: What Our Sacrifices Mean to God

2. Holiness and the Significance of Being Set Apart

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Leviticus 23:21 And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, that it may be an holy convocation unto you: ye shall do no servile work therein: it shall be a statute for ever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

God commands us to hold a holy convocation, to not work, and to keep this commandment forever.

1. God's Commands: Relevance for Our Lives Today

2. Keeping God's Commandments: A Call to Holiness

1. Romans 8:14-15 - For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father!

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Leviticus 23:22 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleaning of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to the stranger: I am the LORD your God.

God commands that when reaping the harvest of the land, the corners of the field and gleanings of the harvest should be left for the poor and the stranger.

1. Compassion in Action: Putting God's Command to Care for the Poor into Practice

2. Living in Righteousness: Fulfilling God's Command to Leave the Harvest for the Poor and Stranger

1. Deuteronomy 24:19-22 - When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

20When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

21When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

22And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt: therefore I command thee to do this thing.

2. James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Leviticus 23:23 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and gave him instructions.

1. God is always speaking to us, and we must listen.

2. Obedience to the Lord's commands is essential for our spiritual growth.

1. James 1:19-21 - Be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath.

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Obey the commands of the Lord your God, that you may live and multiply, and that the Lord your God may bless you in the land which you go to possess.

Leviticus 23:24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to observe a Sabbath on the first day of the seventh month, to be accompanied by blowing of trumpets and a holy convocation.

1. The Importance of Keeping Sacred Times

2. The Holiness of God and Its Impact on Our Lives

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly, then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Leviticus 23:25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Offerings should be made to the Lord, not servile work.

1. Offer our best to the Lord

2. Why servile work should not be done

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Leviticus 23:26 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving instructions.

1. Living Out the Word: How to Follow God's Instructions.

2. Cultivating a Relationship with God through Obedience.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Matthew 7:21 - "Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

Leviticus 23:27 Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

On the tenth day of the seventh month, a holy convocation is to be held and people should afflict their souls and offer an offering to the Lord.

1. God calls us to set aside time for repentance and self-reflection.

2. Offerings to the Lord are a sign of humility and appreciation of His grace.

1. Isaiah 58:5-12 - Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

2. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Leviticus 23:28 And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God.

The Lord has commanded that on the Day of Atonement, one should rest and make an atonement for themselves before Him.

1. God's Mercy in the Atonement

2. The Importance of Resting on the Day of Atonement

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 10:14-17 - "For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds, he also adds, I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more. Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin."

Leviticus 23:29 For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people.

The Lord commands us to afflict our souls on the Day of Atonement.

1. The Power of Atonement and How It Unites Us

2. The Necessity of Self-Reflection and Repentance

1. Isaiah 58:5-7 Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

2. Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leviticus 23:30 And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people.

God warns the Israelites that any soul that performs any work on the Sabbath day will be destroyed from among the people.

1. Keeping God's Commandments: The Importance of Resting on the Sabbath

2. The Consequences of Not Keeping the Sabbath

1. Hebrews 4:9-11 - Therefore, a Sabbath rest remains for God s people. For the person who has entered His rest has rested from his own works, just as God did from His. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall into the same pattern of disobedience.

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner staying in your towns. For in six days the Lord made the heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Leviticus 23:31 Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

The Lord commands that the people of Israel should have a day of rest, observed forever in their dwellings.

1. The Holiness of Rest: Taking Time to Reflect on God's Love

2. The Blessing of Sabbath: Finding Joy and Peace in a Day of Rest

1. Exodus 20:8-11 (Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy)

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 (A promise of rest for those who believe in Jesus)

Leviticus 23:32 It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath.

This passage states that the Sabbath is a day of rest and self-reflection, to be celebrated from the evening of the ninth day of the month to the evening of the tenth day.

1. "The Sabbath: A Day of Rest and Reflection"

2. "The Sacredness of the Sabbath: Honoring the Lord with Rest"

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord s holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the Lord."

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

Leviticus 23:33 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving instructions about a special festival.

1. The Lord's Command: Living in Obedience to God's Will

2. Celebrating God's Faithfulness: The Significance of the Special Festival

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Leviticus 23:34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.

The children of Israel are commanded to observe the Feast of Tabernacles, which will begin on the fifteenth day of the seventh month.

1. "Living in the Presence of God: The Significance of the Feast of Tabernacles"

2. "The Joy of Celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles"

1. Psalm 36:7-9 - How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.

2. Deuteronomy 16:13-15 - You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress. And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates. Seven days you shall keep a sacred feast to the LORD your God in the place which the LORD chooses, because the LORD your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you surely rejoice.

Leviticus 23:35 On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

On the first day of the week, a holy convocation is to be observed and no servile work is to be done.

1. God Gives Us Rest: Taking Time to Recharge and Rejoice

2. The Power of Worship: How We Honor God Through Our Actions

1. Exodus 20:8-11 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

2. Colossians 2:16-17 Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

Leviticus 23:36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.

God commands the Israelites to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD for seven days, followed by a holy convocation on the eighth day. On the eighth day, an offering made by fire must be offered, and no servile work should be done.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands from Leviticus 23:36

2. The Gift of Worship: Understanding the Significance of Gatherings in Leviticus 23:36

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul. That all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

2. Psalm 100:1-2 - "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing."

Leviticus 23:37 These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day:

This passage describes the feasts of the Lord and the offerings that were associated with them.

1. Celebrating God's Feasts: Remembering His Provision

2. Holiness and Obedience: The Meaning of the Feasts

1. Deuteronomy 16:16 - "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty."

2. Luke 2:41-42 - "Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast."

Leviticus 23:38 Beside the sabbaths of the LORD, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill offerings, which ye give unto the LORD.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to observe the Sabbath, give gifts, keep their vows, and make freewill offerings to the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commandments in Leviticus 23

2. The Joy of Generosity: Showing Gratitude to God and Others

1. Deuteronomy 26:12-13 - When you have finished tithing all the tithes of your produce in the third year, the year of tithing, giving it to the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, so that they may eat within your towns and be filled,

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God at the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

Leviticus 23:39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath.

The fifteenth day of the seventh month of the year is a feast unto the LORD for seven days, with the first and eighth days being sabbaths.

1. Be thankful for the gifts God has provided and remember to keep the sabbath holy.

2. The importance of taking time to celebrate and honor God in our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 5:12-15 - Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy.

2. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Leviticus 23:40 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.

On the first day of the festival, the people of Israel were commanded to gather boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook, in order to rejoice before the Lord their God for seven days.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Finding Joy in Worship

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Celebrating the Gifts of God

1. John 15:11 - "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

2. Psalm 35:9 - "And my soul shall be joyful in the Lord: it shall rejoice in his salvation."

Leviticus 23:41 And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

This passage instructs readers to keep the Feast of the Lord for seven days in the year, a statute that is to be passed onto future generations.

1. The Importance of Keeping the Lord's Feasts and Celebrating Them

2. The Value of Passing On Biblical Traditions to Future Generations

1. Numbers 28:16-17 - And in the fourteenth day of the first month is the passover of the LORD. And in the fifteenth day of this month is the feast: seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten.

2. Deuteronomy 16:16 - Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty.

Leviticus 23:42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

This passage speaks of the Israelites' custom of dwelling in booths for seven days.

1. God's Command to Dwell in Booths: Reflecting on the Significance of Faithful Obedience

2. God's Provision in the Wilderness: Understanding the Importance of Dwelling in Booths

1. Deuteronomy 16:13-15 - You shall keep the Feast of Booths seven days, when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your winepress. You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. For seven days you shall keep the feast to the Lord your God at the place that the Lord will choose, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful.

2. Exodus 33:7-11 - Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door. Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.

Leviticus 23:43 That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

The LORD commanded Israel to remember Him by living in booths so that future generations would know of His deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

1. Trust in the Lord Who Makes a Way - Looking to the Lord to provide a way out of difficult situations

2. Remembering the Lord's Deliverance - Celebrating the Lord's deliverance from Egypt in the present

1. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. John 8:32 - And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Leviticus 23:44 And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the feasts of the LORD.

Moses declared to the children of Israel the feasts of the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: Exploring the Feasts of the Lord as Taught By Moses

2. Celebrating the Feasts of the Lord: A Study of the Historical Significance of His Holidays

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, at the Feast of Unleavened Bread and at the Feast of Weeks and at the Feast of Booths, and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

2. Luke 22:15-16 - And He said to them, I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

Leviticus 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 24:1-9 outlines the regulations regarding the maintenance of the sanctuary's lampstand and the placement of showbread. The chapter emphasizes that the Israelites are to provide pure olive oil for the lampstand, ensuring that it burns continuously before God. Additionally, it specifies that twelve loaves of bread are to be arranged on a table in the sanctuary as an offering, with fresh loaves placed every Sabbath. These instructions highlight the importance of maintaining sacred objects and providing offerings to honor God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 24:10-16 , a case involving blasphemy is presented. The chapter recounts an incident where a man, born of an Israelite mother and an Egyptian father, curses using God's name during a dispute. The people bring him before Moses, who seeks guidance from God regarding his punishment. As a result, those who heard his blasphemy are commanded to lay their hands on him as witnesses before stoning him to death.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 24 concludes by presenting further regulations related to justice and retribution for causing injury or harm. It introduces the principle of "an eye for an eye" and "a tooth for a tooth," emphasizing fair compensation for damages inflicted upon others. It also addresses cases involving injuries caused by livestock and provides guidelines for determining appropriate restitution or compensation based on various circumstances.

In summary:

Leviticus 24 presents:

Regulations regarding maintenance of sanctuary's lampstand;

Provision of pure olive oil for continuous burning;

Placement of twelve loaves as showbread; honoring God through offerings.

Case involving blasphemy man cursing using God's name;

Seeking guidance from God regarding punishment;

Commandment to lay hands on him as witnesses before stoning him to death.

Regulations related to justice and retribution;

Introduction of "an eye for an eye" principle fair compensation for damages;

Guidelines for determining restitution in cases involving injuries caused by livestock.

This chapter focuses on the regulations regarding the maintenance of sacred objects, punishment for blasphemy, and principles of justice and retribution. Leviticus 24 begins by emphasizing the importance of providing pure olive oil for the lampstand in the sanctuary, ensuring that it burns continuously before God. It also specifies that twelve loaves of bread are to be arranged as showbread on a table, with fresh loaves placed every Sabbath, as offerings to honor God.

Furthermore, Leviticus 24 presents a case involving blasphemy where a man born of an Israelite mother and an Egyptian father curses using God's name during a dispute. Moses seeks guidance from God regarding his punishment, and as a result, those who heard his blasphemy are commanded to lay their hands on him as witnesses before stoning him to death. This severe consequence underscores the seriousness with which blasphemy is regarded within Israelite society.

The chapter concludes by introducing further regulations related to justice and retribution. It establishes the principle of "an eye for an eye" and "a tooth for a tooth," emphasizing fair compensation for damages inflicted upon others. Leviticus 24 also addresses cases involving injuries caused by livestock and provides guidelines for determining appropriate restitution or compensation based on various circumstances. These regulations aim to ensure fairness in resolving disputes and maintaining social order within the community.

Leviticus 24:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving instructions.

1. The Power of Obedience: Recognizing God's Authority in Our Lives

2. The Value of Holiness: Living with Integrity in a Corrupt World

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Leviticus 24:2 Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually.

God commanded the Israelites to bring Him pure olive oil to keep the lamps burning continually.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. The Power of Symbolism in the Bible

1. Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

2. James 2:17 - "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

Leviticus 24:3 Without the vail of the testimony, in the tabernacle of the congregation, shall Aaron order it from the evening unto the morning before the LORD continually: it shall be a statute for ever in your generations.

Aaron must tend to the lamp in the tabernacle of the congregation from evening to morning continually, as this was a statute for all generations.

1. The Light of God's Presence: How to Seek His Guidance

2. The Eternal Lamp of God's Covenant: Abiding by His Statutes

1. Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2. John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Leviticus 24:4 He shall order the lamps upon the pure candlestick before the LORD continually.

The Lord is to be continually praised and glorified with pure and burning lamps.

1: Let us continually praise the Lord with pure hearts and burning lamps.

2: Let us be filled with the Holy Spirit and be a shining light in this world of darkness.

1: Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

2: Philippians 2:14-15 - "Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky."

Leviticus 24:5 And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake.

Flour is to be taken and baked into twelve cakes, with two tenth deals in each cake.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions - Leviticus 24:5

2. Giving Thanks to God in All Things - Leviticus 24:5

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

2. Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Leviticus 24:6 And thou shalt set them in two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the LORD.

The Lord commanded that the showbread be placed on the table in two rows with six pieces in each row.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The beauty of God's design and order.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Psalm 145:17 - The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

Leviticus 24:7 And thou shalt put pure frankincense upon each row, that it may be on the bread for a memorial, even an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

This passage from Leviticus speaks about offering frankincense on bread as a memorial offering to the LORD.

1. The importance of memorial offerings to the LORD.

2. The power of frankincense in honoring God.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 23:5 - Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Leviticus 24:8 Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant.

Every sabbath, the Israelites were commanded to bring bread before the Lord as a part of an everlasting covenant.

1. The Bread of Life: Christ's Role as the Fulfillment of the Covenant

2. The Eternal Significance of Sabbath Obedience

1. John 6:35 - "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

2. Exodus 31:13-17 - "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you."

Leviticus 24:9 And it shall be Aaron's and his sons'; and they shall eat it in the holy place: for it is most holy unto him of the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute.

Aaron and his sons were to eat the offering of the Lord, made by fire, in the holy place as a perpetual statute.

1. The importance of following God's statutes

2. The holiness of the offerings of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - "But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come: And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks: And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Leviticus 24:10 And the son of an Israelitish woman, whose father was an Egyptian, went out among the children of Israel: and this son of the Israelitish woman and a man of Israel strove together in the camp;

A son of an Israelitish woman, whose father was an Egyptian, got into a fight with a man of Israel while in the camp.

1. The Power of Unity: How Our Differences Can Unite Us

2. Conflict Resolution: Learning to Resolve Conflict in Healthy Ways

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Matthew 18:15-17 - If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Leviticus 24:11 And the Israelitish woman's son blasphemed the name of the Lord, and cursed. And they brought him unto Moses: (and his mother's name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan:)

A son of an Israelite woman blasphemed the Lord and cursed, and was brought to Moses. His mother's name was Shelomith, daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.

1. The Power of Words: How the Tongue Can Destroy and Bless

2. The Consequences of Blasphemy: A Study of Leviticus 24:11

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

2. James 3:6-10 - The tongue is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

Leviticus 24:12 And they put him in ward, that the mind of the LORD might be shewed them.

A man was put in prison so that the Lord s will could be revealed to the people.

1. "God's Will Revealed: The Story of Leviticus 24:12"

2. "Trusting God's Plan: A Study of Leviticus 24:12"

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."

2. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand."

Leviticus 24:13 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God speaks to Moses and gives him instructions.

1. "God's Word is a Guide and Comfort"

2. "The Call to Obedience"

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2. Matthew 4:4 - "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Leviticus 24:14 Bring forth him that hath cursed without the camp; and let all that heard him lay their hands upon his head, and let all the congregation stone him.

A person who has cursed must be brought outside the camp and stoned by the congregation after all those who heard the curse have laid their hands on the person's head.

1. The Consequences of Cursing: A Study of Leviticus 24:14

2. Taking God's Name in Vain: Understanding the Seriousness of Cursing in Leviticus 24:14

1. James 5:12 But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your Yes be yes and your No be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

2. Exodus 20:7 You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

Leviticus 24:15 And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, Whosoever curseth his God shall bear his sin.

Anyone who curses God will have to bear the consequences of that sin.

1. God Deserves Our Respect - Romans 13:7

2. Our Words Matter - James 3:5-6

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue

2. Ecclesiastes 5:2 - Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God.

Leviticus 24:16 And he that blasphemeth the name of the LORD, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the Lord, shall be put to death.

Blasphemy of the Lord's name is punishable by death, regardless if the blasphemer is a stranger or born in the land.

1. The Power of God's Name: How We Should Respect His Holiness

2. The Consequences of Blasphemy: What Happens When We Disregard His Holy Name

1. Exodus 20:7- "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."

2. Psalm 29:2- "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

Leviticus 24:17 And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death.

Killing any man is punishable by death according to Leviticus 24:17.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Move Forward When You Have Been Wronged

2. The Value of Life: Why We Must Respect Human Life

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

Leviticus 24:18 And he that killeth a beast shall make it good; beast for beast.

Those who kill an animal must pay restitution by providing another animal.

1. The Value of Life: Understanding the Weight of Taking a Life

2. Restitution: Paying for the Life We Take

1. Genesis 9:3-5 - Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

2. Exodus 21:28-36 - If an ox gore a man or a woman, that they die: then the ox shall be surely stoned, and his flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be quit.

Leviticus 24:19 And if a man cause a blemish in his neighbour; as he hath done, so shall it be done to him;

This passage emphasizes the importance of treating others as you would want to be treated.

1. The Golden Rule: Treat Others As You Would Want To Be Treated

2. Why We Should Love Our Neighbours As Ourselves

1. Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

2. Matthew 22:39 - Love your neighbor as yourself.

Leviticus 24:20 Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth: as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him again.

This passage in Leviticus 24:20 emphasizes the concept of justice through a system of retaliation.

1: "An Eye for an Eye: The Principle of Retaliation in Justice"

2: "The Justice of Leviticus 24:20: A Lesson in God's Wisdom"

1: Exodus 21:24 25, "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe."

2: Proverbs 20:22, "Do not say, I will repay evil ; wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.

Leviticus 24:21 And he that killeth a beast, he shall restore it: and he that killeth a man, he shall be put to death.

A person who kills an animal must make restitution, while one who kills a person must be put to death.

1. The Value of Human Life: Examining the Weight of Our Actions

2. The Sanctity of Life: Respect for All of Creation

1. Exodus 21:14-17 - The Value of Human Life

2. Genesis 1:26-28 - The Sanctity of Life

Leviticus 24:22 Ye shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country: for I am the LORD your God.

This verse emphasizes the importance of treating all people equally, regardless of their background.

1: Love your neighbor as yourself - Leviticus 19:18

2: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you - Matthew 7:12

1: Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2: Acts 10:34-35 - Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Leviticus 24:23 And Moses spake to the children of Israel, that they should bring forth him that had cursed out of the camp, and stone him with stones. And the children of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses commanded the children of Israel to bring out anyone who had cursed and stone them as the LORD had commanded.

1. The Need for Obedience - living a life that honors God through obedience.

2. The Power of Unity - working together to fulfill God's will.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Leviticus 25 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 25:1-22 introduces the concept of the Sabbath Year, a year of rest for the land. The chapter emphasizes that every seventh year, the Israelites are to let their fields lie fallow and refrain from sowing or harvesting crops. This practice allows the land to rejuvenate and ensures that both people and animals have access to food during this period. It also prohibits gathering grapes from vineyards or picking fruits from trees during the Sabbath Year.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 25:23-38 , regulations regarding redemption and release of property are presented. The chapter highlights that all land belongs ultimately to God, and the Israelites are regarded as tenants or sojourners on His land. It establishes guidelines for redeeming ancestral lands if they were sold due to financial hardship and outlines provisions for returning property during the Year of Jubilee a special year occurring every fifty years when all debts are forgiven, slaves are set free, and ancestral lands return to their original owners.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 25 concludes by addressing regulations related to poverty alleviation and treatment of fellow Israelites. It prohibits charging interest on loans given to fellow Israelites in need but allows lending money with interest to foreigners. The chapter emphasizes fair treatment of slaves within Israelite society, stating that they should not be treated harshly but rather as hired workers who can be redeemed at any time by their family members. Additionally, it encourages providing assistance to impoverished brethren through acts of kindness and generosity.

In summary:

Leviticus 25 presents:

Introduction of Sabbath Year yearly rest for the land;

Prohibition against sowing, harvesting crops during seventh year;

Prohibition against gathering grapes, picking fruits during Sabbath Year.

Regulations regarding redemption and release of property;

Recognition of God's ownership of all land; Israelites as tenants;

Guidelines for redeeming ancestral lands, provisions during Year of Jubilee.

Prohibition against charging interest on loans to fellow Israelites in need;

Fair treatment of slaves as hired workers who can be redeemed;

Encouragement to assist impoverished brethren through acts of kindness and generosity.

This chapter focuses on various regulations related to the Sabbath Year, redemption and release of property, and poverty alleviation. Leviticus 25 introduces the concept of the Sabbath Year, emphasizing that every seventh year, the Israelites are to let their fields lie fallow and refrain from sowing or harvesting crops. This practice allows for land rejuvenation and ensures food availability for both people and animals. The chapter also prohibits gathering grapes from vineyards or picking fruits from trees during the Sabbath Year.

Furthermore, Leviticus 25 presents regulations regarding redemption and release of property. It highlights that all land ultimately belongs to God, with the Israelites regarded as tenants or sojourners on His land. The chapter provides guidelines for redeeming ancestral lands if they were sold due to financial hardship and outlines provisions for returning property during the special Year of Jubilee a year occurring every fifty years when debts are forgiven, slaves are set free, and ancestral lands return to their original owners.

The chapter concludes by addressing regulations related to poverty alleviation and fair treatment within Israelite society. Leviticus 25 prohibits charging interest on loans given to fellow Israelites in need but allows lending money with interest to foreigners. It emphasizes fair treatment of slaves as hired workers who can be redeemed at any time by their family members rather than being treated harshly. Additionally, it encourages providing assistance to impoverished brethren through acts of kindness and generosity. These regulations aim at promoting social justice, compassion, and economic stability within the community.

Leviticus 25:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses in Mount Sinai regarding laws for the Israelites to follow.

1. Our lives should be lived in obedience to God's laws.

2. We must dedicate ourselves to following the Lord's instructions.

1. Deuteronomy 11:1 - Therefore thou shalt love the LORD thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, alway.

2. Matthew 22:36-40 - Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law? And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Leviticus 25:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD.

This verse encourages the Israelites to keep a Sabbath when they enter the Promised Land.

1. God s call to rest: A look at the importance of Sabbath in Leviticus 25:2

2. Trusting God s plan: How to have faith in the Promised Land according to Leviticus 25:2

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idlely.

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates."

Leviticus 25:3 Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof;

The Lord commands us to take care of our land through sowing and pruning for six years.

1: We must be faithful stewards of what God has given us and tend to our land out of reverence for the Lord.

2: We can show our love and obedience to the Lord through our diligence in keeping our fields and vineyards.

1: Matthew 25:14-30 - The parable of the talents teaches us to be faithful stewards of what the Lord has given us.

2: Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

Leviticus 25:4 But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.

The seventh year of the land shall be a sabbath of rest for the LORD.

1. Taking Time for Rest and Reflection: The Importance of Sabbath

2. Cultivating a Life of Faithfulness: The Blessing of Keeping the Sabbath

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 - So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

Leviticus 25:5 That which groweth of its own accord of thy harvest thou shalt not reap, neither gather the grapes of thy vine undressed: for it is a year of rest unto the land.

In the year of rest, farmers should not harvest crops that grow on their own or pick grapes on their vine.

1. God's plan for rest and renewal

2. The importance of Sabbath rest

1. Exodus 20:8-10 - Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

2. Psalm 92:12-14 - The righteous flourish like a palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Leviticus 25:6 And the sabbath of the land shall be meat for you; for thee, and for thy servant, and for thy maid, and for thy hired servant, and for thy stranger that sojourneth with thee,

The land is to be given a Sabbath rest, providing sustenance for all.

1. Reaping the Benefits of Sabbath Rest

2. The Land s Caring Provision for All

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

2. Exodus 20:8-10 - Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Leviticus 25:7 And for thy cattle, and for the beast that are in thy land, shall all the increase thereof be meat.

God commanded the Israelites to use the increase of their cattle and other beasts as food.

1. "The Blessings of Obedience: Partaking in God's Provision"

2. "Living a Life of Gratitude: Acknowledging God's Generosity"

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Leviticus 25:8 And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years.

Every seven years, seven Sabbaths should be observed, amounting to a total of 49 years.

1. The Importance of Observing the Sabbath

2. Living a Life of Faith and Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 5:12-15 - The Fourth Commandment

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - Keeping the Sabbath Holy

Leviticus 25:9 Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubile to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land.

This passage from Leviticus 25:9 speaks of a jubilee to be celebrated on the day of atonement.

1: The Day of Atonement: Finding Redemption and Restoration

2: Celebrating Jubilee: Releasing the Burdens of our Lives

1: Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2: Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

Leviticus 25:10 And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

This passage speaks of the 50th year being a jubilee year of liberty and freedom for all people.

1. Living in Liberty: Embracing the Jubilee Year as God Intended

2. The Year of Release: Experiencing God's Freedom in Your Life

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2. Galatians 5:1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Leviticus 25:11 A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed.

Every 50th year is to be observed as a jubilee, during which no sowing or reaping should take place, and the grapes of the vine are to remain unpruned.

1. God's Law and Our Obedience: The Jubilee in Leviticus 25

2. The Blessings of Keeping God's Commandments: The Jubilee in Leviticus 25

1. Deuteronomy 15:1-2 At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release. And this is the form of the release: Every creditor who has lent anything to his neighbor shall release it; he shall not require it of his neighbor or his brother, because it is called the Lord s release.

2. Ezekiel 46:17 When the prince makes a freewill offering, either a heave offering in your form or a freewill offering with his own hand, it shall be accepted. He shall give justice to the poor and needy, and shall save the lives of the needy.

Leviticus 25:12 For it is the jubile; it shall be holy unto you: ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field.

Leviticus 25:12 states that the jubilee year is to be holy and the produce of the land should be eaten.

1. The Blessings of Keeping Holy Time

2. Celebrating the Jubilee Year

1. Deuteronomy 15:1-2 - At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release. And this is the form of the release: Every creditor who has lent anything to his neighbor shall release it; he shall not require it of his neighbor or his brother, because it is called the Lord s release.

2. Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.

Leviticus 25:13 In the year of this jubile ye shall return every man unto his possession.

This passage from Leviticus encourages the people of Israel to return to their possessions in the jubilee year.

1. The Freedom of Possession: How God's Law Liberates Us

2. The Blessing of Jubilee: Experiencing Restoration in God's Grace

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

2. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

Leviticus 25:14 And if thou sell ought unto thy neighbour, or buyest ought of thy neighbour's hand, ye shall not oppress one another:

This passage teaches us to not take advantage of one other in our business dealings.

1. "God's Command to Treat Others Fairly in Business"

2. "The Responsibility of Fairness in Business Transactions"

1. Ephesians 4:25-28 - "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

2. Matthew 7:12 - "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Leviticus 25:15 According to the number of years after the jubile thou shalt buy of thy neighbour, and according unto the number of years of the fruits he shall sell unto thee:

This passage encourages us to treat our neighbors with fairness and kindness, buying and selling with each other in a way that honors the number of years of the fruits.

1. That God calls us to treat others with fairness and kindness no matter our circumstances.

2. That by understanding and honoring the number of years of the fruits, we can honor God's commands and our neighbors.

1. Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Leviticus 25:16 According to the multitude of years thou shalt increase the price thereof, and according to the fewness of years thou shalt diminish the price of it: for according to the number of the years of the fruits doth he sell unto thee.

This passage from Leviticus states that when selling fruit, the price should be adjusted according to the number of years the fruit has been grown.

1. The Power of Patience: Using Leviticus 25:16 to Understand the Value of Time

2. The Value of Stewardship: Learning from Leviticus 25:16 to Care for What We Have

1. Proverbs 13:11 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

2. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Leviticus 25:17 Ye shall not therefore oppress one another; but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the LORD your God.

Do not take advantage of or oppress one another; instead, reverence the Lord your God.

1. The Power of Fear: Finding Strength in Revering God

2. Dignity and Respect: Treating Our Neighbors as We Wish to be Treated

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - "Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.'"

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - "My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity."

Leviticus 25:18 Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety.

God commands His people to keep His statutes and judgments in order to live in safety.

1. Keeping God's Commands Brings Safety

2. Living in Obedience to God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14

2. Psalm 91:1-16

Leviticus 25:19 And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in safety.

The land will provide enough food for everyone and they will be able to live in peace and security.

1. Abundance of Provision: God's Faithfulness to His People.

2. A Call to Dwell in Safety: Living in God's Protection.

1. Psalm 34:9 - Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing!

2. Deuteronomy 28:11-12 - The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you.

Leviticus 25:20 And if ye shall say, What shall we eat the seventh year? behold, we shall not sow, nor gather in our increase:

The seventh year is a time of rest from sowing and gathering crops for Israelites.

1: God provided for the Israelites in the seventh year, even when they were not able to sow or gather in their increase.

2: We can trust God to provide for us in times of need, even when it seems like nothing.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to not worry about our daily needs, because God will provide.

2: Psalm 37:25 - We should not be anxious, but trust in the Lord and He will provide.

Leviticus 25:21 Then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years.

In Leviticus 25:21, God promises to bless the Israelites if they follow his commands, and that blessing will result in fruit harvest for three years.

1. God's Blessing and Provision for His People

2. Obedience Brings Abundance and Fruitfulness

1. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God.

Leviticus 25:22 And ye shall sow the eighth year, and eat yet of old fruit until the ninth year; until her fruits come in ye shall eat of the old store.

In the eighth year, people should sow and continue to eat from the old fruit until the ninth year when the new fruit comes in.

1. Don't give up during difficulty - God will provide in due time.

2. The importance of patience and perseverance in our lives.

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Leviticus 25:23 The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.

The land belongs to God and cannot be sold permanently, as those who occupy it are only temporary dwellers.

1. God's ownership of all things reminds us of our temporary nature as residents on Earth and our need for Him in our lives.

2. We must remember that we are only strangers and sojourners on this earth, and that everything we have ultimately belongs to God.

1. Psalm 24:1 The earth is the LORD s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

2. Hebrews 11:13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

Leviticus 25:24 And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land.

God commands the Israelites to allow others to redeem land that was sold in their possession.

1. God's grace: The importance of redemption through Jesus Christ.

2. Stewardship of God's Creation: Our responsibility to care for the land.

1. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

2. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord s, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

Leviticus 25:25 If thy brother be waxen poor, and hath sold away some of his possession, and if any of his kin come to redeem it, then shall he redeem that which his brother sold.

This passage speaks of a brother who has become poor and has sold some of his possessions, and how another relative can redeem the sold possessions.

1. The Value of Family: How our relationships with our relatives can be a source of strength and support in times of need.

2. The Power of Redemption: How God can restore us and redeem our lives through His grace and power.

1. Ruth 4:14 "And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel."

2. Psalm 34:19 "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."

Leviticus 25:26 And if the man have none to redeem it, and himself be able to redeem it;

The passage speaks about redemption of property.

1: We are called to redeem what is lost, and to be beacons of redemption for others.

2: We ought to strive to provide redemption for our fellow brothers and sisters.

1: Isaiah 58:6-12 - The passage speaks about how to fast and how to care for the needy.

2: Proverbs 19:17 - He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.

Leviticus 25:27 Then let him count the years of the sale thereof, and restore the overplus unto the man to whom he sold it; that he may return unto his possession.

God commands people to return any surplus amount that they have received from a sale to its rightful owner.

1. The importance of honoring God's commands.

2. Being mindful of our actions and their consequences.

1. Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

2. Proverbs 3:27, "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it."

Leviticus 25:28 But if he be not able to restore it to him, then that which is sold shall remain in the hand of him that hath bought it until the year of jubile: and in the jubile it shall go out, and he shall return unto his possession.

In the year of jubilee, a person who bought something from another person must return it to the original owner.

1. The importance of practicing jubilee- how it reminds us of our obligation to serve one another.

2. The meaning of jubilee in the life of the believer- how it serves as an example of God's love and grace.

1. Deuteronomy 15:1-2 At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release of debts. And this is the form of the release: Every creditor who has lent anything to his neighbor shall release it; he shall not require it of his neighbor or his brother, because it is called the Lord s release.

2. Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

Leviticus 25:29 And if a man sell a dwelling house in a walled city, then he may redeem it within a whole year after it is sold; within a full year may he redeem it.

According to Leviticus 25:29, a man has the right to redeem a dwelling house that has been sold in a walled city within a year.

1. The importance of redeeming our dwellings: Learning to value the places where we live.

2. God's provision of redemption: His grace and mercy in our lives.

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Romans 8:38-39 "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Leviticus 25:30 And if it be not redeemed within the space of a full year, then the house that is in the walled city shall be established for ever to him that bought it throughout his generations: it shall not go out in the jubile.

This passage describes the laws of redemption of a house in a walled city. If the house is not redeemed within a year, it is established forever for the one who bought it.

1. God's merciful provision of redemption for our lives and our homes.

2. The importance of redeeming our time and using it wisely.

1. Psalm 32:6-7 "Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters will not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance."

2. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Leviticus 25:31 But the houses of the villages which have no wall round about them shall be counted as the fields of the country: they may be redeemed, and they shall go out in the jubile.

This passage describes that even though houses in villages without walls are considered part of the fields of the country, they can still be redeemed and released in the Jubilee.

1. God's Redemption: A Message of Hope in Unfortunate Circumstances

2. The Freedom of Jubilee: Celebrating God's Provision

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 - "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn."

2. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Leviticus 25:32 Notwithstanding the cities of the Levites, and the houses of the cities of their possession, may the Levites redeem at any time.

The Levites have the right to redeem any of the cities or houses that they are in possession of at any given time.

1. God's grace allows us to redeem our lives if we choose to.

2. We can always rely on the Lord to help us redeem our circumstances.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

Leviticus 25:33 And if a man purchase of the Levites, then the house that was sold, and the city of his possession, shall go out in the year of jubile: for the houses of the cities of the Levites are their possession among the children of Israel.

This verse explains that when a Levite sells a house, it will return to him in the Jubilee year as it is his possession among the Israelites.

1. God's Provision for the Levites: How God Cares for His People

2. The Year of Jubilee: God's Redemption in Action

1. Deuteronomy 15:4 - "However, there should be no poor among you, for in the land the Lord your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you,

2. Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

Leviticus 25:34 But the field of the suburbs of their cities may not be sold; for it is their perpetual possession.

The land surrounding a city can not be sold as it is considered the perpetual possession of its inhabitants.

1. God has provided us with all that we need, and we should be thankful for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

2. We should be mindful of our possessions and use them to honor God and serve our fellow man.

1. Deuteronomy 10:14 - Behold, the heavens and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Leviticus 25:35 And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him: yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee.

We should help those in need, even if they are strangers or sojourners.

1. The importance of helping our neighbors in need.

2. The power of selfless acts of kindness.

1. Galatians 6:10 - "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

2. Isaiah 58:10 - "And if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

Leviticus 25:36 Take thou no usury of him, or increase: but fear thy God; that thy brother may live with thee.

This passage reminds us to practice generosity and refrain from taking advantage of our brothers or sisters financially.

1: We are commanded by God to practice generosity and compassion towards our brothers and sisters.

2: Let us remember to treat our brothers and sisters with kindness and mercy, not taking advantage of them financially.

1: Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

2: Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Leviticus 25:37 Thou shalt not give him thy money upon usury, nor lend him thy victuals for increase.

This verse in Leviticus calls upon us to not charge interest when lending or borrowing money or food.

1. How to Live a Generous Life Without Taking Advantage of Others

2. The Blessing of Giving and Receiving

1. Proverbs 22:7 - "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."

2. Luke 6:35 - "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil."

Leviticus 25:38 I am the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God.

This passage speaks of God as the one who brought the Israelites out of Egypt and gave them the land of Canaan, promising to be their God.

1. God is Faithful - We can trust Him to keep His promises

2. God is our Deliverer - He is capable of delivering us from any situation

1. Deuteronomy 7:8-9 - It was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Joshua 21:43-45 - So the LORD gave to Israel all the land he had sworn to give their ancestors, and they took possession of it and settled there. 44 The LORD gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their ancestors. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the LORD gave all their enemies into their hands. 45 Not one of all the LORD s good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.

Leviticus 25:39 And if thy brother that dwelleth by thee be waxen poor, and be sold unto thee; thou shalt not compel him to serve as a bondservant:

The passage states that one should not force a brother who has become poor to serve as a bondservant.

1: We should always show mercy and kindness to our brothers, especially if they are in need.

2: We should not take advantage of those who are vulnerable and less fortunate than us.

1: James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2: Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Leviticus 25:40 But as an hired servant, and as a sojourner, he shall be with thee, and shall serve thee unto the year of jubile:

This passage speaks of the responsibility of a master to his servant regarding the length of time of service.

1. God calls us to treat our neighbors with faithfulness and respect, even those who work for us.

2. The Jubilee Year was a time of freedom and remission of debts, and a reminder of God's grace and mercy.

1. Ephesians 6:5-9 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.

2. Colossians 4:1 - Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

Leviticus 25:41 And then shall he depart from thee, both he and his children with him, and shall return unto his own family, and unto the possession of his fathers shall he return.

This passage speaks of a man who is allowed to leave the service of another and return to his original family and possessions.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises of deliverance and restoration.

2. The importance of honoring commitments and obligations.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Leviticus 25:42 For they are my servants, which I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: they shall not be sold as bondmen.

In Leviticus 25:42, God commands that the Israelites should not be sold into slavery, as they are God's people, whom He brought out of Egypt.

1: We are God's people, and He desires for us to be free to live our lives in service to Him.

2: We are reminded of the importance of self-determination and freedom, no matter where we are in life.

1: Deuteronomy 5:15 - "And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore, the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day."

2: Exodus 20:2 - "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

Leviticus 25:43 Thou shalt not rule over him with rigour; but shalt fear thy God.

In Leviticus 25, God commands us not to rule over our fellow man with harshness, but to fear God instead.

1. The Power of Fear: How Fearing God Can Lead to Righteous Living

2. Love Your Neighbor: The Importance of Treating Others with Kindness

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2. Matthew 22:34-40 - Jesus said, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Leviticus 25:44 Both thy bondmen, and thy bondmaids, which thou shalt have, shall be of the heathen that are round about you; of them shall ye buy bondmen and bondmaids.

The Israelites are instructed to buy bondservants and bondmaids from the nations around them.

1: We must recognize and respect the freedom of those who are different from us.

2: God calls us to treat others with love and compassion, regardless of their background or status.

1: Ephesians 6:5-8 - Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

2: Galatians 3:28-29 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Leviticus 25:45 Moreover of the children of the strangers that do sojourn among you, of them shall ye buy, and of their families that are with you, which they begat in your land: and they shall be your possession.

This passage from Leviticus 25:45 speaks of the ability for the Israelites to buy children of strangers who are sojourning among them, and for those children to become their possessions.

1. God's Heart for the Stranger - How the Israelites were Called to Love and Care for Foreigners.

2. The Value of Every Person - How Even the Stranger Has Value and Worth Before God.

1. Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

2. Colossians 3:11 - Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Leviticus 25:46 And ye shall take them as an inheritance for your children after you, to inherit them for a possession; they shall be your bondmen for ever: but over your brethren the children of Israel, ye shall not rule one over another with rigour.

God instructs the Israelites not to rule over their brethren with harshness, but to treat them as their own children and to have them as their bondmen forever.

1. The Power of Kindness: God's Command to Rule with Mercy.

2. The Responsibility of Leadership: Loving Those Under Your Care.

1. Matthew 18:15-17 - If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Leviticus 25:47 And if a sojourner or stranger wax rich by thee, and thy brother that dwelleth by him wax poor, and sell himself unto the stranger or sojourner by thee, or to the stock of the stranger's family:

This passage speaks of a situation in which a stranger or sojourner living with a brother becomes wealthy, while the brother becomes poor and must sell himself to the stranger or sojourner.

1. The Need for Generosity and Kindness to Strangers

2. The Role of the Community in Supporting Those in Need

1. Ephesians 2:19 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household.

2. Matthew 25:35-36 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

Leviticus 25:48 After that he is sold he may be redeemed again; one of his brethren may redeem him:

This passage from Leviticus describes the concept of redemption and the responsibility of family members to redeem family members who are sold into slavery.

1. "The Power of Redemption: Family Responsibilities and God's Love"

2. "Living a Life of Redemption: The Responsibility of Our Family"

1. Deuteronomy 15:12-18

2. Isaiah 43:1-7

Leviticus 25:49 Either his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem him, or any that is nigh of kin unto him of his family may redeem him; or if he be able, he may redeem himself.

This passage speaks about redemption, particularly the responsibility of family members to redeem a relative who has been sold into slavery.

1. The Responsibility of Family: How We Love and Protect Each Other

2. Redemption in Christ: Our Freedom from Bondage

1. Galatians 5:1 - It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

2. Romans 8:15 - The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, Abba, Father.

Leviticus 25:50 And he shall reckon with him that bought him from the year that he was sold to him unto the year of jubile: and the price of his sale shall be according unto the number of years, according to the time of an hired servant shall it be with him.

This passage in Leviticus 25:50 outlines the regulations associated with the selling and buying of slaves, including the price of sale based on the number of years the slave is owned.

1. "The Price of Freedom: Understanding the Regulations of Slavery in the Bible"

2. "The Cost of Redemption: Redeeming Slaves in Biblical Times"

1. Exodus 21:2-6 - Regulations for the treatment of slaves

2. Deuteronomy 15:12-18 - Regulations for the release of slaves after a period of service

Leviticus 25:51 If there be yet many years behind, according unto them he shall give again the price of his redemption out of the money that he was bought for.

This passage outlines the law of redemption in which a person may redeem themselves or their family members by paying a price if there is still enough time.

1. "The Price of Redemption: A Study of Leviticus 25:51"

2. "The Gift of Redemption: An Examination of Leviticus 25:51"

1. Luke 4:18-21 - Jesus quoting from Isaiah 61:1-2 to proclaim the good news of the year of the Lord's favor and release for the captives.

2. Isaiah 53 - The Suffering Servant who redeems us and sets us free.

Leviticus 25:52 And if there remain but few years unto the year of jubile, then he shall count with him, and according unto his years shall he give him again the price of his redemption.

In Leviticus 25:52, the law is provided that if a person is sold into servitude and the year of jubilee is coming soon, the master must count the years remaining and return the price of redemption to the servant.

1. God's Mercy and Grace: Redemption in Leviticus 25:52

2. The Blessing of Jubilee: The Year of Freedom in Leviticus 25:52

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Lord's Anointed brings freedom and restoration to all who are oppressed.

2. Psalm 146:7-9 - The Lord sets the captives free and opens the eyes of the blind.

Leviticus 25:53 And as a yearly hired servant shall he be with him: and the other shall not rule with rigour over him in thy sight.

Leviticus 25:53 teaches that a hired servant should not be treated with harshness or rigor.

1. The Power of Kindness: Living Out Leviticus 25:53 in Our Relationships

2. Living By the Code: Exploring the Principles of Leviticus 25:53 in Our Lives

1. James 2:8-9 - If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Leviticus 25:54 And if he be not redeemed in these years, then he shall go out in the year of jubile, both he, and his children with him.

In Leviticus 25:54, the Bible states that if someone is not redeemed in a specific number of years, they and their children will be released during the year of Jubile.

1. Overcoming Adversity Through Redemption

2. The Year of Jubile: A Time of Renewal

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 - "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Leviticus 25:55 For unto me the children of Israel are servants; they are my servants whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

God reminds the Israelites that He is their Lord and that He freed them from slavery in Egypt.

1. God Redeems: Remembering God's Deliverance from Slavery

2. The Lord is Our Shepherd: Relying on God for Protection and Provision

1. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Leviticus 26 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 26:1-13 outlines the blessings that will come upon the Israelites if they faithfully follow God's commandments. The chapter emphasizes that obedience to God's laws will result in abundant harvests, peace and security within their land, and divine presence among them. It promises prosperity, victory over enemies, and a covenant relationship with God where He will be their God and they will be His people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 26:14-39 , warnings of discipline and consequences for disobedience are presented. The chapter highlights that if the Israelites reject God's statutes and fail to keep His commandments, they will face various forms of punishment. These include diseases, crop failures, military defeat by enemies, famine, exile from their land as captives of other nations, desolation of cities, and scattering among the nations.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 26 concludes by addressing the possibility of repentance and restoration after experiencing discipline. It states that if the Israelites humble themselves and confess their sins while in captivity or exile among the nations, God will remember His covenant with their ancestors. He promises to restore them to their land and bless them abundantly once again. However, it warns that continued disobedience would lead to further severe consequences until they acknowledge their guilt.

In summary:

Leviticus 26 presents:

Blessings for faithful obedience abundant harvests; peace, security; divine presence;

Prosperity; victory over enemies; covenant relationship with God.

Warnings of discipline, consequences for disobedience diseases; crop failures;

Military defeat; famine; exile, captivity among other nations;

Desolation of cities; scattering among nations.

Possibility of repentance, restoration after discipline humble confession of sins;

God remembering covenant with ancestors;

Promise of restoration to land and abundant blessings upon repentance.

This chapter focuses on the blessings for obedience, warnings of discipline for disobedience, and the possibility of repentance and restoration. Leviticus 26 begins by emphasizing the blessings that will come upon the Israelites if they faithfully follow God's commandments. It promises abundant harvests, peace and security within their land, divine presence among them, prosperity, victory over enemies, and a covenant relationship with God.

Furthermore, Leviticus 26 presents warnings regarding the consequences that will befall the Israelites if they reject God's statutes and fail to keep His commandments. It outlines various forms of punishment including diseases, crop failures, military defeat by enemies, famine, exile from their land as captives of other nations, desolation of cities, and scattering among the nations.

The chapter concludes by addressing the possibility of repentance and restoration after experiencing discipline. It states that if the Israelites humble themselves and confess their sins while in captivity or exile among other nations, God will remember His covenant with their ancestors. He promises to restore them to their land and bless them abundantly once again. However, it warns that continued disobedience would lead to further severe consequences until they acknowledge their guilt. These warnings serve as a call for repentance and a reminder of God's faithfulness even in times of discipline.

Leviticus 26:1 Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God.

This passage speaks of avoiding idol worship.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Keeping Our Focus on God Alone

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - Beware of making idols or sculptured images.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - The idols of the nations are worthless.

Leviticus 26:2 Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.

God commands the Israelites to keep his sabbaths and to show respect for his sanctuary.

1. God has given us the Sabbath as a gift - use it to honor and glorify Him.

2. Respect for the sanctuary is an act of devotion to the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 5:12-15 - God's commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy.

2. Hebrews 12:28-29 - Reverence and awe towards God's sanctuary.

Leviticus 26:3 If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them;

Obey God's statutes and commandments to be blessed.

1. Rejoice in Righteousness: Obeying God's commandments brings joy and fulfillment.

2. Living in God's Blessing: Following God's statutes leads to a life of abundant blessings.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Proverbs 11:28 - Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

Leviticus 26:4 Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.

God promises to give rain in due season, so that the land will produce an abundance of crops and fruit.

1. God's Faithfulness: Experiencing God's Provision Through His Promises

2. Abundance Through Obedience: Reaping the Rewards of Following God's Commands

1. Psalm 65:9-13 - You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

10 You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. 11 You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance. 12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, 13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

2. Isaiah 30:23-26 - Then he will give rain for the seed with which you sow the ground, and bread, the produce of the ground, which will be rich and plenteous. In that day your livestock will graze in large pastures, 24 and the oxen and donkeys that work the ground will eat salted fodder, which has been winnowed with shovel and fork. 25 And on every lofty mountain and every high hill there will be brooks running with water on the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall. 26 Moreover, the light of the moon will be like the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, like the light of seven days, on the day when the LORD binds up the brokenness of his people, and heals the wounds inflicted by his blow.

Leviticus 26:5 And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.

God promises to provide for His people and protect them if they obey His commandments.

1: God is always faithful and will provide for His people.

2: God's blessing is conditional on our obedience.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - "If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth."

Leviticus 26:6 And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land.

God promises to give peace and protection to His people, ridding the land of evil beasts and removing the threat of the sword.

1. "Peace in the Land: God's Promise of Protection"

2. "The Sword Shall Not Pass Through Your Land: God's Promise of Security"

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you.

2. Psalm 91:3-4 - Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Leviticus 26:7 And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword.

God promises that if the Israelites follow his commands, he will help them to defeat their enemies in battle.

1. Overcoming Fear Through Faith in God

2. God's Promise of Victory

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Leviticus 26:8 And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.

God promises to give his people victory over their enemies if they obey His commandments.

1. God's Promises: Obeying God Leads to Victory

2. The Power of God's People: Overcoming the Impossible

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"

2. Romans 8:31-32 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"

Leviticus 26:9 For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you.

God promises to be respectful to His people, make them fruitful, multiply them, and keep His covenant with them.

1. God's Covenant of Faithfulness

2. The Blessing of Multiplication

1. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Leviticus 26:10 And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new.

The Israelites are commanded to eat old stores and bring forth old things in exchange for new things.

1. God's faithfulness: God's provision of old stores to the Israelites is an example of His faithfulness to His people.

2. The blessings of newness: The exchange of old for new is a reminder of the blessings that come with newness.

1. Psalm 145:9 - The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Leviticus 26:11 And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you.

God has promised to remain with His people and never forsake them.

1. God's Unfailing Presence: His Promise to be with Us Always

2. Rejoicing in the Tabernacle of God's Presence

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Leviticus 26:12 And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.

God promises to be with His people and walk among them, and they will be His people.

1. The Unfailing Promise of God's Presence

2. Walking in Holiness and Faithfulness with God

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Leviticus 26:13 I am the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright.

God has delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, freeing them from the yoke of bondage.

1. Freedom Through Faith: How God's Love Liberates Us From Struggles

2. The Power of Deliverance: Experiencing the Blessings of God's Salvation

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Leviticus 26:14 But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments;

God commands us to obey His commandments, and He will punish us if we do not.

1: "Obedience Brings Blessings, Disobedience Brings Punishment"

2: "Listening to God is Wise and Necessary"

1: Jeremiah 17:23 - But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction.

2: Proverbs 8:32-33 - Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.

Leviticus 26:15 And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant:

God warns the Israelites that if they despise His statutes and abhor His judgments, they will break His covenant.

1. The Importance of Keeping the Covenant with God

2. The Danger of Disobeying God's Commandments

1. Jeremiah 11:3-5 "And say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant, Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God:"

2. Deuteronomy 28:15 "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:"

Leviticus 26:16 I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

God will punish disobedience by sending terror, consumption, and a burning ague that will cause sorrow of heart and cause the seed to be eaten by enemies.

1. "Choose Obedience: The Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "The Blessing and Curse of Obedience"

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 16 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

2. James 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Leviticus 26:17 And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.

God will turn His face against those who disobey Him and they will be defeated by their enemies, with their oppressors ruling over them.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Example of Israel in Leviticus 26:17

2. The Danger of Idolatry: God's Judgment in Leviticus 26:17

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

Leviticus 26:18 And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

God warns the people of Israel that if they fail to obey God's commandments, they will be punished seven times more for their sins.

1. "God's Mercy in Punishment"

2. "The Consequences of Disobedience"

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Romans 8:38-39 "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Leviticus 26:19 And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass:

God will punish the Israelites for their prideful behavior by breaking their power and making their environment harsh.

1. The Danger of Pride - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Consequences of Sin - Romans 6:23

1. Isaiah 2:11-12,17-18 - The Lord will humble the pride of human power

2. Psalm 147:6 - The Lord strengthens the humble but brings down the proud.

Leviticus 26:20 And your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits.

God warns the Israelites that if they disobey his commandments, their land will not produce fruit and their efforts will be wasted.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Lesson from Leviticus

2. God's Blessing Through Obedience: What We Can Learn from Leviticus

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings for obeying God's commandments

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trusting in the Lord and leaning on His understanding rather than our own wisdom.

Leviticus 26:21 And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins.

This passage from Leviticus outlines a warning from God that if His people disobey Him, He will punish them with seven times more plagues.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience: Learning from the Warning of Leviticus 26:21

2. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding the Severity of God's Judgement

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Hebrews 12:28-29 - Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Leviticus 26:22 I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be desolate.

God warns the people of Israel of the consequences of disobedience, including the destruction of their children and cattle, and a decrease in their number.

1) The Danger of Disobedience: A Warning from Leviticus 26:22

2) Obeying God: The Blessings and Consequences of Disobedience

1) Matthew 7:13-14 - Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

2) Romans 8:14-17 - For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Leviticus 26:23 And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me;

God will punish those who refuse to repent and walk contrary to Him.

1: Repent or Perish - Luke 13:1-5

2: Acknowledge God's Sovereignty - Isaiah 45:5-7

1: Jeremiah 18:7-10

2: Hebrews 10:26-31

Leviticus 26:24 Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

God will punish those who disobey Him seven times more severely than He would otherwise.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience

2. Turning to God: Trusting in His Mercy and Forgiveness

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

2. Jeremiah 31:33-34 "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Leviticus 26:25 And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

God warns that if the Israelites break His covenant with them, a sword and pestilence will be sent upon them, leading to their defeat and the hand of their enemies.

1. The Consequences of Breaking Promises - Leviticus 26:25

2. Faithfulness in Covenant - Leviticus 26:25

1. Jeremiah 11:4 - "Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God."

2. Deuteronomy 28:15 - "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

Leviticus 26:26 And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied.

God warns the Israelites that if they disobey Him, He will punish them by breaking the staff of their bread, requiring ten women to bake the bread in one oven and rationing it out to them.

1. God's Provision and Our Obedience - How trusting in God's provision and being obedient to Him provides us with the sustenance we need.

2. Contentment in All Seasons - Learning to be content with what we have and trusting God to provide in all seasons.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Psalm 34:10 - "Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

Leviticus 26:27 And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me;

God punishes disobedience.

1: We must always be obedient to God or we will face the consequences.

2: We must be willing to listen and obey God's commands or His judgement will fall.

1: Deuteronomy 28:15 - "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Leviticus 26:28 Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

God warns His people that if they do not follow His commands, He will respond in fury and punish them seven times for their sins.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding God's Punishment for Sin

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commands

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

Leviticus 26:29 And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat.

God tells the Israelites that they will have to eat their own children's flesh in times of famine.

1. The Heartbreaking Reality of Famine: How We Can Trust God in Difficult Times

2. Striving for Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Leviticus 26:30 And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcases upon the carcases of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you.

God will punish those who worship idols by destroying their places of worship and idols and will leave their bodies among the idols they once worshiped.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - Leviticus 26:30

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Leviticus 26:30

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-3 - "You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations which you shall dispossess served their gods, upon the high mountains and upon the hills, and under every green tree. And you shall overthrow their altars, break their sacred pillars, and burn their wooden images with fire; you shall cut down the carved images of their gods and destroy their names from that place.

2. Isaiah 2:20 - "In that day men will cast away their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, to the moles and bats."

Leviticus 26:31 And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours.

God will punish His people by making their cities and sanctuaries desolate.

1. God's Punishment: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience - Leviticus 26:31

2. The Power of God's Love: Knowing How to Respond to His Mercy - Leviticus 26:11-13

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow."

2. Jeremiah 5:3 - "O Lord, are not Your eyes on the truth? You have stricken them, but they have not grieved; You have consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; they have refused to return."

Leviticus 26:32 And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it.

The land will be brought into desolation, leaving enemies astonished.

1: God's Punishment is Just - Romans 12:19

2: God's Restorative Power - Isaiah 43:18-19

1: Psalm 97:2 - Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.

2: Jeremiah 12:15 - And it shall come to pass, that the nations which shall be left round about you, shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

Leviticus 26:33 And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.

God warns the people of Israel that if they disobey His laws, He will send them into exile and their land will become desolate.

1. Obeying God's commandments brings blessing, disobedience brings destruction.

2. God's promise of reward for obedience and punishment for disobedience remains true today.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Leviticus 26:34 Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths.

The Lord commanded the people of Israel to observe sabbaths even when their land was desolate and they were in exile.

1. God's faithfulness in times of hardship

2. The importance of sabbath rest in a chaotic world

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 - There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Leviticus 26:35 As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it.

God commands that the land be allowed to rest on the Sabbath, as the people did not rest on it while they were living on it.

1. The importance of honoring the Sabbath day

2. The importance of taking care of the land

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Leviticus 26:36 And upon them that are left alive of you I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; and the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them; and they shall flee, as fleeing from a sword; and they shall fall when none pursueth.

God will put fear in the hearts of those left alive of his people, and cause them to flee in fear of a shaking leaf, as if it were a sword.

1. God's Protection - Though we may feel threatened or scared in the face of danger, knowing that God is with us brings peace in the midst of fear.

2. Unshakable Faith - Even when it feels like all hope is lost, we can remain confident in the Lord's protection and guidance.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Leviticus 26:37 And they shall fall one upon another, as it were before a sword, when none pursueth: and ye shall have no power to stand before your enemies.

The people of Israel will be defeated by their enemies even without them being pursued.

1. Surrender to God's will in times of adversity

2. The importance of trusting in God's protection and strength

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 6:33-34 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Leviticus 26:38 And ye shall perish among the heathen, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up.

The people of Israel will suffer the consequences of their disobedience by being destroyed by their enemies.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites

2. The Reality of Reaping What We Sow

1. Galatians 6:7-8, "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Proverbs 1:32, "For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them."

Leviticus 26:39 And they that are left of you shall pine away in their iniquity in your enemies' lands; and also in the iniquities of their fathers shall they pine away with them.

The Israelites who remain in exile will suffer for their own sins and for the sins of their ancestors.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Recognizing Our Own Sinfulness and the Impact on Future Generations

2. The Reality of God's Justice: The Need to Acknowledge Sin and Seek Forgiveness

1. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leviticus 26:40 If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me;

This passage speaks of the need for confession of sin and repentance for the wrongs that have been committed against God.

1: We must be willing to acknowledge our sins and repent of them if we are to be forgiven by God.

2: The pathway to forgiveness is through confession and repentance of our sins.

1: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

2: Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Leviticus 26:41 And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity:

God will punish His people if they do not repent and turn away from their sins.

1. Recognizing Our Sin and Repenting

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Psalm 51:17, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Isaiah 55:7, "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

Leviticus 26:42 Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.

God remembers His covenants with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and also His promise to give them the land of Israel.

1. The Unfailing Faithfulness of God - How God's faithfulness to His promises and covenants is unchanging and reliable.

2. The Promise of God's Land - How God's promise of the land of Israel still stands today.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Leviticus 26:43 The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lieth desolate without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity: because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes.

The punishment for the Israelites' iniquity is that the land will be left desolate and will enjoy its Sabbath while they are absent. This is due to their disdain for God's judgments and statutes.

1. God's Judgments are Just and Righteous

2. Accepting the Consequences of Our Iniquity

1. Deuteronomy 8:11-20

2. Isaiah 1:11-20

Leviticus 26:44 And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I am the LORD their God.

Despite the fact that the Israelites have gone astray and broken their covenant with God, God remains faithful to them and will not reject them.

1. God's Unfailing Love: The Promise of Unconditional Faithfulness

2. The Power of Covenant: God's Unending Commitment to Us

1. Romans 8:35-39 - "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Isaiah 54:10 - For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

Leviticus 26:45 But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, that I might be their God: I am the LORD.

God remembers the covenant He made with the Israelites when He brought them out of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, and He will remain their God.

1. God is Faithful - He continues to honor and remember the covenant He made with His people.

2. God is Reliable - He will remain the God of His people, no matter what.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Psalm 103:17-18 - But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

Leviticus 26:46 These are the statutes and judgments and laws, which the LORD made between him and the children of Israel in mount Sinai by the hand of Moses.

The LORD made statutes, judgments and laws for the children of Israel at Mount Sinai through Moses.

1. The Lord's Laws: A Guide for Our Lives

2. Keeping the Covenant: Fulfilling God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 5:1-3

2. Jeremiah 7:23-24

Leviticus 27 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Leviticus 27:1-15 introduces the regulations regarding the value of vows and dedications made to the Lord. The chapter emphasizes that individuals may make a vow to dedicate themselves or their possessions to God. It establishes a system for determining the value of these dedications based on age, gender, and other factors. The chapter provides guidelines for valuing people, animals, houses, and fields according to their worth in shekels.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Leviticus 27:16-25 , regulations regarding dedicating a field are presented. The chapter highlights that if someone dedicates a field they already own to the Lord, its value is determined based on the number of years until the Year of Jubilee. If they wish to redeem it before then, an additional amount must be added to its value. However, if they do not redeem it by the Year of Jubilee, it becomes permanently dedicated to God.

Paragraph 3: Leviticus 27 concludes by addressing dedications related to livestock. It states that if someone dedicates an animal from their herd or flock as an offering to God, its value is determined by an assessment made by a priest. If they wish to redeem it instead of offering it as a sacrifice, they must add one-fifth of its assessed value as payment. Additionally, certain animals are considered holy and cannot be redeemed but must be offered entirely as sacrifices.

In summary:

Leviticus 27 presents:

Regulations regarding vows and dedications made to God;

System for determining values based on age, gender;

Guidelines for valuing people, animals, houses, fields.

Regulations regarding dedication of fields;

Value determination based on years until Year of Jubilee;

Option for redemption before Year of Jubilee, additional payment required.

Dedications related to livestock;

Assessment of value by priest;

Option for redemption with added payment or offering as a sacrifice.

This chapter focuses on the regulations regarding vows, dedications, and their values. Leviticus 27 introduces the concept of making vows and dedications to the Lord. It establishes a system for determining the value of these dedications based on various factors such as age, gender, and other considerations. The chapter provides guidelines for valuing people, animals, houses, and fields according to their worth in shekels.

Furthermore, Leviticus 27 presents regulations specific to dedicating fields. It outlines that if someone dedicates a field they already own to the Lord, its value is determined based on the number of years until the Year of Jubilee a special year occurring every fifty years when all debts are forgiven and ancestral lands return to their original owners. Redemption before the Year of Jubilee is possible but requires an additional amount to be added to its value. If not redeemed by the Year of Jubilee, it becomes permanently dedicated to God.

The chapter concludes by addressing dedications related to livestock. Leviticus 27 states that if someone dedicates an animal from their herd or flock as an offering to God, its value is determined through assessment made by a priest. They have the option to redeem it instead of offering it as a sacrifice but must add one-fifth of its assessed value as payment. Additionally, certain animals are considered holy and cannot be redeemed but must be offered entirely as sacrifices. These regulations provide guidance on fulfilling vows and dedications made unto God in various forms.

Leviticus 27:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage outlines God speaking to Moses about a law concerning the sanctification of things dedicated unto the Lord.

1. The Sanctity of Dedication: Examining What it Means to Give Something to the Lord

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I command you this day for your good?"

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

Leviticus 27:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When a man shall make a singular vow, the persons shall be for the LORD by thy estimation.

This passage speaks about making a vow to the Lord and the importance of honoring it.

1. "The Power of a Vow: Keeping Our Promises to God"

2. "Honoring Our Commitments: The Blessing of Making a Vow"

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - "When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to vow than to vow and not fulfill it."

2. James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your Yes be yes, and your No , no, or you will be condemned."

Leviticus 27:3 And thy estimation shall be of the male from twenty years old even unto sixty years old, even thy estimation shall be fifty shekels of silver, after the shekel of the sanctuary.

This passage from Leviticus outlines the price of a male from the age of 20 to 60 to be 50 shekels of silver.

1. God's Promises and Plans for Our Lives

2. The Value of Every Human Life

1. Genesis 1:27-28 - And God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Leviticus 27:4 And if it be a female, then thy estimation shall be thirty shekels.

This verse from Leviticus outlines that when valuing a person, the price of a female was thirty shekels.

1. "The Value of Each Person" - Discussing the importance and value of each person, regardless of gender.

2. "The Cost of Community" - Examining the costs of building and maintaining a healthy and vibrant community.

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 - Discussing the value of a virtuous woman and her worth to the community.

2. Isaiah 43:4 - Exploring the idea that each person has immense value in God's eyes.

Leviticus 27:5 And if it be from five years old even unto twenty years old, then thy estimation shall be of the male twenty shekels, and for the female ten shekels.

This passage from Leviticus 27:5 describes how to value individuals for the purpose of a special offering or vow. A male between the ages of 5 and 20 is to be valued at 20 shekels and a female at 10.

1. God's Value System - How God Values Each Person Differently

2. Financial Obligations - Why We Must Fulfill Our Financial Obligations to God

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

2. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold."

Leviticus 27:6 And if it be from a month old even unto five years old, then thy estimation shall be of the male five shekels of silver, and for the female thy estimation shall be three shekels of silver.

This passage outlines the estimation of the value of a person according to age and gender.

1. The Value of Each Soul: Exploring the Meaning of Leviticus 27:6

2. The Price of Life: A Study of the Valuation of People in the Torah

1. Proverbs 27:19, "As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man."

2. Psalm 139:17-18, "How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee."

Leviticus 27:7 And if it be from sixty years old and above; if it be a male, then thy estimation shall be fifteen shekels, and for the female ten shekels.

This passage outlines the value of a person aged 60 or older, with the estimation of 15 shekels for a male and 10 shekels for a female.

1. The Value of Age: A Reflection on Leviticus 27:7

2. Investing in Our Elders: The Wisdom of Leviticus 27:7

1. Deuteronomy 15:12-15 - Reflection on God's commands to honor and care for those aged 60 and above.

2. Proverbs 16:31 - Reflection on the value of wisdom and experience that comes with age.

Leviticus 27:8 But if he be poorer than thy estimation, then he shall present himself before the priest, and the priest shall value him; according to his ability that vowed shall the priest value him.

A person who has made a vow to God but is unable to fulfill it due to financial hardship can present himself to a priest who will then assess the person's ability to fulfill the vow.

1. The Power of Vows - An exploration of the seriousness of making a vow and the consequences of failing to fulfill it.

2. God's Provisions - How God provides us with the means to fulfill our commitments even if we face financial hardship.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. Proverbs 20:25 - It is a snare to make rash vows and later not to consider one's words.

Leviticus 27:9 And if it be a beast, whereof men bring an offering unto the LORD, all that any man giveth of such unto the LORD shall be holy.

When bringing an offering to the Lord, it must be holy and accepted by the Lord.

1. The Importance of Offering to the Lord with Holiness

2. The Significance of Offering to the Lord with Holiness

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess His name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Malachi 3:3 - He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; He will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness.

Leviticus 27:10 He shall not alter it, nor change it, a good for a bad, or a bad for a good: and if he shall at all change beast for beast, then it and the exchange thereof shall be holy.

This passage speaks about not exchanging one thing for another, but rather accepting it as it is.

1. The Blessing in Acceptance: Learning to Embrace the Unchangeable

2. The Value of Faithfulness: Staying True to What You Have

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Leviticus 27:11 And if it be any unclean beast, of which they do not offer a sacrifice unto the LORD, then he shall present the beast before the priest:

A person must present an unclean beast to the priest if they do not offer it as a sacrifice to the Lord.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How to Honor the Lord with Unselfish Giving

2. The Importance of Acknowledging the Lord: Why We Must Present Ourselves to Him

1. Philippians 4:18-19: I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

2. Romans 12:1-2: I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Leviticus 27:12 And the priest shall value it, whether it be good or bad: as thou valuest it, who art the priest, so shall it be.

A priest is responsible for assessing the value of a person or object in regards to whether it is good or bad.

1. God entrusts us with the responsibility to assess the value of others and ourselves.

2. The importance of living according to the standards and values set out for us by God.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

2. 1 John 4:7 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Leviticus 27:13 But if he will at all redeem it, then he shall add a fifth part thereof unto thy estimation.

If a person wants to redeem something they own, they must add a fifth part to the original estimation.

1. God's Generosity: How We Can Give More to Others

2. The Power of Redemption: How We Can Be Freed from the Things That Bind Us

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Leviticus 27:14 And when a man shall sanctify his house to be holy unto the LORD, then the priest shall estimate it, whether it be good or bad: as the priest shall estimate it, so shall it stand.

A man may sanctify his house to be holy to the Lord, and a priest will then evaluate whether it is good or bad. The priest's evaluation will determine the house's standing.

1. The Power of Sanctification: How sanctifying a house can bring it closer to God.

2. The Need for Guidance: Why it is important to seek the counsel of a priest when seeking holiness.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Leviticus 27:15 And if he that sanctified it will redeem his house, then he shall add the fifth part of the money of thy estimation unto it, and it shall be his.

If a person sanctifies a house and would like to redeem it, they must pay the money according to the estimation and add an additional fifth part.

1. The Power of Redemption: Understanding the Value of Commitment

2. The Importance of Redemption: Sacrificing to Reclaim What Is Ours

1. Luke 4:18-19: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

2. Romans 8:38-39: For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leviticus 27:16 And if a man shall sanctify unto the LORD some part of a field of his possession, then thy estimation shall be according to the seed thereof: an homer of barley seed shall be valued at fifty shekels of silver.

This passage talks about a man who sets aside a part of his possession as a sanctification unto the Lord. The value of the land is determined by the amount of seed it can yield, with an homer of barley seed being valued at 50 shekels of silver.

1. The Power of Giving: How God Appreciates Our Offerings

2. A Field of Possibilities: The Blessings of Generosity

1. Luke 12:13-21 - Parable of the Rich Fool

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 - The Cheerful Giver

Leviticus 27:17 If he sanctify his field from the year of jubile, according to thy estimation it shall stand.

The jubile year is to be taken into consideration when sanctifying a field.

1: Let us be mindful of the importance of the jubilee year and remember to be righteous and generous.

2: God has graciously provided us with the jubilee year, and we should always strive to follow his instructions.

1: Deuteronomy 15:1-2 "At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release. And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD S release.

2: Isaiah 61:1-2 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God.

Leviticus 27:18 But if he sanctify his field after the jubile, then the priest shall reckon unto him the money according to the years that remain, even unto the year of the jubile, and it shall be abated from thy estimation.

The passage discusses a procedure for evaluating a field that has been sanctified after the Jubilee year.

1. The Power of Sanctification - How to recognize and grow in the strength of God's sanctifying presence.

2. Keeping the Jubilee - The importance of living to celebrate the Jubilee and its lasting legacy.

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Leviticus 27:19 And if he that sanctified the field will in any wise redeem it, then he shall add the fifth part of the money of thy estimation unto it, and it shall be assured to him.

This passage outlines the redemption process of a field that has been dedicated to God.

1. The Holiness of Dedication: We must strive to honor God in all that we do.

2. The Value of Redemption: Every person has the potential to be redeemed through God's grace.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Matthew 21:22 - If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.

Leviticus 27:20 And if he will not redeem the field, or if he have sold the field to another man, it shall not be redeemed any more.

In Leviticus 27:20, it states that if someone has sold a field, it can no longer be redeemed.

1. God's Commandments in Leviticus: Reminders of How to Live a Life of Obedience

2. The Importance of Making Wise Financial Decisions

1. Proverbs 10:4 - "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Leviticus 27:21 But the field, when it goeth out in the jubile, shall be holy unto the LORD, as a field devoted; the possession thereof shall be the priest's.

The jubile year is a special year in which a field is devoted to the Lord and the possession of it belongs to the priest.

1. God's plan for redemption through the Jubile year.

2. The significance of the Jubile year in God's covenant with Israel.

1. Isaiah 61:1 2 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

2. Galatians 4:4 7 - But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Leviticus 27:22 And if a man sanctify unto the LORD a field which he hath bought, which is not of the fields of his possession;

This passage describes a man who sanctifies a field he has bought to the Lord.

1. The Power of Dedication: How a Man's Devotion to the Lord Can Transform His Life

2. From Possession to Blessing: How Giving to God Can Lead to Miraculous Rewards

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you."

Leviticus 27:23 Then the priest shall reckon unto him the worth of thy estimation, even unto the year of the jubile: and he shall give thine estimation in that day, as a holy thing unto the LORD.

This passage teaches that God deserves our respect and honor, and that we should value and dedicate our possessions to Him.

1. Living a Life That Honors God - How to Respect and Value His Gifts

2. The Power of Dedication - How to Use Our Possessions to Glorify God

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Leviticus 27:24 In the year of the jubile the field shall return unto him of whom it was bought, even to him to whom the possession of the land did belong.

The land is to be returned to its original owner in the year of the jubilee.

1. God calls us to return to Him in the year of jubilee.

2. God desires us to live in right relationship with one another.

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - "If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; then you shall take delight in the Lord."

2. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Leviticus 27:25 And all thy estimations shall be according to the shekel of the sanctuary: twenty gerahs shall be the shekel.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to value items according to the shekel of the sanctuary, which was twenty gerahs.

1. The importance of following God's commands

2. The value of holiness

1. 1 Chronicles 21:24-25 - "And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the Lord, nor offer burnt offerings without cost. So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Leviticus 27:26 Only the firstling of the beasts, which should be the LORD's firstling, no man shall sanctify it; whether it be ox, or sheep: it is the LORD's.

No man can sanctify the firstborn of any animal, as it belongs to the Lord.

1. The Sanctity of the Lord's Firstborn

2. Honoring the Lord's Authority over All His Creations

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

2. Deuteronomy 12:11 - Then there shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD:

Leviticus 27:27 And if it be of an unclean beast, then he shall redeem it according to thine estimation, and shall add a fifth part of it thereto: or if it be not redeemed, then it shall be sold according to thy estimation.

God's law in Leviticus 27:27 states that an unclean beast must be redeemed for its estimated value and a fifth should be added, or it should be sold for its estimated value.

1. Redemption: The Cost of Cleansing

2. The Value of Obedience: Living by God's Law

1. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Leviticus 27:28 Notwithstanding no devoted thing, that a man shall devote unto the LORD of all that he hath, both of man and beast, and of the field of his possession, shall be sold or redeemed: every devoted thing is most holy unto the LORD.

This passage states that no devoted thing made to the LORD should be sold or redeemed, as they are holy to the LORD.

1. The Value of Devotion to the LORD

2. The Holiness of Gifts and Offerings to the LORD

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-26

2. Psalm 116:12-14

Leviticus 27:29 None devoted, which shall be devoted of men, shall be redeemed; but shall surely be put to death.

God does not allow for the redemption of those who are devoted to him.

1: We must remain devoted to God and be willing to accept His will, no matter the costs.

2: We must make sure the sacrifices we make to God are done with pure intentions, and we must be willing to accept His will.

1: Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2: James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Leviticus 27:30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD.

The tithe of the land, including seeds and fruit, belongs to the Lord and is holy to Him.

1. "The Holiness of Giving: A Study of Tithes in Leviticus 27:30"

2. "The Blessing of Giving: What We Receive When We Give to God"

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - "One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Leviticus 27:31 And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof.

The Lord commands that if someone chooses to redeem any of their tithes, then an additional fifth of the tithe must be given.

1. The Lord Rewards Generosity - Leviticus 27:31

2. Offering More than What is Required - Leviticus 27:31

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-23 - You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Leviticus 27:32 And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD.

The Lord requires a tenth of all livestock to be given to Him.

1. God's Generosity: How We Receive God's Blessing Through Giving

2. Faithful Stewardship: Understanding the Importance of Tithes

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

2. Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Leviticus 27:33 He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it: and if he change it at all, then both it and the change thereof shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed.

The Lord requires that a person should not change a vow once it has been made and must be kept as is, as it is holy.

1. The Importance of Keeping One's Promises

2. The Holiness of Fulfilling a Vow

1. Ecclesiastes 5:5 - "Better not to vow than to vow and not fulfill it."

2. Psalm 15:4 - He who swears to his own hurt and does not change.

Leviticus 27:34 These are the commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel in mount Sinai.

The LORD gave Moses instructions for the people of Israel on Mount Sinai.

1. Learning to Obey God's Commands

2. Following God's Instructions in Faith

1. Joshua 1:7-8 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Numbers 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 1:1-16 begins with God commanding Moses to take a census of the Israelite community. The chapter emphasizes that this census is to be conducted by counting all the men who are twenty years old or older and eligible for military service. Each tribe is represented by a leader who assists in the counting process. The chapter provides a detailed account of the number of men from each tribe, highlighting their specific roles and responsibilities within the community.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 1:17-46 , the results of the census are presented. The chapter outlines the total number of men counted from each tribe, demonstrating their collective strength and readiness for military service. It highlights that all able-bodied men were accountable for their role in defending and serving God's purposes as they journeyed through the wilderness toward the Promised Land.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 1 concludes by emphasizing that Moses carried out God's commandment regarding the census, accurately recording every man according to his tribe and lineage. It underscores that this enumeration was completed just as God had instructed, highlighting Moses' obedience and attention to detail in fulfilling his role as a leader appointed by God. This chapter sets an important foundation for organizing and structuring the Israelite community as they prepare for their journey toward Canaan.

In summary:

Numbers 1 presents:

God's commandment to conduct a census of eligible men;

Counting all men aged twenty or older for military service;

Tribe leaders assisting in counting process; detailed account per tribe.

Results of the census total number of men counted from each tribe;

Demonstration of collective strength and readiness for military service;

Accountability for defending and serving God's purposes.

Moses' fulfillment of God's commandment accurate recording according to tribes, lineage;

Emphasis on obedience and attention to detail in leadership role;

Establishment of organization and structure for the Israelite community's journey.

This chapter focuses on the census commanded by God and carried out by Moses, providing an account of the eligible men from each tribe. Numbers 1 begins with God instructing Moses to conduct a census of the Israelite community. The chapter emphasizes that this census specifically involves counting all men who are twenty years old or older and eligible for military service. Tribe leaders are appointed to assist in the counting process, ensuring accurate representation.

Furthermore, Numbers 1 presents the results of the census, highlighting the total number of men counted from each tribe. This enumeration demonstrates their collective strength and readiness for military service as they prepare to journey through the wilderness toward Canaan. The chapter underscores their accountability for defending and serving God's purposes as they fulfill their roles within the community.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing that Moses faithfully carried out God's commandment regarding the census, accurately recording every man according to his tribe and lineage. It highlights his obedience and attention to detail in fulfilling his role as a leader appointed by God. This act of organizing and structuring the Israelite community sets an important foundation as they prepare for their journey toward Canaan, ensuring proper representation and readiness among their ranks.

Numbers 1:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai on the first day of the second month in the second year of their Exodus from Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness in times of difficulty

2. Obedience to God's commands

1. Exodus 3:7-10 - And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

2. Joshua 1:5-7 - No man shall be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Numbers 1:2 Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls;

This passage instructs Moses to take an inventory of all the children of Israel, organized by family and including the number of men.

1. God's work is orderly and precise - even in the midst of chaos.

2. The importance of counting people and recognizing their individuality.

1. Psalm 139:15-16 - My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

2. Luke 12:6-7 - Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Numbers 1:3 From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

This passage describes the age requirement for enlistment in the Israelite army.

1. God calls us to serve him through service to our fellow man.

2. We must be willing to lay down our own agendas and desires in order to serve God.

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends.

Numbers 1:4 And with you there shall be a man of every tribe; every one head of the house of his fathers.

A representative from each tribe was chosen to be a part of the numbering of the Israelites.

1. The importance of representing your tribe and being a leader in your household.

2. God's call to all of us to lead and serve our families.

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus' teaching on humble service and leadership.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Paul's instruction to children to obey their parents in the Lord.

Numbers 1:5 And these are the names of the men that shall stand with you: of the tribe of Reuben; Elizur the son of Shedeur.

The Lord commanded Moses to take a census of the people of Israel, appointing Elizur of the tribe of Reuben to stand with him.

1. God's sovereignty in selecting leaders for His people

2. The importance of being called and chosen by God

1. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

2. Romans 8:28-29 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."

Numbers 1:6 Of Simeon; Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

This verse lists Shelumiel, the son of Zurishaddai, as one of the leaders of the tribe of Simeon.

1. Striving for Leadership: Lessons from Shelumiel

2. The Power of a Good Name: The Legacy of Zurishaddai

1. Proverbs 22:1 A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver and gold.

2. Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Numbers 1:7 Of Judah; Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

This passage from Numbers 1:7 states that Nahshon, the son of Amminadab, belonged to the tribe of Judah.

1. The Importance of Belonging: How Knowing Our Place in God's Plan Strengthens Our Faith

2. The Blessing of Family: The Legacy of Faithful Ancestors

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Numbers 1:8 Of Issachar; Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

The passage is discussing the Tribe of Issachar and its leader, Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

1. The Importance of Leading with Integrity - Numbers 1:8

2. The Strength of Unity - Numbers 1:8

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 - The church as one body, with many different parts.

2. 1 Peter 5:3 - The importance of being a humble leader.

Numbers 1:9 Of Zebulun; Eliab the son of Helon.

This verse states that Eliab, son of Helon, was from the tribe of Zebulun.

1. Learn to recognize the value of each individual s contribution to the greater good.

2. God values each person regardless of their status.

1. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Numbers 1:10 Of the children of Joseph: of Ephraim; Elishama the son of Ammihud: of Manasseh; Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

Gamaliel and Elishama, the sons of Ammihud and Pedahzur respectively, were descendants of Joseph.

1. The Power of Generations: Reflecting on the Legacy of Our Ancestors

2. The Blessing of Joseph: Examining the Lasting Effects of His Faithfulness

1. Genesis 50:20 - "And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

2. Deuteronomy 33:13-17 - "And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath, And for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon, And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills, And for the precious things of the earth and fulness thereof, and for the good will of him that dwelt in the bush: let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him that was separated from his brethren."

Numbers 1:11 Of Benjamin; Abidan the son of Gideoni.

This verse from Numbers describes Abidan, the son of Gideoni, from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. "The Faithfulness of God's Chosen People"

2. "The Power of One: Abidan and His Duty to His Tribe"

1. Romans 11:1-5

2. Deuteronomy 18:15-19

Numbers 1:12 Of Dan; Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

Ahiezer, son of Ammishaddai, was a member of the tribe of Dan.

1. Be Encouraged by the Faithfulness of Our Ancestors - A on Numbers 1:12

2. The Uniqueness of Each Tribe - A on Numbers 1:12

1. Deuteronomy 33:22 - "For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance."

2. Psalm 78:5-6 - "He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children."

Numbers 1:13 Of Asher; Pagiel the son of Ocran.

Pagiel the son of Ocran is listed in the book of Numbers as a member of the tribe of Asher.

1. The Importance of Being Acknowledged as a Member of the Tribe: Lessons from Pagiel the son of Ocran

2. The Privilege of Belonging: Examining the Significance of Membership in the Tribe of Asher

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore."

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Numbers 1:14 Of Gad; Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

This passage mentions Eliasaph, the son of Deuel, who was of the tribe of Gad.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises to His People

2. The Significance of Inheritance in God's Plan

1. Romans 8:17 - And if children, then heirs heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

2. Psalm 16:5 - The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

Numbers 1:15 Of Naphtali; Ahira the son of Enan.

Ahira, the son of Enan, was a member of the tribe of Naphtali.

1. The Tribes of Israel: Ahira, the son of Enan and the Tribe of Naphtali

2. The Importance of Lineage: Ahira, son of Enan, and His Place in the Tribe of Naphtali

1. Genesis 49:21 - "Naphtali is a doe let loose; He gives beautiful words."

2. Deuteronomy 33:23 - And of Naphtali he said: O Naphtali, satisfied with favor, And full of the blessing of the Lord, Possess the west and the south.

Numbers 1:16 These were the renowned of the congregation, princes of the tribes of their fathers, heads of thousands in Israel.

This passage describes the renowned people of the congregation in Israel, who were princes of their tribes and heads of thousands.

1. God calls us to be leaders in our communities.

2. We should strive to be leaders that represent God's will in our lives.

1. Joshua 1:6-9

2. Matthew 5:14-16

Numbers 1:17 And Moses and Aaron took these men which are expressed by their names:

The Israelites were counted and organized by Moses and Aaron according to their names.

1: God has a plan for each one of us, and He will guide us through life according to His will.

2: God's word shows us that no matter who we are, He has a purpose for us and He will help us fulfill it.

1: Isaiah 55:8-11 - "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Numbers 1:18 And they assembled all the congregation together on the first day of the second month, and they declared their pedigrees after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, by their polls.

On the first day of the second month, the congregation of Israel was called together to be counted according to their families in order to determine who was of age to serve in the army.

1. God calls us to serve one another in our families and communities.

2. Being counted is a reminder of our importance to God and to each other.

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Numbers 1:19 As the LORD commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai.

Moses numbered the Israelites according to the command of the LORD in the wilderness of Sinai.

1. Taking a Stand: Obeying the Lord in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 5:29 - "Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!"

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Numbers 1:20 And the children of Reuben, Israel's eldest son, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, by their polls, every male from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

The children of Reuben were counted for military service according to their families and their fathers' houses. All males aged twenty and above were to be enlisted.

1. God calls us to defend the weak and fight for what is right.

2. In times of war, God calls us to be brave and courageous.

1. Deuteronomy 20:1-4 - When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Numbers 1:21 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Reuben, were forty and six thousand and five hundred.

The tribe of Reuben was numbered to be 46,500.

1. God s faithfulness is seen in the exact number of the Tribe of Reuben.

2. We can trust God s plans for us because He is mindful of all the details.

1. Joshua 4:1-7 The Lord commands the Israelites to take 12 stones from the Jordan River as a memorial to the Lord s faithfulness.

2. Psalm 139:1-4 God knows every detail of our lives, and He keeps track of all of them.

Numbers 1:22 Of the children of Simeon, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, those that were numbered of them, according to the number of the names, by their polls, every male from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

A census was taken of the children of Simeon, listing all males aged twenty and older who were able to fight.

1. The Strength of Unity: How Working Together Can Accomplish Amazing Things

2. The Importance of Preparing for War: How Obedience to God Brings Victory

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Numbers 1:23 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Simeon, were fifty and nine thousand and three hundred.

This passage states that the tribe of Simeon was numbered to be 59,300 individuals.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving His people through the generations.

2. The importance of counting and taking account of God's people.

1. Psalm 105:8 - He remembers His covenant forever, the word He commanded, for a thousand generations.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 - And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Numbers 1:24 Of the children of Gad, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

A census was taken of the children of Gad, listing all those above 20 years old who were able to go to war.

1. The Importance of Being Prepared for War

2. The Strength of Unification

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the full armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Acts 4:32-37 - All the believers were of one heart and soul, selling their possessions and goods to provide for one another.

Numbers 1:25 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Gad, were forty and five thousand six hundred and fifty.

The tribe of Gad was numbered to be 45,650.

1. God values every person and every tribe, and we should too.

2. Each of us has a special purpose to fulfill, and we should strive to do so.

1. Genesis 12:2 - And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.

2. Isaiah 43:7 - Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Numbers 1:26 Of the children of Judah, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

This verse from Numbers 1:26 discusses the organization of the tribe of Judah, which was organized according to families and the number of men of each family who were 20 years old or older and able to go to war.

1. The Faithfulness of the Tribe of Judah: The Importance of Community and Unity

2. The Strength of a Family: Finding Strength in Unity

1. Ephesians 4:12-16 - For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head Christ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

2. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; for there the LORD commanded the blessing Life forevermore.

Numbers 1:27 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Judah, were threescore and fourteen thousand and six hundred.

The number of men of the tribe of Judah who were fit for service in the army was 74,600.

1. The Power of Unity - How the Tribe of Judah was able to muster such a great army.

2. Faithfulness Rewarded - God's blessing on the Tribe of Judah for their obedience.

1. Ephesians 4:16 - "From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love."

2. Numbers 6:24 The LORD bless you and keep you; 25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; 26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.

Numbers 1:28 Of the children of Issachar, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

This passage describes the military service of the tribe of Issachar, who were able to go to war from the age of twenty onwards.

1. The Strength and Courage of the Tribe of Issachar

2. The Importance of Military Service

1. Deuteronomy 20:1-9 - God's commands concerning going to war

2. 1 Chronicles 12:32 - The bravery and bravery of the men of Issachar in battle

Numbers 1:29 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Issachar, were fifty and four thousand and four hundred.

The tribe of Issachar had a total of 54,400 members.

1. The importance of counting: obeying God's commands even in seemingly mundane tasks.

2. Finding strength and unity in numbers: no matter what the task, God calls us to do our part.

1. Exodus 30:11-16 - God commands Moses to take a census of the Israelites.

2. Acts 1:15-26 - The disciples cast lots to select a replacement for Judas Iscariot.

Numbers 1:30 Of the children of Zebulun, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

A census of the children of Zebulun was taken, recording those over 20 years old who were able to go to war.

1. God's faithfulness in providing His people with strength and protection in times of war.

2. The importance of counting our blessings and trusting in the Lord in any circumstance.

1. Deuteronomy 20:4 - For the Lord your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Numbers 1:31 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Zebulun, were fifty and seven thousand and four hundred.

The tribe of Zebulun numbered 57,400.

1: God's faithfulness is exemplified in His promise to give each of the twelve tribes of Israel their own land and to provide for them.

2: God's promise to Zebulun to give them their own land and to provide for them is an example of His faithfulness.

1: Joshua 19:10-12 - "And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families: and the border of their inheritance was unto Sarid: and their border westward was unto the coast of Chisloth-tabor, and then goeth out to Daberath, and goeth up to Japhia, and from thence passeth on along on the east to Gittah-hepher, to Ittah-kazin, and goeth out to Remmon-methoar to Neah; and the goings out thereof were at the north side of Hannathon: and they had their borders on the north side of Japhia, and the border went about eastward unto Taanath-shiloh, and passed by it on the east to Janoah; and goeth down from Janoah to Ataroth, and to Naarath, and cometh to Jericho, and goeth out at Jordan."

2: Deuteronomy 33:18 - "And of Zebulun he said, Rejoice, Zebulun, in thy going out; and, Issachar, in thy tents."

Numbers 1:32 Of the children of Joseph, namely, of the children of Ephraim, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

Numbers 1:32 describes the number of men from the tribes of Ephraim aged 20 and over who were able to go to war.

1. Being Prepared for Battle - The story of the Ephraimites in Numbers 1:32 serves as a reminder that we should always be prepared for spiritual warfare.

2. Living with Courage - Numbers 1:32 points to the courage of the Ephraimites, and encourages us to live with the same boldness and bravery.

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

2. Joshua 1:6-9 - Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 1:33 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Ephraim, were forty thousand and five hundred.

The tribe of Ephraim was numbered and there were forty-five hundred in total.

1. The importance of counting in the Bible

2. The significance of the number forty-five hundred

1. Numbers 3:14-15 - These are the names of the sons of Aaron: Nadab the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the anointed priests, whom he ordained to serve as priests.

2. Psalm 105:1 - Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Numbers 1:34 Of the children of Manasseh, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

This passage describes the number of men from the tribe of Manasseh who were able to go to war at the age of twenty and above.

1. The Strength of the Lord is Made Perfect in Our Weakness

2. The Call to Arms: Fighting for What is Right and Just

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Isaiah 59:14-15 - And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment.

Numbers 1:35 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Manasseh, were thirty and two thousand and two hundred.

The tribe of Manasseh numbered 32,200.

1. God numbers us and knows us all by name.

2. We are all part of something greater than ourselves.

1. Psalm 139:13-14 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

2. Matthew 10:29-31 "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Numbers 1:36 Of the children of Benjamin, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

This passage describes the number of Benjaminite men from age twenty years old and up who were able to go to war.

1. Be courageous and ready to fight for what is right - Numbers 1:36

2. Never back down from a challenge - Numbers 1:36

1. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 1:37 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Benjamin, were thirty and five thousand and four hundred.

The tribe of Benjamin was numbered and found to have 35,400 members.

1. The importance of counting and valuing each individual within the church.

2. God's faithfulness and provision for all His people.

1. Genesis 1:26-27 - And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. Psalm 147:4 - He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

Numbers 1:38 Of the children of Dan, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

The children of Dan, listed by their families, were counted from twenty years old and up in order to determine those who were able to go to war.

1. "Living Ready for War: Preparing for Spiritual Battles"

2. "Strength in Numbers: The Importance of Community"

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The armor of God

2. Hebrews 10:23-25 - Encouragement from fellow believers

Numbers 1:39 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Dan, were threescore and two thousand and seven hundred.

The Tribe of Dan numbered 62,700 people.

1. God's faithfulness to His people is seen in His numbering and blessing of the Tribe of Dan.

2. God's plan for His people is greater than anything we can imagine.

1. Numbers 1:39 - Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Dan, were threescore and two thousand and seven hundred.

2. Psalm 91:14 - Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

Numbers 1:40 Of the children of Asher, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

In Numbers 1:40, the children of Asher from twenty years old and upward who were able to go forth to war were counted by their generations, families, and house of their fathers.

1. The Strength of Asher: Celebrating the Faith and Strength of God's People

2. Preparing for War: Understanding the Dynamics of Spiritual Conflict

1. 1 Chronicles 7:40 - All these were the children of Asher, heads of their father's house, choice and mighty men of valor, chief of the princes. And the number throughout the genealogy of them that were apt to the war and to battle was twenty and six thousand men.

2. 2 Timothy 2:3-4 - Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

Numbers 1:41 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Asher, were forty and one thousand and five hundred.

The tribe of Asher was counted to be 41,500 in number.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people.

2. The importance of counting and being counted as part of a community.

1. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

2. Matthew 10:30 - Even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Numbers 1:42 Of the children of Naphtali, throughout their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

A census was taken of the tribe of Naphtali, counting all men aged 20 and above who were able to go to war.

1. The Importance of Unity: A Look at Numbers 1:42

2. Don t Be Afraid To Go To War: A Study of Numbers 1:42

1. Deuteronomy 20:1-4 - The Lord's instructions on going to war.

2. Psalm 144:1 - A prayer for protection and victory in battle.

Numbers 1:43 Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Naphtali, were fifty and three thousand and four hundred.

The tribe of Naphtali was numbered at 53,400.

1. Our faith should be as unshakable as the number of Naphtali.

2. Our faith is solidified when it is backed up with numbers.

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Numbers 1:44 These are those that were numbered, which Moses and Aaron numbered, and the princes of Israel, being twelve men: each one was for the house of his fathers.

The Israelites were numbered and led by Moses and Aaron, along with the princes of Israel, for a total of twelve men representing each of their families.

1. The importance of being counted in the family of God.

2. Together we are stronger: the power of unity in the Lord's work.

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

2. Romans 12:5 - So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Numbers 1:45 So were all those that were numbered of the children of Israel, by the house of their fathers, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war in Israel;

All males of the children of Israel who were at least twenty years old were numbered to go to war.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following the Lord's commands renders us capable of doing impossible things.

2. The Strength of Unity - How the power of the Lord's people is magnified when we stand together.

1. Deuteronomy 32:30 - How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Numbers 1:46 Even all they that were numbered were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty.

This verse from Numbers 1:46 states that the total number of people who were counted in the census was 600,550.

1. God's Faithfulness: In Numbers 1:46, God demonstrates His faithfulness in providing a clear number of people He has watched over.

2. Importance of Numbers: This verse emphasizes the importance of numbers and how they can be used to show the faithfulness of God.

1. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

2. Luke 12:7 - Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Numbers 1:47 But the Levites after the tribe of their fathers were not numbered among them.

The Levites were not included in the numbering of the other tribes of Israel.

1. A Call to Serve: The Role of the Levites in God's Plan

2. Honoring God's Chosen People: The Significance of the Levites in the Bible

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - And at that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day.

2. Numbers 3:12-13 - And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn that openeth the matrix among the children of Israel: therefore the Levites shall be mine; Because all the firstborn are mine.

Numbers 1:48 For the LORD had spoken unto Moses, saying,

God commanded Moses to take a census of all the Israelites.

1. God's command to take a census of the Israelites reminds us of the importance of counting and accounting for the people of God.

2. Obeying God's commands is essential to living a life of faith and service.

1. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

Numbers 1:49 Only thou shalt not number the tribe of Levi, neither take the sum of them among the children of Israel:

The tribe of Levi is exempt from being numbered among the other tribes of Israel.

1. The Importance of Distinction: How God calls us to be set apart in the midst of the world.

2. The Privilege of Service: How God calls us to serve Him in holiness and righteousness.

1. Exodus 32:25-29 - Moses interceding for the people of Israel before God.

2. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - God's command to the Israelites to love Him and serve Him with all their heart and soul.

Numbers 1:50 But thou shalt appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of testimony, and over all the vessels thereof, and over all things that belong to it: they shall bear the tabernacle, and all the vessels thereof; and they shall minister unto it, and shall encamp round about the tabernacle.

The Levites are appointed to bear and minister the tabernacle and its belongings, and to encamp around it.

1. The Importance of Serving the Lord - Numbers 1:50

2. Faithful Service to God - Numbers 1:50

1. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

2. Exodus 35:19 - All that openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast, it is mine: as the Lord hath said.

Numbers 1:51 And when the tabernacle setteth forward, the Levites shall take it down: and when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites shall set it up: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

The tabernacle was to be set up and taken down by the Levites, and anyone who came near it without permission was to be put to death.

1. God's Law is Serious and We Should Take it Seriously

2. The Importance of Keeping God's Holy Place Sacred

1. Exodus 40:17-19 - And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up. And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars. And he spread abroad the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above upon it; as the LORD commanded Moses.

2. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come: And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks: And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.

Numbers 1:52 And the children of Israel shall pitch their tents, every man by his own camp, and every man by his own standard, throughout their hosts.

The Israelites were commanded to camp according to their tribes, with each man within his own camp and standard.

1. Learning to Live in Community: Following God's Commandment of Unity

2. The Power of Living with Purpose: Setting Standards for Our Lives

1. Galatians 6:2-3 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Numbers 1:53 But the Levites shall pitch round about the tabernacle of testimony, that there be no wrath upon the congregation of the children of Israel: and the Levites shall keep the charge of the tabernacle of testimony.

The Levites are responsible for protecting the tabernacle of testimony and keeping the congregation of the Israelites safe from harm.

1. The Protection of God's People

2. The Responsibility of God's Servants

1. Psalm 121:3-4 "He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."

2. Acts 20:32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

Numbers 1:54 And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did they.

The Children of Israel obeyed all of the Lord's commands given to Moses.

1. The importance of obedience to God in our lives.

2. The power of faith to move us to action.

1. Hebrews 11:8 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going."

2. Deuteronomy 5:32 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left."

Numbers 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 2:1-9 introduces the organization and arrangement of the Israelite camp during their time in the wilderness. The chapter emphasizes that each tribe is assigned a specific location around the tabernacle, which serves as the central point of worship and divine presence. The tribes are divided into four groups, with three tribes forming a larger unit called a "standard." Each standard consists of multiple tribes positioned on different sides of the tabernacle.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 2:10-34, detailed instructions regarding the positioning and order of each tribe within their respective standards are presented. The chapter outlines where each tribe is to camp relative to the tabernacle north, south, east, or west and specifies their exact locations within their standards. This arrangement ensures orderliness and facilitates efficient movement when breaking camp or setting up.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 2 concludes by emphasizing that Moses and Aaron carried out God's commandment regarding the organization and arrangement of the Israelite camp. It highlights their obedience in implementing these instructions precisely as they were given by God. This chapter establishes a clear structure for how the Israelites are to encamp around the tabernacle during their journey through the wilderness.

In summary:

Numbers 2 presents:

Organization and arrangement of Israelite camp;

Specific locations assigned to each tribe around tabernacle;

Division into four groups with multiple tribes forming standards.

Detailed instructions for positioning, ordering within each tribe;

Camping locations relative to tabernacle north, south, east, or west;

Orderliness and efficient movement facilitated during travel.

Moses' and Aaron's fulfillment of God's commandment;

Obedience in implementing precise instructions for camp organization;

Establishment of clear structure for encampment during wilderness journey.

This chapter focuses on the organization and arrangement of the Israelite camp during their time in the wilderness. Numbers 2 begins by introducing the concept that each tribe is assigned a specific location around the tabernacle, which serves as the central point of worship and divine presence. The tribes are divided into four groups, with three tribes forming a larger unit called a "standard." Each standard consists of multiple tribes positioned on different sides of the tabernacle.

Furthermore, Numbers 2 provides detailed instructions regarding the positioning and order of each tribe within their respective standards. The chapter outlines where each tribe is to camp relative to the tabernacle north, south, east, or west and specifies their exact locations within their standards. This arrangement ensures orderliness and facilitates efficient movement when breaking camp or setting up as they journey through the wilderness.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing that Moses and Aaron faithfully carried out God's commandment regarding the organization and arrangement of the Israelite camp. They implemented these instructions precisely as they were given by God, ensuring proper structure and order in how they encamped around the tabernacle during their journey through the wilderness. This chapter establishes a clear framework for how the Israelites are to organize themselves in relation to worship and divine presence throughout their travels.

Numbers 2:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

The Lord gives instructions to Moses and Aaron regarding the organization of the Israelites in the wilderness.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God's Commands Lead to Unity and Strength

2. Divine Organization: The Benefits of Following God's Plan

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Philippians 2:1-2 - So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Numbers 2:2 Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house: far off about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch.

Every man of the Israelites must pitch their camp around the tabernacle according to their family's banner.

1. Understanding who God is and how He desires us to live in obedience.

2. The importance of valuing family, tradition, and legacy.

1. Joshua 22:5, But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the Lord charged you, to love the Lord your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4, Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Numbers 2:3 And on the east side toward the rising of the sun shall they of the standard of the camp of Judah pitch throughout their armies: and Nahshon the son of Amminadab shall be captain of the children of Judah.

The children of Judah, led by Nahshon, will camp on the east side of the Israelite camp.

1. Our faithfulness to God can bring us into positions of leadership.

2. God uses ordinary people to carry out His will.

1. 2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

2. Galatians 5:22-23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Numbers 2:4 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were threescore and fourteen thousand and six hundred.

This passage describes the total number of people in the host of the tribe of Reuben, which is 74,600.

1. God Is Faithful: Even when the odds are against us, God always proves to be faithful and will provide us with the necessary resources to reach our goals.

2. Count Your Blessings: This passage reminds us to be thankful for the blessings we have been given in our lives, regardless of the number.

1. Deuteronomy 10:22 Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, Him shalt thou serve, and to Him shalt thou cleave, and swear by His name.

2. Psalm 90:14 O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Numbers 2:5 And those that do pitch next unto him shall be the tribe of Issachar: and Nethaneel the son of Zuar shall be captain of the children of Issachar.

This passage talks about the tribe of Issachar and their leader, Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

1. The Duty of Leadership: Lessons from Nethaneel the Son of Zuar

2. Living Out Your Tribe: The Example of Issachar

1. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers."

Numbers 2:6 And his host, and those that were numbered thereof, were fifty and four thousand and four hundred.

This passage from Numbers 2:6 states that the number of people in the host of the tribe of Reuben was 54,400.

1. The Power of Unity: How the Tribe of Reuben Worked Together

2. God's Provision: How He Cared for the Tribe of Reuben

1. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Numbers 2:7 Then the tribe of Zebulun: and Eliab the son of Helon shall be captain of the children of Zebulun.

This passage describes the appointment of Eliab as captain of the tribe of Zebulun.

1: Leadership is not about power, but about service.

2: God has a purpose for every individual and every role is important.

1: 1 Peter 5:2-3, "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

2: Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Numbers 2:8 And his host, and those that were numbered thereof, were fifty and seven thousand and four hundred.

This passage reveals that the host of the tribe of Reuben numbered 57,400 individuals.

1: We can learn from the tribe of Reuben that God will bless us if we are faithful and follow Him.

2: We should be inspired by the example of the tribe of Reuben and trust in the Lord's provision for our lives.

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God."

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Numbers 2:9 All that were numbered in the camp of Judah were an hundred thousand and fourscore thousand and six thousand and four hundred, throughout their armies. These shall first set forth.

The tribe of Judah was the largest in the Israelite camp and was to be the first to march.

1. The importance of being first: the example of Judah.

2. Unity in the body of Christ: the value of each member.

1. Colossians 3:15 - And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

2. Ephesians 4:16 - From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Numbers 2:10 On the south side shall be the standard of the camp of Reuben according to their armies: and the captain of the children of Reuben shall be Elizur the son of Shedeur.

This passage from Numbers 2:10 explains that the standard of the camp of Reuben will be on the south side and that Elizur son of Shedeur will be the captain of the children of Reuben.

1. God s Plan for His People: Following the Leadership of Reuben

2. Being Ready to Follow God s Call: Elizur s Example

1. Joshua 1:6-7 - Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

2. 1 Peter 5:3 - Not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

Numbers 2:11 And his host, and those that were numbered thereof, were forty and six thousand and five hundred.

This passage states that the number of people in the host of the Tribe of Issachar was 46,500.

1. The Power of Numbers: How Numbers Can Represent God's Faithfulness

2. The Beauty of Unity: How Working Together Strengthens Our Faith

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Acts 2:44-45 - "Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need."

Numbers 2:12 And those which pitch by him shall be the tribe of Simeon: and the captain of the children of Simeon shall be Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

The tribe of Simeon was assigned to pitch camp next to the tribe of Judah, and Shelumiel, son of Zurishaddai, was its captain.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commands

2. The Power of Faithful Leadership

1. Joshua 1:6-9 Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 13:7 - Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Numbers 2:13 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were fifty and nine thousand and three hundred.

This verse from Numbers 2:13 states that the host of the tribe of Judah, and those that were numbered of them, were fifty nine thousand three hundred.

1. "Blessed are the Faithful" - Reflecting on the faithfulness of the tribe of Judah and how God rewards faithfulness.

2. "The Power of Numbers" - Exploring the significance of numbers in the Bible and how they can teach us about God's power.

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

Numbers 2:14 Then the tribe of Gad: and the captain of the sons of Gad shall be Eliasaph the son of Reuel.

The captain of the sons of Gad is Eliasaph, the son of Reuel.

1. The Importance of Leadership: Examining the Stories of Eliasaph and Reuel

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Lessons from the Tribe of Gad

1. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

2. James 5:16: "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

Numbers 2:15 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were forty and five thousand and six hundred and fifty.

This verse from the book of Numbers reveals that the total size of the Israelite army was 45,650.

1. The Power of Unity: How God Uses His People Together

2. The Miraculous: How God Accomplishes His Work Through the Impossible

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the Armor of God

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - The Lord is Our Stronghold and Refuge

Numbers 2:16 All that were numbered in the camp of Reuben were an hundred thousand and fifty and one thousand and four hundred and fifty, throughout their armies. And they shall set forth in the second rank.

The tribes of Reuben are numbered as one hundred and fifty one thousand and four hundred and fifty soldiers and they are to march in the second rank.

1. God has a plan for everyone - there is a place and purpose for all of us.

2. The importance of following orders - it is essential to follow the instructions of those in authority.

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:14-20 - For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

Numbers 2:17 Then the tabernacle of the congregation shall set forward with the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camp: as they encamp, so shall they set forward, every man in his place by their standards.

The tabernacle of the congregation must move with the camp of the Levites in the center of the camp. Every person should stay in his assigned place according to their standard.

1. Staying in our Place: Finding our Place in the Kingdom of God

2. Serving in Obedience: God's Call for us to Remain Faithful

1. John 15:16, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide..."

2. Hebrews 13:17, "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."

Numbers 2:18 On the west side shall be the standard of the camp of Ephraim according to their armies: and the captain of the sons of Ephraim shall be Elishama the son of Ammihud.

The sons of Ephraim, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, were commanded to camp on the west side, and their leader was Elishama, the son of Ammihud.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commandments

2. The Faithfulness of Elishama

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-18 "You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 "And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

Numbers 2:19 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were forty thousand and five hundred.

This verse is describing the size of the army of Judah, which was 40,500 people.

1. Strength in Numbers: The Power of Unity

2. Living in Obedience and Faithfulness: A Study of Numbers 2:19

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the full armor of God

2. John 15:12-17 - Abiding in Christ and Bearing Fruit

Numbers 2:20 And by him shall be the tribe of Manasseh: and the captain of the children of Manasseh shall be Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

The tribe of Manasseh was led by Gamaliel, the son of Pedahzur.

1. The importance of leadership in the Bible

2. Following the example of Gamaliel

1. Acts 5:34-39 - Gamaliel's wise counsel to the Sanhedrin

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Numbers 2:21 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were thirty and two thousand and two hundred.

This verse in Numbers 2 describes the size of the host of the tribe of Manasseh, numbering 32,200.

1. God's Faithfulness Is Seen In His Provision for His People

2. The Power of God's Presence Is Shown In His Protection of His People

1. Exodus 12:37-38 - And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children. And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

2. Deuteronomy 33:17 - His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.

Numbers 2:22 Then the tribe of Benjamin: and the captain of the sons of Benjamin shall be Abidan the son of Gideoni.

This passage states that Abidan, son of Gideoni, was the captain of the tribe of Benjamin.

1. God chooses leaders to guide His people (1 Cor. 12:28).

2. We must trust God's plan for our lives (Prov. 3:5-6).

1. 1 Corinthians 12:28 - And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Numbers 2:23 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were thirty and five thousand and four hundred.

This verse from Numbers 2 describes the number of people in the host of the tribe of Reuben.

1. Trusting in the Lord: The example of the tribe of Reuben.

2. The Strength of Unity: Reuben's host as an example.

1. Psalm 35:1-2 - Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; Fight against those who fight against me.

2. Deuteronomy 33:6 - Let Reuben live and not die, Nor let his men be few.

Numbers 2:24 All that were numbered of the camp of Ephraim were an hundred thousand and eight thousand and an hundred, throughout their armies. And they shall go forward in the third rank.

The total number of people from the camp of Ephraim was 108,100, and they were to go forward in the third rank of the armies.

1. God's Power in Numbers: How God's Design Can Bring Order Out of Chaos

2. The Value of Community: How Working Together Can Bring Strength and Success

1. Psalm 147:4-5 - He counts the number of the stars; he gives names to all of them. Great is our Lord and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Numbers 2:25 The standard of the camp of Dan shall be on the north side by their armies: and the captain of the children of Dan shall be Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

The camp of Dan was to be on the north side, and their leader was Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

1: We should be willing to accept the places God assigns us and the leaders He chooses.

2: We should strive to be faithful to the calling God has given us.

1: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Numbers 2:26 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were threescore and two thousand and seven hundred.

In Numbers 2:26, it is revealed that the host of the tribe of Reuben numbered 62,700 in total.

1. The Lord Numbers His People: A Reflection on the Unity of God's People

2. The Miraculous Numbers of God: How Our Faith is Strengthened by God's Perfect Provision

1. Deuteronomy 10:22 - The LORD your God has increased your numbers so that today you are as numerous as the stars in the sky.

2. Psalm 147:4 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

Numbers 2:27 And those that encamp by him shall be the tribe of Asher: and the captain of the children of Asher shall be Pagiel the son of Ocran.

The tribe of Asher is to be camped by Pagiel the son of Ocran.

1. God's faithful provision of guidance and protection for His people.

2. The importance of a leader's commitment to serve and lead God's people.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:17 - You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed.

Numbers 2:28 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were forty and one thousand and five hundred.

The chapter of Numbers records the numbering of the Israelites in the wilderness. The tribe of Issachar was counted as 41,500 members.

1. God appoints each of us for a unique purpose, just as He did for the Israelites.

2. Our faithfulness to God's calling will be rewarded.

1. Ephesians 2:10: For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

2. Isaiah 43:7: Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.

Numbers 2:29 Then the tribe of Naphtali: and the captain of the children of Naphtali shall be Ahira the son of Enan.

The tribe of Naphtali was led by Ahira the son of Enan.

1. The importance of leadership and guidance in the life of a Christian.

2. The legacy of being a faithful servant of God.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Numbers 2:30 And his host, and those that were numbered of them, were fifty and three thousand and four hundred.

This passage describes the size of the tribe of Gad, which numbered 53,400.

1. God's people are strong in number - Numbers 2:30

2. Relying on the strength of God's people - Numbers 2:30

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God

2. Psalm 33:16-22 - Rejoice in the Lord, and trust in him.

Numbers 2:31 All they that were numbered in the camp of Dan were an hundred thousand and fifty and seven thousand and six hundred. They shall go hindmost with their standards.

The total number of the camp of Dan was 157,600 and they were to go last in the procession.

1. God's Timing Is Perfect - examining God's perfect timing in the organisation of the Israelites.

2. The Importance of Obedience - exploring the significance of following God's commands.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Numbers 2:32 These are those which were numbered of the children of Israel by the house of their fathers: all those that were numbered of the camps throughout their hosts were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty.

This verse from Numbers 2 is describing the number of Israelites that were counted by their clans in the wilderness.

1. God values every one of us: Numbers 2:32 shows that even though the Israelites were in a vast wilderness, God kept track of each and every one of them.

2. The power of community: This verse also speaks to the power of community, as the Israelites were counted by their clans and kept track of in the wilderness.

1. Psalm 139:14-15 - I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

2. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 2:33 But the Levites were not numbered among the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The Levites were not counted among the people of Israel as commanded by the Lord.

1. God's commands must be followed even when they seem difficult and uncomfortable.

2. We must trust in the Lord's plans even when we don't understand them.

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - 8 At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day. 9 Therefore Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers; the LORD is his inheritance, as the LORD your God promised him.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Numbers 2:34 And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses: so they pitched by their standards, and so they set forward, every one after their families, according to the house of their fathers.

This passage describes how the Israelites followed the Lord's commands to organize and travel in military-like formations.

1: God desires order and obedience in our lives, and we should strive to follow His commands.

2: We should strive to be organized and disciplined, just as the Israelites were, in order to better serve the Lord.

1: Ephesians 6:13-17 - Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

2: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Numbers 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 3:1-13 introduces the Levites and their role within the Israelite community. The chapter emphasizes that the Levites are set apart by God for service in the tabernacle. They are specifically chosen to assist Aaron and his sons, who serve as priests. The chapter provides a genealogy of Aaron's descendants, highlighting the lineage of the Levitical priesthood and their responsibility for the care and maintenance of the tabernacle.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 3:14-39, specific duties and assignments within the tribe of Levi are presented. The chapter outlines various divisions among the Levites based on their ancestral families, each assigned specific tasks related to different aspects of tabernacle service. These tasks include transporting and assembling the tabernacle, guarding its sacred items, and assisting in rituals such as sacrifices.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 3 concludes by emphasizing that Moses carried out God's commandment regarding the numbering and assignment of duties to each member of the tribe of Levi. It highlights Moses' obedience in following these instructions precisely as given by God. This chapter establishes a clear structure for how responsibilities are distributed among the Levites, ensuring proper functioning and order within worship practices at the tabernacle.

In summary:

Numbers 3 presents:

Introduction to Levites set apart for service in tabernacle;

Assistance to Aaron and his sons who serve as priests;

Genealogy highlighting lineage of Levitical priesthood.

Specific duties, assignments within tribe of Levi;

Divisions based on ancestral families;

Tasks related to transporting, assembling, guarding sacred items; assisting in rituals.

Moses' fulfillment of God's commandment numbering, assignment of duties;

Obedience in following instructions precisely;

Establishment of structure for responsibilities within tribe for proper functioning.

This chapter focuses on the role and responsibilities of the Levites within the Israelite community. Numbers 3 begins by introducing the Levites, who are set apart by God for service in the tabernacle. They are specifically chosen to assist Aaron and his sons, who serve as priests. The chapter provides a genealogy of Aaron's descendants, highlighting the lineage of the Levitical priesthood and their responsibility for the care and maintenance of the tabernacle.

Furthermore, Numbers 3 presents specific duties and assignments within the tribe of Levi. The chapter outlines various divisions among the Levites based on their ancestral families, with each division assigned specific tasks related to different aspects of tabernacle service. These tasks include transporting and assembling the tabernacle, guarding its sacred items, and assisting in rituals such as sacrifices.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing that Moses faithfully carried out God's commandment regarding numbering and assigning duties to each member of the tribe of Levi. He followed these instructions precisely as given by God, ensuring a clear structure for how responsibilities are distributed among them. This establishment of order ensures proper functioning within worship practices at the tabernacle.

Numbers 3:1 These also are the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day that the LORD spake with Moses in mount Sinai.

The passage is about the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day that the LORD spoke with Moses in Mount Sinai.

1. Learning from the Faithfulness of Aaron and Moses

2. The Blessing of Hearing from the Lord

1. Hebrews 11:8-12 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Joshua 1:7 - "Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

Numbers 3:2 And these are the names of the sons of Aaron; Nadab the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

The passage discusses the names of Aaron's four sons.

1: We can learn from Aaron's example of fatherhood and how he carefully taught his sons to walk in the ways of the Lord.

2: As children of God, we too must pass on our knowledge of Him to the generations that follow.

1: Deuteronomy 6:6-9 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2: Psalm 78:5-7 He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Numbers 3:3 These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the priests which were anointed, whom he consecrated to minister in the priest's office.

This passage from Numbers 3:3 describes the sons of Aaron, who were anointed and consecrated to serve as priests.

1. The Importance of Passing On Your Faith to the Next Generation

2. The Responsibility of Serving as a Priest

1. 2 Timothy 2:2 - "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

2. Hebrews 13:7 - "Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith."

Numbers 3:4 And Nadab and Abihu died before the LORD, when they offered strange fire before the LORD, in the wilderness of Sinai, and they had no children: and Eleazar and Ithamar ministered in the priest's office in the sight of Aaron their father.

Nadab and Abihu died when they offered strange fire before the LORD in the wilderness of Sinai, leaving Eleazar and Ithamar to minister in the priest's office in the sight of Aaron their father.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands

2. The Importance of Obedience to God

1. Isaiah 66:1-2 Thus says the Lord: Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist, says the Lord.

2. James 2:10-12 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

Numbers 3:5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God appoints Aaron and his sons to serve as priests in Israel.

1. Serving God with humility and faithfulness

2. The importance of fulfilling the call of God

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Numbers 3:6 Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him.

The tribe of Levi was to be presented to Aaron the priest so that they could serve him.

1. The Blessing of Serving Others

2. The Importance of Ministry

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

Numbers 3:7 And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle.

The Levites were chosen by God to serve in the Tabernacle and to fulfill the duties assigned to them by God and the congregation.

1. The Call of the Levites - God's plan to serve and lead his people

2. Faithful Service - How to serve God faithfully in our lives

1. Numbers 3:7 - And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle.

2. Matthew 25:21 - His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Numbers 3:8 And they shall keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle.

The children of Israel were given the responsibility to take care of the instruments of the tabernacle and to carry out the service of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Serving in the Tabernacle

2. The Blessing of Being Given Responsibility

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. 1 Peter 4:10-11 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Numbers 3:9 And thou shalt give the Levites unto Aaron and to his sons: they are wholly given unto him out of the children of Israel.

The Levites were given to Aaron and his sons as a gift from the children of Israel.

1. God's Gifts to Us: Recognizing and Appreciating What We Have.

2. The Joy of Serving God: The Fulfillment of Being an Instrument of His Will.

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - The Parable of the Talents.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 - The Body of Christ and the Diversity of Gifts.

Numbers 3:10 And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

God commanded Moses to appoint Aaron and his sons as priests and any stranger who comes close will be put to death.

1. The importance of following God's commands.

2. The consequences of disobedience.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God."

2. Matthew 5:17-19 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Numbers 3:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is appointed as the leader of the Levites in the service of the Lord.

1. Follow God's Will and be faithful in your service to Him.

2. Appointed leaders have a responsibility to carry out His commands.

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

Numbers 3:12 And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn that openeth the matrix among the children of Israel: therefore the Levites shall be mine;

God chose the Levites to be his own instead of the firstborn Israelites, who were usually dedicated to him.

1. The Power of Devotedness: A Study of the Levites and Dedication to God

2. The Blessing of Being Set Apart: How God Rewarded the Levites

1. 1 Chronicles 16:4-7 - Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done

2. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today.

Numbers 3:13 Because all the firstborn are mine; for on the day that I smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I hallowed unto me all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast: mine shall they be: I am the LORD.

This passage states that the Lord has set apart the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast, as his own, because he struck down the firstborn in Egypt.

1. God claims a special place in our lives; honoring Him as Lord and King is the first step in living a life of faith and obedience.

2. We must recognize and submit to God's authority over all of creation and acknowledge his power and presence in our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Romans 10:9 - If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Numbers 3:14 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying,

God instructed Moses to number the Levites in the wilderness of Sinai.

1. God's faithfulness is displayed in his guidance of Moses in the wilderness.

2. We should be willing to accept God's instructions despite the difficulty of the task.

1. Exodus 3:1-4 - God's call of Moses from the burning bush.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - God's promise to be with his people in the wilderness.

Numbers 3:15 Number the children of Levi after the house of their fathers, by their families: every male from a month old and upward shalt thou number them.

The Lord commanded Moses to number the children of Levi according to their families, starting from a month old.

1. "The Lord's Plan of Order" - A about how God commands us to organize our lives according to His will.

2. "The Blessing of Obedience" - A about how following God's commands brings us His blessings.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Numbers 3:16 And Moses numbered them according to the word of the LORD, as he was commanded.

The Lord commanded Moses to number the people according to His word.

1. Following God's Commands: The Example of Moses

2. Obedience to God: The Necessity of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?

2. John 14:15 - "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

Numbers 3:17 And these were the sons of Levi by their names; Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari.

This passage describes the sons of Levi, named Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

1. Our Faithful Fathers: Examining the Legacy of the Sons of Levi

2. Honoring the Lineage: Learning from the Sons of Levi

1. Exodus 6:16-20

2. Hebrews 11:23-29

Numbers 3:18 And these are the names of the sons of Gershon by their families; Libni, and Shimei.

This passage provides the names of the sons of Gershon by their families.

1. The Importance of Remembering Your Family Names

2. Living a Life of Legacy

1. Genesis 32:25-33 - Jacob wrestles with an angel and obtains a new name

2. Ruth 4:17-22 - The importance of a family name being passed down

Numbers 3:19 And the sons of Kohath by their families; Amram, and Izehar, Hebron, and Uzziel.

This passage states that the sons of Kohath were Amram, Izehar, Hebron, and Uzziel.

1. We can learn from the example of Kohath and his sons to remain true to our families and build strong relationships.

2. We are reminded that God is always with us, just as He was with the sons of Kohath.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seems evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. 1 John 3:14-16 - "We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."

Numbers 3:20 And the sons of Merari by their families; Mahli, and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to the house of their fathers.

The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi, and they were part of the Levites according to their family line.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Family Lineage

2. Reclaiming the Legacy of Your Ancestors

1. Malachi 2:7 - For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

2. 1 Chronicles 12:32 - Of the sons of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command.

Numbers 3:21 Of Gershon was the family of the Libnites, and the family of the Shimites: these are the families of the Gershonites.

This verse is about the two families of Gershonites: Libnites and Shimites.

1. God's plan for the Israelites: The importance of the Gershonites.

2. The significance of unity: The Gershonites as an example.

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

2. Deuteronomy 1:9-10 - "And I spake unto you at that time, saying, I am not able to bear you myself alone: The LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude."

Numbers 3:22 Those that were numbered of them, according to the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, even those that were numbered of them were seven thousand and five hundred.

This passage speaks about the number of males from one month old and upwards that were numbered among the Levites: 7,500.

1. God's perfect provision for His people through the Levites.

2. The importance of counting and numbering in Scripture.

1. Luke 12:7 - "Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

2. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - "At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today. That is why the Levites have no share or inheritance among their fellow Israelites; the Lord is their inheritance, as the Lord your God told them."

Numbers 3:23 The families of the Gershonites shall pitch behind the tabernacle westward.

The Gershonites shall pitch their tents behind the tabernacle, westward.

1. God's Plan for Organized Worship - Numbers 3:23

2. The Importance of Following God's Commands - Numbers 3:23

1. Deuteronomy 16:16 - "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty."

2. Exodus 25:8-9 - "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

Numbers 3:24 And the chief of the house of the father of the Gershonites shall be Eliasaph the son of Lael.

The chief of the Gershonite family is Eliasaph, son of Lael.

1. The importance of lineage and family in scripture.

2. God s plan for His people: Restoring and establishing families.

1. Matthew 19:4-6 Haven t you read, he replied, that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh ? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Numbers 3:25 And the charge of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the congregation shall be the tabernacle, and the tent, the covering thereof, and the hanging for the door of the tabernacle of the congregation,

The sons of Gershon were given the responsibility of carrying and maintaining the tabernacle of the congregation, including the tent and its coverings.

1. The Importance of Taking Responsibility for God's House

2. The Power of Working Together with Others in Service to God

1. Exodus 40:34-38 - When the cloud covered the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out on their journeys

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 - We are God's temple, and the Spirit of God dwells in us.

Numbers 3:26 And the hangings of the court, and the curtain for the door of the court, which is by the tabernacle, and by the altar round about, and the cords of it for all the service thereof.

This passage speaks of the hangings, curtains, and cords of the court of the tabernacle, which were used for the service of the Lord.

1. Using the Service of the Lord to Tap into God's Power

2. The Importance of Dedicated Service to God

1. Exodus 35:19, "All that the Lord hath commanded we will do, and be obedient"

2. Colossians 3:23, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men"

Numbers 3:27 And of Kohath was the family of the Amramites, and the family of the Izeharites, and the family of the Hebronites, and the family of the Uzzielites: these are the families of the Kohathites.

This passage in Numbers 3:27 describes the four families of the Kohathites: the Amramites, the Izeharites, the Hebronites, and the Uzzielites.

1. The Value of Community: The Kohathites and How We Can Benefit From Fellowship

2. Strength Through Unity: How We Can Grow Together Through Love and Support

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they are warm, but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Numbers 3:28 In the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, were eight thousand and six hundred, keeping the charge of the sanctuary.

The Israelites were commanded to take a census of all the males one month old and above, amounting to 8,600.

1. God's Perfect Plan: How Numbers 3:28 Demonstrates God's Providence

2. The Faithfulness of the Israelites: How Obedience to God's Command in Numbers 3:28 Enabled the Israelites to Receive Blessing

1. Matthew 22:14 - "For many are called, but few are chosen."

2. Deuteronomy 4:9 - "Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen."

Numbers 3:29 The families of the sons of Kohath shall pitch on the side of the tabernacle southward.

The sons of Kohath are to set up their camps south of the tabernacle.

1. The importance of following God s commands.

2. The power of unity in following God s will.

1. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Philippians 2:1-2 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Numbers 3:30 And the chief of the house of the father of the families of the Kohathites shall be Elizaphan the son of Uzziel.

Elizaphan, the son of Uzziel, was appointed the chief of the house of the father of the Kohathites.

1. The Power of Family: Understanding the Importance of Inheritance

2. The Blessing of Leadership: Appreciating the Role of Authority

1. Genesis 49:26-28 - "The blessings of your father have surpassed the blessings of my ancestors, up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers."

2. 1 Samuel 2:35 - "And I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind. I will build him a sure house, and he shall go in and out before my anointed forever."

Numbers 3:31 And their charge shall be the ark, and the table, and the candlestick, and the altars, and the vessels of the sanctuary wherewith they minister, and the hanging, and all the service thereof.

The Levites were appointed to carry out the service of the sanctuary.

1: God calls us to serve Him in whatever capacity He has gifted us.

2: We should never feel that our service to God is unimportant or overlooked.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

2: 1 Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Numbers 3:32 And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest shall be chief over the chief of the Levites, and have the oversight of them that keep the charge of the sanctuary.

The passage speaks of the role of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, as chief over the Levites and having oversight of the sanctuary.

1: God has given us roles to play in His kingdom - it is our responsibility to fulfill these roles to the best of our abilities.

2: God has chosen individuals to lead and guide us in our spiritual journey - follow their leadership and wisdom.

1: 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

2: Ephesians 4:11-13 - And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Numbers 3:33 Of Merari was the family of the Mahlites, and the family of the Mushites: these are the families of Merari.

This verse states that the families of Merari were the Mahlites and the Mushites.

1. The importance of family and how we are all related to each other.

2. The power of unity within a family.

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Numbers 3:34 And those that were numbered of them, according to the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, were six thousand and two hundred.

This verse from Numbers 3:34 shows that 6,200 male Israelites over the age of one month were counted in the census.

1. The Power of Numbers: How the Lord Gives Us Faith and Strength in Numbers

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God s Instructions Leads to Blessing

1. Numbers 1:2-3 - Take a census of all the assembly of the people of Israel, by clans, by fathers houses, according to the number of names, every male, head by head. From twenty years old and upward, all in Israel who are able to go to war, you and Aaron shall list them, company by company.

2. Psalm 5:11-12 - But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield.

Numbers 3:35 And the chief of the house of the father of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail: these shall pitch on the side of the tabernacle northward.

This verse from Numbers 3 reveals that Zuriel, the son of Abihail, was appointed chief of the house of the father of the families of Merari and instructed to pitch the tabernacle northward.

1. The Northward Pitch: A Lesson in Dedication and Obedience

2. God s Appointment of a Chief: The Call to Serve

1. Matthew 4:19 - And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men

2. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Numbers 3:36 And under the custody and charge of the sons of Merari shall be the boards of the tabernacle, and the bars thereof, and the pillars thereof, and the sockets thereof, and all the vessels thereof, and all that serveth thereto,

The sons of Merari were given the responsibility to take care of the boards, bars, pillars, sockets, vessels, and everything else necessary for the tabernacle.

1. The Lord entrusts us with His work

2. The importance of accountability

1. 1 Corinthians 3:6-9 - Paul's analogy of the spiritual temple

2. 2 Corinthians 5:10 - We must all give an account of our stewardship

Numbers 3:37 And the pillars of the court round about, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords.

This passage describes the pillars, sockets, pins, and cords of the court around the tabernacle.

1. The Tabernacle: A Reminder of God's Faithfulness

2. The Pillars of Strength: Standing Firm in Our Faith

1. Ps. 5:11 But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

2. Heb. 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Numbers 3:38 But those that encamp before the tabernacle toward the east, even before the tabernacle of the congregation eastward, shall be Moses, and Aaron and his sons, keeping the charge of the sanctuary for the charge of the children of Israel; and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

Moses, Aaron, and their sons were to camp east of the tabernacle and be in charge of the sanctuary for the Israelites. Any stranger who came near was to be put to death.

1. The Responsibility of God's People: The Example of Moses, Aaron, and their Sons

2. The Holiness of God: The Penalty of Strangers

1. Exodus 19:10-12 - And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death:

2. Hebrews 12:18-24 - For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)

Numbers 3:39 All that were numbered of the Levites, which Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD, throughout their families, all the males from a month old and upward, were twenty and two thousand.

The total number of Levite males aged one month and older was 22,000, as counted by Moses and Aaron at the Lord's command.

1. God's Sovereignty: Obeying God's Commandments for Blessings

2. Faithfulness: Staying True to God's Purpose

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.

2. Genesis 17:7-8 - And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.

Numbers 3:40 And the LORD said unto Moses, Number all the firstborn of the males of the children of Israel from a month old and upward, and take the number of their names.

God instructed Moses to count and record all the firstborn male children of Israel that were a month old and up.

1. The Importance of Following God's Instructions

2. God's Care for the Children of Israel

1. Deuteronomy 11:18-21 - Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Numbers 3:41 And thou shalt take the Levites for me (I am the LORD) instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel; and the cattle of the Levites instead of all the firstlings among the cattle of the children of Israel.

The Lord commands that the Levites will replace all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites will replace all the firstlings among the cattle of the children of Israel.

1. The Importance of Serving God: A Study of Numbers 3:41

2. The Significance of the Levites: A Look at Numbers 3:41

1. Exodus 13:1-2 - "The LORD said to Moses, Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:28 - And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues.

Numbers 3:42 And Moses numbered, as the LORD commanded him, all the firstborn among the children of Israel.

Moses numbered all the firstborn of Israel in accordance with the Lord's command.

1. God's Command Must Be Obeyed - Numbers 3:42

2. The Importance of Obedience - Numbers 3:42

1. Deuteronomy 31:7-8 - Moses commanded the people of Israel to be strong and courageous and to obey all the Lord's commands.

2. Genesis 22:18 - Abraham obeyed God and was willing to offer his son as a sacrifice.

Numbers 3:43 And all the firstborn males by the number of names, from a month old and upward, of those that were numbered of them, were twenty and two thousand two hundred and threescore and thirteen.

22,273 firstborn males were numbered from a month old and above.

1. The Importance of Counting: How God Numbered His People

2. The Significance of the Firstborn in the Bible

1. Exodus 13:2; "Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal."

2. Numbers 8:17; "For all the firstborn among the children of Israel are mine, both man and beast: on the day that I smote every firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for myself."

Numbers 3:44 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD instructed Moses to take a census of the Levites.

1. Obeying the Lord's commands brings blessings.

2. God has a plan for every individual.

1. 1 Samuel 15:22 - "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

2. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Numbers 3:45 Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites instead of their cattle; and the Levites shall be mine: I am the LORD.

The Lord commanded the Levites to be taken instead of the firstborn of Israel and their cattle.

1. God's grace is seen in the selection of the Levites to serve Him.

2. Obedience to God's commands brings blessings.

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - In the same way, you who are younger,submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Numbers 3:46 And for those that are to be redeemed of the two hundred and threescore and thirteen of the firstborn of the children of Israel, which are more than the Levites;

The Israelites had more firstborns than the Levites, so the firstborns had to be redeemed with a payment of two hundred and threescore and thirteen shekels.

1. The Importance of Redemption in the Bible

2. The Significance of the Firstborn in the Bible

1. Numbers 3:13-15

2. Exodus 13:11-16

Numbers 3:47 Thou shalt even take five shekels apiece by the poll, after the shekel of the sanctuary shalt thou take them: (the shekel is twenty gerahs:)

God instructs Moses to take a census of the Levites, with each male over one month of age to be counted and they will have to pay a fee of five shekels for each, according to the sanctuary's shekel.

1. The Holiness of the Levites: How God Called for Their Separation and Sanctification

2. The Power of the Offering: Understanding the Purpose and Significance of the Sacrificial Fee

1. Exodus 38: 24-25 - And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the lookingglasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And he set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and put water there, to wash withal.

2. Numbers 18:15-16 - Every thing that openeth the matrix in all flesh, which they bring unto the LORD, whether it be of men or beasts, shall be thine: nevertheless the firstborn of man shalt thou surely redeem, and the firstling of unclean beasts shalt thou redeem. And those that are to be redeemed from a month old shalt thou redeem, according to thine estimation, for the money of five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs.

Numbers 3:48 And thou shalt give the money, wherewith the odd number of them is to be redeemed, unto Aaron and to his sons.

This passage describes the process of redeeming the Levites from the Israelites.

1. God's provision for the Levites: His call for redemption.

2. The importance of honoring God's commands: The value of redemption.

1. Psalm 107:2 - Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.

2. Luke 1:68 - Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people.

Numbers 3:49 And Moses took the redemption money of them that were over and above them that were redeemed by the Levites:

Moses accepted redemption money for those who were not redeemed by the Levites.

1. The Power of Redemption

2. The Strength of Faith

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith, Moses chose to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.

2. Ephesians 1:7 - In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Numbers 3:50 Of the firstborn of the children of Israel took he the money; a thousand three hundred and threescore and five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:

The Lord commanded Moses to take the money of the firstborn of the children of Israel, which amounted to 1,365 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary.

1. God's provision for His people: The importance of giving

2. God's faithfulness: How God is always with us

1. Genesis 22:14 - "And Abraham called the name of that place, The Lord will provide; as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

2. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Numbers 3:51 And Moses gave the money of them that were redeemed unto Aaron and to his sons, according to the word of the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses gave the money of those who had been redeemed to Aaron and his sons according to the command of the LORD.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following the Lord's Commands Brings Blessings

2. Redeemed: How God Provides Redemption and Restoration

1. Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

2. Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Numbers 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 4:1-20 introduces the responsibilities and tasks assigned to the Kohathite clan within the tribe of Levi. The chapter emphasizes that the Kohathites are responsible for transporting and caring for the sacred objects used in worship at the tabernacle. It provides specific instructions on how these items are to be handled, wrapped, and carried by Aaron's descendants from the Kohathite clan. The chapter highlights that only designated individuals from this clan are allowed to perform these duties under penalty of death.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 4:21-37, specific tasks assigned to other clans within the tribe of Levi are presented. The chapter outlines responsibilities related to disassembling, carrying, and setting up various components of the tabernacle during travel. These tasks include covering sacred objects with specific coverings, securing them with appropriate materials, and ensuring their safe transportation.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 4 concludes by emphasizing that Moses carried out God's commandment regarding assigning duties to each clan within the tribe of Levi. It highlights Moses' obedience in following these instructions precisely as given by God. This chapter establishes a clear division of labor among different clans within the Levitical priesthood, ensuring proper handling and care for sacred objects during their journey through the wilderness.

In summary:

Numbers 4 presents:

Responsibilities, tasks assigned to Kohathite clan;

Transporting, caring for sacred objects used in worship at tabernacle;

Specific instructions on handling, wrapping, carrying; limited individuals allowed.

Tasks assigned to other clans within tribe of Levi;

Disassembling, carrying, setting up components during travel;

Covering sacred objects; securing with appropriate materials; safe transportation.

Moses' fulfillment of God's commandment assigning duties to each clan;

Obedience in following instructions precisely;

Establishment of division of labor for proper handling, care during journey.

This chapter focuses on the responsibilities and tasks assigned to different clans within the tribe of Levi. Numbers 4 begins by introducing the Kohathite clan, highlighting their specific role in transporting and caring for the sacred objects used in worship at the tabernacle. The chapter provides detailed instructions on how these items are to be handled, wrapped, and carried by designated individuals from the Kohathite clan, emphasizing their exclusivity for performing these duties under penalty of death.

Furthermore, Numbers 4 presents specific tasks assigned to other clans within the tribe of Levi. The chapter outlines responsibilities related to disassembling, carrying, and setting up various components of the tabernacle during travel. These tasks include covering sacred objects with specific coverings, securing them with appropriate materials, and ensuring their safe transportation.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing that Moses faithfully carried out God's commandment regarding assigning duties to each clan within the tribe of Levi. He followed these instructions precisely as given by God, establishing a clear division of labor among different clans within the Levitical priesthood. This division ensures proper handling and care for sacred objects during their journey through the wilderness.

Numbers 4:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

The LORD instructed Moses and Aaron regarding the duties of the Kohathites.

1. Understanding the Lord's Call: The Duties of the Kohathites

2. Serving God With Wholehearted Obedience: A Study of Numbers 4:1

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

Numbers 4:2 Take the sum of the sons of Kohath from among the sons of Levi, after their families, by the house of their fathers,

God commands Moses to take a census of the sons of Kohath from the Levite Tribe, according to their families and fathers' houses.

1. God's Unwavering Care for His People

2. Counting the Blessings of God's Faithfulness

1. Psalm 36:7, "How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings."

2. Isaiah 40:11, "He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young."

Numbers 4:3 From thirty years old and upward even until fifty years old, all that enter into the host, to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation.

Numbers 4:3 speaks of those from 30-50 years old who are to serve in the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Importance of Serving God in Our Lifetimes

2. The Value of Service to God and His People

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Numbers 4:4 This shall be the service of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation, about the most holy things:

The sons of Kohath were assigned to serve in the tabernacle of the congregation and to take care of the most holy things.

1. Serving God in Holiness - The importance of living a life dedicated to God's service.

2. Living in Service - Living a life of devotion to God through service to others.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Numbers 4:5 And when the camp setteth forward, Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering vail, and cover the ark of testimony with it:

Aaron and his sons are to take down the covering veil and cover the ark of testimony when the camp sets forward.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learn from Aaron's example of faithfulness in following God's commands.

2. The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant: Understand the importance of the Ark and the covering veil as symbols of God's presence.

1. Hebrews 11:23-29 - By faith, Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

2. Exodus 25:10-22 - God commanded Moses to make an ark of acacia wood and to cover it with a veil of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and to overlay it with pure gold.

Numbers 4:6 And shall put thereon the covering of badgers' skins, and shall spread over it a cloth wholly of blue, and shall put in the staves thereof.

God instructed the Israelites to cover the Tabernacle with badger skins and a blue cloth, and to insert the poles for carrying it.

1. The importance of faithfully following God's instructions

2. The significance of the Tabernacle and its covering

1. Exodus 25:1-9 - God gives instructions on the building of the Tabernacle

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Jesus' teaching on storing up treasures in Heaven

Numbers 4:7 And upon the table of shewbread they shall spread a cloth of blue, and put thereon the dishes, and the spoons, and the bowls, and covers to cover withal: and the continual bread shall be thereon:

This passage instructs that upon the table of shewbread, a cloth of blue is to be spread and dishes, spoons, bowls and covers are to be placed on it, and the bread of the presence is to be thereon.

1. The Bread of Presence: How It Points Us to God

2. The Symbolism of Blue: A Clue to God's Character

1. Exodus 25:30 - "And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway."

2. Matthew 6:11 - "Give us this day our daily bread."

Numbers 4:8 And they shall spread upon them a cloth of scarlet, and cover the same with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put in the staves thereof.

The Kohathites are to cover the holy items of the tabernacle with a cloth of scarlet and a covering of badgers' skins, and then put in the staves of the covering.

1. The Importance of Holiness: The Tabernacle and What it Means for us Today

2. The Power of Righteousness: How We Should Model Ourselves After the Tabernacle

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - Instructions for constructing the tabernacle

2. 2 Corinthians 6:16 - Separation from the world and holiness unto the Lord

Numbers 4:9 And they shall take a cloth of blue, and cover the candlestick of the light, and his lamps, and his tongs, and his snuffdishes, and all the oil vessels thereof, wherewith they minister unto it:

The tribe of Kohath is to take a blue cloth and cover the items used to tend the candlestick, including its lamps and tongs.

1. God wants us to take special care for what is important to Him.

2. We must remember to honor the Lord through our actions.

1. 1 Peter 2:5 - "you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

2. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Numbers 4:10 And they shall put it and all the vessels thereof within a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put it upon a bar.

The Kohathites are instructed to cover the Ark of the Covenant with a covering of badgers' skins and place it on a bar.

1. The Sacramental Significance of Covering the Ark of the Covenant

2. The Symbolism of the Badger s Skin as a Protective Covering

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - Instructions for the construction of the Ark of the Covenant

2. Exodus 26:14 - Instructions for the making of the tabernacle with skins of badgers.

Numbers 4:11 And upon the golden altar they shall spread a cloth of blue, and cover it with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put to the staves thereof:

The golden altar in the tabernacle was to be covered with a cloth of blue and badger skins and secured with staves.

1. The Holiness of the Tabernacle: Understanding the Significance of Covering the Altar

2. The Power of Obedience: Demonstrated by Covering the Altar as Instructed

1. Leviticus 16:12-15 - The Significance of the Altar and Atonement

2. Hebrews 9:1-14 - The Significance of the Tabernacle and Sanctification

Numbers 4:12 And they shall take all the instruments of ministry, wherewith they minister in the sanctuary, and put them in a cloth of blue, and cover them with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put them on a bar:

The Kohathites are instructed to take all of the instruments used for ministry in the sanctuary and cover them with a cloth of blue and badgers' skins, and place them on a bar.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from the Kohathites

2. Stewardship of Sacred Things: The Responsibility of Caring for God's Instruments

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today.

2. Exodus 39:1-7 - Then the LORD said to Moses, See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts.

Numbers 4:13 And they shall take away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple cloth thereon:

The priests are commanded to take away the ashes from the altar and cover it with a purple cloth.

1. The importance of maintaining a clean and holy altar - Numbers 4:13

2. How the purple cloth symbolizes holiness and righteousness - Numbers 4:13

1. Exodus 28:4 - And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

2. Hebrews 9:24 - For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.

Numbers 4:14 And they shall put upon it all the vessels thereof, wherewith they minister about it, even the censers, the fleshhooks, and the shovels, and the basons, all the vessels of the altar; and they shall spread upon it a covering of badgers' skins, and put to the staves of it.

The vessels of the altar were to be placed on the altar and covered with a badger's skin.

1. The importance of reverence and respect for the Lord's house.

2. The value of service and dedication to the Lord.

1. Exodus 28:1-2 - The Lord instructs Moses to make garments of holiness for Aaron the priest and his sons to serve in the priesthood.

2. Numbers 16:36-38 - The Lord instructs Aaron to take a censer and put burning coals and incense on it and stand between the living and the dead to make atonement for the people.

Numbers 4:15 And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary, and all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set forward; after that, the sons of Kohath shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die. These things are the burden of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation.

Aaron and his sons are responsible for covering the sanctuary and its vessels prior to the camp's departure. Afterwards, the sons of Kohath are to bear the items but must not touch any holy thing or else they will die.

1. Be careful when handling God's things

2. Respect the sacredness of God's things

1. Exodus 30:29 - "You shall consecrate them, that they may be most holy; whatever touches them must be holy."

2. Hebrews 9:1-3 - "Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place."

Numbers 4:16 And to the office of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest pertaineth the oil for the light, and the sweet incense, and the daily meat offering, and the anointing oil, and the oversight of all the tabernacle, and of all that therein is, in the sanctuary, and in the vessels thereof.

Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, was responsible for the oil for the light, the sweet incense, the daily meat offering, and the anointing oil. He also oversaw all the tabernacle, and the vessels and contents of the sanctuary.

1. The Responsibility of Leadership - Numbers 4:16

2. The Power of Sacred Objects - Numbers 4:16

1. Exodus 30:22-33 - God instructs Moses on the anointing oil and the incense.

2. Leviticus 24:1-4 - The Lord commands Moses to set up the lamps in the Tabernacle.

Numbers 4:17 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

The LORD commanded Moses and Aaron to perform a task.

1. Obeying God's Commandments

2. The Importance of Following Directions

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Luke 6:46-49 - Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and not do what I tell you? Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.

Numbers 4:18 Cut ye not off the tribe of the families of the Kohathites from among the Levites:

The Kohathites are to be included among the Levites.

1. The Importance of Unity in the Church

2. The Invaluable Role of Every Member of the Body of Christ

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Colossians 3:15-17 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Numbers 4:19 But thus do unto them, that they may live, and not die, when they approach unto the most holy things: Aaron and his sons shall go in, and appoint them every one to his service and to his burden:

Aaron and his sons must appoint the Levites to their service and burden so that they may live and not die when they approach the most holy things.

1. The Power of Appointment: Appointing others to their service and burden can lead to life and not death.

2. Serving with Faithfulness: The Levites were faithful in their service and burden and were rewarded with life.

1. Luke 17:10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Numbers 4:20 But they shall not go in to see when the holy things are covered, lest they die.

Not to enter the holy place when the holy things are covered, lest they die.

1. The importance of respecting holiness

2. The consequences of not respecting holiness

1. Exodus 28:43 - "They shall be on Aaron and his sons when they come into the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him.

2. Leviticus 10:2-3 - "And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. Then Moses said unto Aaron, This is it that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified."

Numbers 4:21 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD God spoke to Moses to commission the Levites to carry the parts of the Tabernacle.

1: God calls us to be faithful and obedient to His will, no matter the task.

2: We are to serve God with joy and enthusiasm, knowing that His purposes never fail.

1: Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 4:22 Take also the sum of the sons of Gershon, throughout the houses of their fathers, by their families;

The Lord commanded a census to be taken of the Gershonite families.

1: God's sovereignty is evident in the command to take a census of the Gershonites.

2: God knows and cares for each family and desires to be kept informed of their numbers.

1: 1 Chronicles 21:2-3 - And David said unto Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beer-sheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it. And Joab answered, The LORD make his people an hundred times so many more as they be: but, my lord the king, are they not all my lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing?

2: Luke 2:1-7 - And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Numbers 4:23 From thirty years old and upward until fifty years old shalt thou number them; all that enter in to perform the service, to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation.

This passage states that those between the ages of 30 50 years old are to enter and perform service in the Tabernacle of the Congregation.

1. The Importance of Dedication to Serving God

2. The Call to Serve God with Holiness

1. Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:20 Then David said to his son Solomon, Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished.

Numbers 4:24 This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, to serve, and for burdens:

The Gershonites were responsible for providing service and bearing burdens.

1: We are called to serve others as the Gershonites served.

2: We must be willing to bear burdens in order to serve.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

2: Galatians 5:13 "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

Numbers 4:25 And they shall bear the curtains of the tabernacle, and the tabernacle of the congregation, his covering, and the covering of the badgers' skins that is above upon it, and the hanging for the door of the tabernacle of the congregation,

This passage describes the responsibilities of the Kohathites, a Levitical tribe, to carry the curtains, coverings, and door of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Carrying Out God's Will: A Study on Numbers 4:25

2. The Value of Faithful Service: A Look at the Kohathites in Numbers 4:25

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Matthew 25:21 - "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'"

Numbers 4:26 And the hangings of the court, and the hanging for the door of the gate of the court, which is by the tabernacle and by the altar round about, and their cords, and all the instruments of their service, and all that is made for them: so shall they serve.

This passage describes the entrance to the court of the tabernacle and the altar and the items used in their service.

1: The importance of dedication to service in God's court.

2: The value of those who serve in God's court.

1: Matthew 20:26-28 - Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

2: Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Numbers 4:27 At the appointment of Aaron and his sons shall be all the service of the sons of the Gershonites, in all their burdens, and in all their service: and ye shall appoint unto them in charge all their burdens.

The service of the Gershonites' sons is appointed to Aaron and his sons, and all their burdens and service are to be assigned to them.

1: God appointed Aaron and his sons to be in charge of the service of the Gershonites' sons.

2: We must trust in God and His appointed leaders and serve faithfully.

1: 1 Peter 5:5-6 "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."

2: Ephesians 6:5-7 "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men."

Numbers 4:28 This is the service of the families of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the congregation: and their charge shall be under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

This passage describes the service of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the congregation, and states that their charge will be under the hand of Ithamar, the son of Aaron the priest.

1. The Importance of Serving God Faithfully

2. The Power of Obedience to God's Commandments

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

Numbers 4:29 As for the sons of Merari, thou shalt number them after their families, by the house of their fathers;

God instructed Moses to count the Levites according to their families and by the house of their fathers.

1. God has a plan to bring order to chaos

2. We must be obedient to God's instructions

1. Isaiah 43:5-7 - "Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth"

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Numbers 4:30 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old shalt thou number them, every one that entereth into the service, to do the work of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The Lord commanded that those from 30-50 years of age were to be counted for the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The importance of service in the Lord's work

2. Being counted: the value of the individual in the church

1. Matthew 25:40 "And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. "

2. Hebrews 13:17 "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."

Numbers 4:31 And this is the charge of their burden, according to all their service in the tabernacle of the congregation; the boards of the tabernacle, and the bars thereof, and the pillars thereof, and sockets thereof,

This passage outlines the requirements for the burden of service in the tabernacle, including the boards, bars, pillars, and sockets of the tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Dedicated Service: A Study on Numbers 4:31

2. Trusting in the Lord's Plan: A Study on Numbers 4:31

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

2. Hebrews 9:1-2 - Then indeed, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary. For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary.

Numbers 4:32 And the pillars of the court round about, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords, with all their instruments, and with all their service: and by name ye shall reckon the instruments of the charge of their burden.

The Lord instructed Moses to number all of the furniture and instruments used in the court, and to carefully document the service of each item.

1. Jesus calls us to be meticulous and faithful in all things, even in small details.

2. God's plan is precise and exact, and requires our best effort and attention.

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

2. Luke 16:10 - Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

Numbers 4:33 This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari, according to all their service, in the tabernacle of the congregation, under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

The service of the families of the sons of Merari is described in Numbers 4:33, under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

1. Serving God with Joy and Gladness

2. Living a Life of Service to God

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Numbers 4:34 And Moses and Aaron and the chief of the congregation numbered the sons of the Kohathites after their families, and after the house of their fathers,

Moses, Aaron and the chief of the congregation numbered the sons of the Kohathites according to their families and fathers.

1. God values every individual and sees us all as part of His family.

2. We are all part of a greater community, and our families are an important part of that.

1. Galatians 6:10, Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

2. Psalm 68:6, God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

Numbers 4:35 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that entereth into the service, for the work in the tabernacle of the congregation:

This passage outlines the age range for those who enter into service in the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. God Calls All Ages to Serve

2. The Blessings of Serving in the Tabernacle

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. John 12:26 - Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

Numbers 4:36 And those that were numbered of them by their families were two thousand seven hundred and fifty.

This passage describes the number of families in the tribe of Merari, which totaled 2,750 people.

1. Lessons from the Tribe of Merari: God's Faithfulness in Numbers

2. Living a Life of Faithfulness: What We Can Learn from the Tribe of Merari

1. Jeremiah 33:22 - As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

2. Deuteronomy 10:8 - At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day.

Numbers 4:37 These were they that were numbered of the families of the Kohathites, all that might do service in the tabernacle of the congregation, which Moses and Aaron did number according to the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

The Kohathites were numbered according to the commandment of the Lord by Moses and Aaron to serve in the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Importance of Following God's Commands

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Numbers 4:38 And those that were numbered of the sons of Gershon, throughout their families, and by the house of their fathers,

The sons of Gershon were counted according to their families and the house of their fathers.

1. The Blessings of Knowing Your Family History

2. The Importance of Lineage in the Bible

1. Deuteronomy 6:20-25, God commands to teach the children about their family lineage

2. Romans 4:13-17, Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness through his lineage

Numbers 4:39 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that entereth into the service, for the work in the tabernacle of the congregation,

This passage describes the age range for those who can enter into the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1: God calls us to serve and to use our gifts to serve others.

2: God's call to serve can be fulfilled at any age, and there is no age too young or too old to serve.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2: 1 Peter 4:10 - "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

Numbers 4:40 Even those that were numbered of them, throughout their families, by the house of their fathers, were two thousand and six hundred and thirty.

This passage describes the number of Levites who were numbered in the census taken by Moses.

1. God values every single one of us, no matter how small our number.

2. We are all part of a larger family, and our individual actions can have great impacts.

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. Galatians 6:9-10 - Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Numbers 4:41 These are they that were numbered of the families of the sons of Gershon, of all that might do service in the tabernacle of the congregation, whom Moses and Aaron did number according to the commandment of the LORD.

Moses and Aaron numbered the families of the sons of Gershon in order to know who was able to do service in the tabernacle of the congregation, as commanded by the LORD.

1. Serving the Lord in Obedience - Numbers 4:41

2. The Importance of Following God s Command - Numbers 4:41

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - "Be very careful, then, how you live not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord s will is."

Numbers 4:42 And those that were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari, throughout their families, by the house of their fathers,

The families of the sons of Merari were numbered according to their respective families and fathers.

1. God wants us to be intentional with the way we live our lives.

2. We should be mindful of our family roots and honor them.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 20:7 - The righteous person walks in his integrity; blessed are his children who follow him.

Numbers 4:43 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that entereth into the service, for the work in the tabernacle of the congregation,

This passage describes the age requirements for those eligible to serve in the Tabernacle of the Congregation.

1. The Value of Experience: Learning to Appreciate the Wisdom of Age

2. How to Serve God with a Willing Heart

1. Ecclesiastes 12:1-7 - Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, I find no pleasure in them

2. 1 Timothy 4:12 - Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

Numbers 4:44 Even those that were numbered of them after their families, were three thousand and two hundred.

This passage from Numbers 4:44 provides a numerical count of the people of Israel, totaling 3,200.

1. Count Your Blessings: A about the importance of cherishing the people in our lives.

2. Numerical Strength: A about the power of numbers and how they can lead to strength and success.

1. Psalm 16:5 - "The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; thou maintainest my lot."

2. Proverbs 10:22 - "The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and he adds no sorrow with it."

Numbers 4:45 These be those that were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

The sons of Merari were numbered according to the word of the LORD.

1: We should obey the word of the LORD and live according to His commands.

2: Be faithful and obedient to the LORD and He will guide and protect us.

1: Psalm 119:105- "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2: Joshua 1:7- "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go."

Numbers 4:46 All those that were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron and the chief of Israel numbered, after their families, and after the house of their fathers,

This passage describes the Levites who were numbered by Moses, Aaron, and the chiefs of Israel according to their families and the house of their fathers.

1. The Importance of Unity in God's People

2. The Role of Leadership in the Church

1. Acts 6:1-7 - The Selection and Appointment of the First Deacons

2. 2 Chronicles 19:8-11 - Jehoshaphat's Appointment of Judges to Administer Justice

Numbers 4:47 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that came to do the service of the ministry, and the service of the burden in the tabernacle of the congregation,

Numbers 4:47 describes the age range of those who were able to serve in the ministry and the burden of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Value of Service in the Church

2. The Blessings of Serving God in our Lives

1. Ephesians 6:7-8 - With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Numbers 4:48 Even those that were numbered of them, were eight thousand and five hundred and fourscore.

This verse from the book of Numbers describes the total number of the Levites, which is 8,584.

1. Our God is a God of precision and exactness - Numbers 4:48

2. Our God measures and marks our service - Numbers 4:48

1. Psalm 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

2. Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Numbers 4:49 According to the commandment of the LORD they were numbered by the hand of Moses, every one according to his service, and according to his burden: thus were they numbered of him, as the LORD commanded Moses.

The LORD commanded Moses to number the people according to their service and burden.

1. God calls us to serve one another in love.

2. The importance of following the Lord's commands.

1. Galatians 5:13-14 - For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2. Deuteronomy 8:3 - And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Numbers 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 5:1-4 introduces instructions for dealing with individuals who are ceremonially unclean and need to be removed from the camp. The chapter emphasizes that those who have become ritually impure due to various reasons, such as contact with a dead body or a bodily discharge, must be temporarily separated from the community. They are instructed to be sent outside the camp until they undergo a purification process.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 5:5-10, specific regulations regarding restitution for wrongdoing and confession of sins are presented. The chapter addresses situations where someone has wronged another person by deceiving or defrauding them. It emphasizes the importance of confessing their sin and making full restitution, including adding one-fifth of the value to compensate for any loss incurred by the victim.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 5 concludes by introducing a test for marital fidelity known as the "water of bitterness." In cases where a husband suspects his wife of adultery but lacks evidence, he can bring her before the priest along with an offering. The priest performs a ritual involving holy water mixed with dust from the tabernacle floor. If she is guilty, she will experience physical consequences; if innocent, she will remain unharmed. This test serves as an ordeal to determine innocence or guilt in cases of suspected infidelity.

In summary:

Numbers 5 presents:

Instructions for removing ceremonially unclean individuals from camp;

Temporary separation until purification process is completed.

Regulations for restitution and confession of sins;

Addressing situations involving deception or fraud;

Importance of confessing sin and making full restitution.

Introduction of test for marital fidelity the "water of bitterness";

Ritual involving holy water mixed with tabernacle floor dust;

Ordeal to determine innocence or guilt in cases of suspected adultery.

This chapter focuses on various instructions and regulations regarding purification, restitution, and marital fidelity. Numbers 5 begins by providing instructions for dealing with individuals who have become ceremonially unclean due to reasons such as contact with a dead body or a bodily discharge. They are to be temporarily separated from the community until they undergo a purification process, being sent outside the camp.

Furthermore, Numbers 5 presents specific regulations regarding restitution for wrongdoing and confession of sins. The chapter addresses situations where someone has wronged another person through deception or fraud. It emphasizes the importance of confessing their sin and making full restitution, including adding one-fifth of the value to compensate for any loss incurred by the victim.

The chapter concludes by introducing a test for marital fidelity known as the "water of bitterness." In cases where a husband suspects his wife of adultery but lacks evidence, he can bring her before the priest along with an offering. The priest performs a ritual involving holy water mixed with dust from the tabernacle floor. If she is guilty, she will experience physical consequences; if innocent, she will remain unharmed. This test serves as an ordeal to determine innocence or guilt in cases of suspected infidelity.

Numbers 5:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD commanded Moses to remove anyone who was ceremonially defiled from the camp.

1: The Lord cares deeply about us and desires for us to be holy and set apart.

2: We should seek to live holy lives, being mindful of what is pleasing to God.

1: Leviticus 19:2 - "Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God am holy."

2: 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

Numbers 5:2 Command the children of Israel, that they put out of the camp every leper, and every one that hath an issue, and whosoever is defiled by the dead:

God commands the Israelites to cleanse their camp of those who are impure.

1: God's commands are to be obeyed, and it is our duty to keep ourselves and our community clean and holy.

2: We must care for those who are afflicted and seek to help them, rather than rejecting and excluding them.

1: James 2:1-9 - We must show no partiality and judge no one by their outward appearance.

2: Leviticus 13:45-46 - Those who are unclean must be separated and those who are clean must remain in the camp.

Numbers 5:3 Both male and female shall ye put out, without the camp shall ye put them; that they defile not their camps, in the midst whereof I dwell.

The Lord commands that both male and female sinners be put outside of the camp, so that the camp will not be defiled in the midst of which the Lord dwells.

1. The importance of holiness and keeping our lives free from sin.

2. The power of obedience and how it can help us to remain faithful to the Lord.

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Numbers 5:4 And the children of Israel did so, and put them out without the camp: as the LORD spake unto Moses, so did the children of Israel.

The children of Israel followed God's commands and put out anyone with leprosy from the camp.

1. Putting God's Commands into Action

2. Following God's Will in All Circumstances

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the Lord's commandments and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"

2. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Numbers 5:5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD commanded Moses to expel from the camp anyone who was contaminated with uncleanness.

1. Jesus calls us to a higher standard of purity and holiness.

2. The importance of obedience and honoring God's commands.

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 - Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

Numbers 5:6 Speak unto the children of Israel, When a man or woman shall commit any sin that men commit, to do a trespass against the LORD, and that person be guilty;

This passage explains that when someone sins against the Lord, they will be held accountable and guilty.

1. We must remember that our actions have consequences and we will be held accountable for our sins against God.

2. We should strive to live a life of repentance, knowing that God is watching our every move.

1. Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

2. James 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Numbers 5:7 Then they shall confess their sin which they have done: and he shall recompense his trespass with the principal thereof, and add unto it the fifth part thereof, and give it unto him against whom he hath trespassed.

God commands that those who have sinned must confess their sin and make recompense to the person they have wronged, in addition to a fifth part.

1. The Importance of Confession: Owning Up to Our Mistakes

2. The Value of Repentance: Making Amends and Moving Forward

1. James 5:16 - Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

2. Luke 19:8 - Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.

Numbers 5:8 But if the man have no kinsman to recompense the trespass unto, let the trespass be recompensed unto the LORD, even to the priest; beside the ram of the atonement, whereby an atonement shall be made for him.

This verse instructs that if a man has no relative to whom he can pay restitution, he should pay it to the Lord through the priest.

1. The Value of Atonement: Understanding the Significance of Making Amends.

2. The Cost of Sin: How to Make Restitution and Find Redemption.

1. Matthew 5:23-24: Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

2. Luke 19:8: And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

Numbers 5:9 And every offering of all the holy things of the children of Israel, which they bring unto the priest, shall be his.

This passage describes the rule that all offerings brought to the priest by the children of Israel shall be his.

1. The Power of Giving: Learning the Value of Offering to God

2. Learning to Appreciate Priesthood: Acknowledging the Role of Priests in Our Lives

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

2. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy."

Numbers 5:10 And every man's hallowed things shall be his: whatsoever any man giveth the priest, it shall be his.

God's word instructs that whatever is given to the priest is his.

1. The Blessings of Giving: How Giving to the Priest Brings Joy

2. Stewardship: Caring for God's House and What We Have Been Given

1. Deuteronomy 15:7-11

2. Acts 4:32-35

Numbers 5:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage speaks about God speaking to Moses regarding the law of the Nazarite vow.

1: God's desire for us to remain faithful and devoted to him.

2: The importance of honoring our commitments and promises.

1: Proverbs 3:3-4 - "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man."

2: James 5:12 - "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation."

Numbers 5:12 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man's wife go aside, and commit a trespass against him,

This passage speaks of a man whose wife has been unfaithful.

1: "God's Love for the Unfaithful"

2: "The Power of Forgiveness"

1: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 - "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

2: Hosea 2:14-16 - "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt."

Numbers 5:13 And a man lie with her carnally, and it be hid from the eyes of her husband, and be kept close, and she be defiled, and there be no witness against her, neither she be taken with the manner;

This passage describes a situation in which a woman is unfaithful to her husband, but there is no evidence of her sin.

1. The Danger of Secret Sin: Recognizing the Temptations and Consequences of Unfaithfulness

2. God's Love for the Faithful: Finding Strength and Hope in the Face of Temptation

1. Psalm 51:1-2 "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

2. Proverbs 28:13 "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

Numbers 5:14 And the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be defiled: or if the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be not defiled:

When a man suspects his wife of being unfaithful, he is commanded by God to bring her to the priest for a test of her innocence.

1. Trusting in God: Learning to Let Go of Jealousy

2. How to Recognize and Overcome Jealousy in Marriage

1. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

2. Proverbs 14:30 A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.

Numbers 5:15 Then shall the man bring his wife unto the priest, and he shall bring her offering for her, the tenth part of an ephah of barley meal; he shall pour no oil upon it, nor put frankincense thereon; for it is an offering of jealousy, an offering of memorial, bringing iniquity to remembrance.

The man brings his wife to the priest with an offering of barley meal as a sign of jealousy.

1: Jealousy is a sign of distrust and can be damaging to relationships.

2: God knows our hearts and is aware of our iniquities.

1: Proverbs 14:30 - A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

2: Hebrews 10:17 - And their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.

Numbers 5:16 And the priest shall bring her near, and set her before the LORD:

The priest is to bring the accused woman before the Lord for judgment and justice.

1: The Lord is our Judge and He alone is the one who can give true justice.

2: We all need to repent and seek the Lord's guidance and judgment for our wrongdoings.

1: Isaiah 5:16 - "But the Lord of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness."

2: Hebrews 10:30 - "For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people."

Numbers 5:17 And the priest shall take holy water in an earthen vessel; and of the dust that is in the floor of the tabernacle the priest shall take, and put it into the water:

The priest must take holy water and some dust from the floor of the tabernacle and mix it together in an earthen vessel.

1. God's Holiness and Our Need for Purification

2. The Sacredness of the Tabernacle and its Significance

1. Hebrews 9:18-22 - For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.

2. Ephesians 5:25-27 - Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.

Numbers 5:18 And the priest shall set the woman before the LORD, and uncover the woman's head, and put the offering of memorial in her hands, which is the jealousy offering: and the priest shall have in his hand the bitter water that causeth the curse:

The priest is instructed to bring a woman suspected of adultery before the LORD and offer a jealousy offering with the bitter water that causes the curse.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: What We Can Learn From Numbers 5:18

2. The Danger of Jealousy and How to Avoid It

1. Luke 6:37 - "Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

2. Proverbs 14:30 - "A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones."

Numbers 5:19 And the priest shall charge her by an oath, and say unto the woman, If no man have lain with thee, and if thou hast not gone aside to uncleanness with another instead of thy husband, be thou free from this bitter water that causeth the curse:

The priest charges the woman by an oath, and if she has kept faithfulness to her husband, will be free from the consequences of the bitter water.

1. Faithfulness in Marriage: The Importance of Keeping God's Commandments

2. The Blessing of Remaining Blameless: Receiving God's Protection

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Submit to one another in the fear of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 12:22 - The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.

Numbers 5:20 But if thou hast gone aside to another instead of thy husband, and if thou be defiled, and some man have lain with thee beside thine husband:

A woman who is unfaithful to her husband and commits adultery will be punished according to the law in Numbers 5:20.

1. A Warning Against Adultery: What the Bible Says About Faithfulness

2. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness: A Study of Numbers 5:20

1. Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

2. Proverbs 6:32 - Whoever commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.

Numbers 5:21 Then the priest shall charge the woman with an oath of cursing, and the priest shall say unto the woman, The LORD make thee a curse and an oath among thy people, when the LORD doth make thy thigh to rot, and thy belly to swell;

This passage describes a priest charging a woman with an oath of cursing, in which the LORD will make her thigh rot and her belly swell as punishment.

1: God's justice always prevails. No matter how severe the punishment, God's ways are always righteous and fair.

2: We can never outsmart God. We cannot escape his righteous judgement, and we must accept the consequences of our actions.

1: Jeremiah 17:10 "I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

2: Proverbs 16:2 "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits."

Numbers 5:22 And this water that causeth the curse shall go into thy bowels, to make thy belly to swell, and thy thigh to rot: And the woman shall say, Amen, amen.

God commands that a woman suspected of adultery should drink water containing dust from the tabernacle floor to determine her guilt. If she is guilty, her belly will swell and her thigh will rot. The woman must agree to the test by saying "Amen, amen."

1. The Power of Our Words - How what we say has consequences

2. The Conditions of Our Hearts - A study of adultery and the consequences thereof

1. James 3:8-12 - The power of the tongue and its effects

2. Proverbs 6:23-29 - The consequences of adultery and its effects on the heart.

Numbers 5:23 And the priest shall write these curses in a book, and he shall blot them out with the bitter water:

The priest was to write down God's curses and blot them out with bitter water.

1. The Power of God's Curses: Understanding the Significance of the Priestly Writings.

2. The Blotting Out of Sin: The Significance of Bitter Water in Numbers 5.

1. Psalm 109:18 He clothed himself also with cursing as with his garment, and it entered into his inward parts like water, and like oil into his bones.

2. Ezekiel 36:25-27 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Numbers 5:24 And he shall cause the woman to drink the bitter water that causeth the curse: and the water that causeth the curse shall enter into her, and become bitter.

God instructs that a woman suspected of adultery must drink a bitter water that will bring a curse upon her if she is guilty.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Lessons from Numbers 5:24

2. The Power of the Curse: What We Can Learn from Numbers 5:24

1. James 1:14-15 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Proverbs 13:15 Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the treacherous is their ruin.

Numbers 5:25 Then the priest shall take the jealousy offering out of the woman's hand, and shall wave the offering before the LORD, and offer it upon the altar:

A priest takes a jealousy offering from a woman's hand and offers it to the Lord on the altar.

1. The Importance of Offering to God

2. The Power of Jealousy in Our Lives

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 -Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Numbers 5:26 And the priest shall take an handful of the offering, even the memorial thereof, and burn it upon the altar, and afterward shall cause the woman to drink the water.

The priest was required to burn a portion of the offering on the altar and then give the woman the water to drink.

1. Sacrifice unto the Lord: The Biblical Significance of Offering

2. Experiencing the Healing Power of God Through Obedience

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Numbers 5:27 And when he hath made her to drink the water, then it shall come to pass, that, if she be defiled, and have done trespass against her husband, that the water that causeth the curse shall enter into her, and become bitter, and her belly shall swell, and her thigh shall rot: and the woman shall be a curse among her people.

When a woman is suspected of adultery, she is made to drink water that will cause her to be cursed if she is guilty. The effects of the water will be a swelling of her belly and a rotting of her thigh, causing her to be a curse among her people.

1. The Consequences of Adultery - Proverbs 6:32-33

2. God's Justice and Mercy - James 2:13

1. Leviticus 20:10 - "If a man commits adultery with the wife of his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death."

2. Proverbs 6:27-29 - "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Or can one walk upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent."

Numbers 5:28 And if the woman be not defiled, but be clean; then she shall be free, and shall conceive seed.

The woman who is not defiled is free and can conceive seed.

1. The Power of Purity: Understanding the Benefits of Keeping Ourselves Clean

2. The Blessing of Abstinence: Being Free to Receive God's Gift

1. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

Numbers 5:29 This is the law of jealousies, when a wife goeth aside to another instead of her husband, and is defiled;

This passage explains the law of jealousies, which states that if a wife is unfaithful to her husband by going to another man, she is defiled.

1: Our faithfulness is a gift to our spouses, and we must not forget our vows of fidelity.

2: We should strive to find joy in our marriages, and not look to other people to fulfill our needs.

1: Proverbs 18:22 "He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord."

2: 1 Corinthians 7:3-5 "Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

Numbers 5:30 Or when the spirit of jealousy cometh upon him, and he be jealous over his wife, and shall set the woman before the LORD, and the priest shall execute upon her all this law.

This passage explains that when a man is jealous of his wife, he must bring her to the Lord and the priest will carry out the laws given.

1: Jealousy can be destructive if we do not bring it to the Lord.

2: When we are jealous of someone, we need to seek God's guidance and trust that He will take care of us.

1: Proverbs 6:34 - For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

2: Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Numbers 5:31 Then shall the man be guiltless from iniquity, and this woman shall bear her iniquity.

This passage reminds us of God's justice and mercy: that even when we are guilty, He is willing to forgive us.

1: The Power of Forgiveness - Exploring God's mercy and grace in Numbers 5:31

2: Righteousness and Repentance - Embracing God's justice and mercy in Numbers 5:31

1: Psalm 103:12 "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."

2: Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Numbers 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 6:1-8 introduces the vow of the Nazirite and its requirements. The chapter emphasizes that a Nazirite is someone who voluntarily takes a vow of consecration to the Lord for a specific period of time. During this period, they are to abstain from certain practices, including drinking wine or any product derived from grapes, cutting their hair, and coming into contact with dead bodies. The chapter outlines the regulations and instructions for fulfilling this vow.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 6:9-21, additional instructions regarding the completion of the Nazirite vow are presented. The chapter addresses what is required when the period of consecration comes to an end. It includes offerings that need to be made at the tabernacle, shaving off all hair that has grown during the vow, and various rituals associated with completing their dedication.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 6 concludes by highlighting examples of individuals who took on Nazirite vows. It mentions Samson as one prominent figure who was set apart as a Nazirite from birth and had extraordinary strength given by God. The chapter emphasizes that these individuals were dedicated to God through their voluntary commitment as Nazirites and were called to live in accordance with specific requirements during their consecrated time.

In summary:

Numbers 6 presents:

Introduction to vow of the Nazirite;

Voluntary consecration for a specific period;

Abstaining from certain practices; regulations for fulfilling vow.

Instructions for completing Nazirite vow;

Offerings at tabernacle; shaving off hair; rituals associated with dedication.

Examples of individuals who took on Nazirite vows;

Samson mentioned as prominent figure dedicated from birth;

Emphasis on living in accordance with requirements during consecrated time.

This chapter focuses on the concept of the Nazirite vow and its requirements. Numbers 6 begins by introducing the vow of the Nazirite, which is a voluntary consecration to the Lord for a specific period of time. The chapter emphasizes that during this period, those taking the vow are to abstain from certain practices, such as drinking wine or any product derived from grapes, cutting their hair, and coming into contact with dead bodies. It provides regulations and instructions for fulfilling this vow.

Furthermore, Numbers 6 presents additional instructions regarding the completion of the Nazirite vow. The chapter addresses what is required when the period of consecration comes to an end. It includes offerings that need to be made at the tabernacle, shaving off all hair that has grown during the vow, and various rituals associated with completing their dedication.

The chapter concludes by highlighting examples of individuals who took on Nazirite vows. One prominent figure mentioned is Samson, who was set apart as a Nazirite from birth and possessed extraordinary strength given by God. These individuals were dedicated to God through their voluntary commitment as Nazirites and were called to live in accordance with specific requirements during their consecrated time.

Numbers 6:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God instructs Moses to give the Israelites instructions for a special blessing.

1. The Power of God's Blessing

2. The Significance of the Priestly Blessing

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Numbers 6:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When either man or woman shall separate themselves to vow a vow of a Nazarite, to separate themselves unto the LORD:

God instructs the Israelites to make a vow of Nazarite to the LORD.

1. The Power of a Vow: How Dedicating Yourself to the Lord Can Change Your Life

2. A Call to Separation: Understanding the Impact of a Nazarite Vow

1. James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your Yes be yes, and your No, no, or you will be condemned.

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Numbers 6:3 He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried.

This verse instructs those who are set apart for the Lord to abstain from wine and strong drink.

1: Living a Life Worthy of Holiness - Abstaining from Alcohol

2: Keeping a Pure Heart - Overcoming Temptation

1: 1 Thessalonians 5:23 - Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2: Ephesians 4:17-24 - Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ! assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Numbers 6:4 All the days of his separation shall he eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from the kernels even to the husk.

A Nazarite is forbidden from consuming any food or drink made from the grape vine.

1. "Living a Life of Discipline: The Nazarite's Path"

2. "The Importance of Abstinence: A Nazarite's Example"

1. Isaiah 55:2 - "Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?"

2. 1 Corinthians 6:12 - "All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be enslaved by anything."

Numbers 6:5 All the days of the vow of his separation there shall no razor come upon his head: until the days be fulfilled, in the which he separateth himself unto the LORD, he shall be holy, and shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow.

A person who makes a vow of separation to the Lord must let their hair grow out until the days of the vow are fulfilled.

1. The Power of a Vow: How Keeping Promises to God Brings Blessing

2. The Holiness of Hair: How Keeping Ourselves Set Apart for God is Rewarded

1. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Numbers 6:6 All the days that he separateth himself unto the LORD he shall come at no dead body.

This passage describes the requirement for a Nazarite to remain separated to the Lord, which includes refraining from coming in contact with a dead body.

1. The Power of Separation: Living Set Apart From the World

2. The Holiness of the Nazarite: A Dedication to the Lord

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Numbers 6:7 He shall not make himself unclean for his father, or for his mother, for his brother, or for his sister, when they die: because the consecration of his God is upon his head.

This passage describes the holiness of the Nazarite, who was set apart from the rest of the Israelites. He was to remain holy and not defile himself even in the death of his close family members.

1. The Power of God's Consecration: Living a Holy Life Despite Life's Difficulties

2. The Gift of Holiness: Embracing the Call to be Separate from the World

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Numbers 6:8 All the days of his separation he is holy unto the LORD.

A Nazirite must dedicate themselves to the Lord for the duration of their separation.

1. Dedicating Ourselves to God: Living the Life of a Nazirite

2. A Call to Holiness: Understanding the Nazirite Consecration

1. John 15:14 - You are my friends if you do what I command.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Numbers 6:9 And if any man die very suddenly by him, and he hath defiled the head of his consecration; then he shall shave his head in the day of his cleansing, on the seventh day shall he shave it.

A man who dies suddenly and defiles the head of his consecration is to shave his head on the seventh day of his cleansing.

1. Dying Unexpectedly: Finding Strength in God's Love

2. The Significance of Shaving Heads in the Bible

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah"

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Numbers 6:10 And on the eighth day he shall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons, to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

On the eighth day, the priest receives two turtles or two young pigeons as an offering at the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. Giving of Offerings: A Sign of Obedience

2. Sacrifice and Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 12:6 - And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks.

2. Mark 12:41-44 - And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

Numbers 6:11 And the priest shall offer the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering, and make an atonement for him, for that he sinned by the dead, and shall hallow his head that same day.

The priest is to offer two sacrifices for atonement of a sin that was committed by touching a dead body, and the person's head must be consecrated on that same day.

1. The Importance and Power of Atonement

2. Consecrating Ourselves in Holiness

1. Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Numbers 6:12 And he shall consecrate unto the LORD the days of his separation, and shall bring a lamb of the first year for a trespass offering: but the days that were before shall be lost, because his separation was defiled.

A person who has become defiled must consecrate a certain number of days to the Lord and bring a lamb of the first year as a trespass offering. The days prior to the defilement are lost.

1. Understanding the Consequences of Impurity

2. Making Atonement for Our Sins

1. Leviticus 5:1-6 - Consequences of Impurity

2. Isaiah 53:5-6 - Making Atonement for Our Sins

Numbers 6:13 And this is the law of the Nazarite, when the days of his separation are fulfilled: he shall be brought unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

A Nazarite is required to be brought to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation when the days of his separation are fulfilled.

1. The Lord's Call for Separation and Obedience

2. God's Provision for Holiness and Purity

1. Matthew 6:1-4 - Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Numbers 6:14 And he shall offer his offering unto the LORD, one he lamb of the first year without blemish for a burnt offering, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish for a sin offering, and one ram without blemish for peace offerings,

The Lord commanded Moses to offer three types of sacrifices: one lamb for a burnt offering, one ewe lamb for a sin offering, and one ram for peace offerings.

1. Sacrifice: The Pathway to Holiness

2. Obedience: A Pathway of Blessing

1. Leviticus 22:17-25 - The Lord commanded Moses to tell Aaron and his sons to offer sacrifices that are without blemish.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Christ, let us offer a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Numbers 6:15 And a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour mingled with oil, and wafers of unleavened bread anointed with oil, and their meat offering, and their drink offerings.

God commands the Israelites to bring offerings of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour, and wafers of unleavened bread, as well as meat and drink offerings.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God's Word Transforms Our Lives

2. The Bread of Life: The Significance of Unleavened Bread in the Bible

1. Deuteronomy 16:3-8 - Celebrating the Passover with Unleavened Bread

2. John 6:35-40 - Jesus as the Bread of Life

Numbers 6:16 And the priest shall bring them before the LORD, and shall offer his sin offering, and his burnt offering:

The Lord requires a sin offering and a burnt offering to be brought before Him by a priest.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: A Closer Look at Numbers 6:16

2. The Holiness of the Lord: An Analysis of Numbers 6:16

1. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

2. Leviticus 4:1-5 - The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to the people of Israel, saying, If anyone sins unintentionally in any of the Lord's commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them: if it is the anointed priest who sins, thus bringing guilt on the people, then he shall offer for the sin that he has committed a bull from the herd without blemish to the Lord for a sin offering.

Numbers 6:17 And he shall offer the ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread: the priest shall offer also his meat offering, and his drink offering.

The priest is to offer a ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings to the Lord, along with a basket of unleavened bread, a meat offering, and a drink offering.

1. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Exploring the Symbolic Significance of the Peace Offering

2. God's Provision: Celebrating the Gift of Abundance in the Sacrificial Offerings

1. Numbers 6:17 - And he shall offer the ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread: the priest shall offer also his meat offering, and his drink offering.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Numbers 6:18 And the Nazarite shall shave the head of his separation at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall take the hair of the head of his separation, and put it in the fire which is under the sacrifice of the peace offerings.

The Nazarite must shave their head of their separation at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and then place the hair in the fire under the peace offering.

1. The Significance of Sacrifice in the Bible

2. The Power of Consecration in the Bible

1. Leviticus 6:18-22

2. Psalm 40:6-8

Numbers 6:19 And the priest shall take the sodden shoulder of the ram, and one unleavened cake out of the basket, and one unleavened wafer, and shall put them upon the hands of the Nazarite, after the hair of his separation is shaven:

The priest shall take the ram's sodden shoulder, an unleavened cake, and an unleavened wafer and place them on the hands of the Nazarite after his hair has been shaven.

1. God's perfect provision for our needs.

2. The significance of the Nazirite vow.

1. John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

2. Luke 1:67-75 - Zechariah's prophecy to his son John the Baptist.

Numbers 6:20 And the priest shall wave them for a wave offering before the LORD: this is holy for the priest, with the wave breast and heave shoulder: and after that the Nazarite may drink wine.

This verse from Numbers 6 describes the priest offering a wave offering before the LORD and states that the Nazarite may drink wine after this offering.

1. "True Worship: An Offering to the Lord"

2. "The Sanctity of the Nazarite: A Precious Gift"

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - "you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Numbers 6:21 This is the law of the Nazarite who hath vowed, and of his offering unto the LORD for his separation, beside that that his hand shall get: according to the vow which he vowed, so he must do after the law of his separation.

The Nazarite must fulfill the vow they have made to the Lord according to the law of their separation.

1. The importance of keeping our vows to the Lord.

2. God's faithfulness to us even when we fail to keep our promises to Him.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it.

2. James 5:12 But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple Yes or No. Otherwise you will be condemned.

Numbers 6:22 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord commanded Moses to bless the people of Israel.

1. The Power of God's Blessing

2. Receiving God's Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14; God's blessings for obedience

2. Ephesians 1:3; God's spiritual blessings in Christ

Numbers 6:23 Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel, saying unto them,

God commanded Aaron and his sons to bless the children of Israel in Numbers 6:23.

1. The Power of God's Blessing - Proclaiming the Lord's favor on His people

2. The Responsibility of Priesthood - A call to bless others in the name of the Lord

1. Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

2. Psalm 103:1-5 - Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Numbers 6:24 The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:

The LORD blesses and keeps those who follow Him.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Obeying the Lord Brings Protection and Provision

2. Unwavering Faith: The Rewards of Trusting in God

1. Psalm 91:14-16 - Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

2. 1 Peter 3:13-14 - Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

Numbers 6:25 The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

The Lord blesses those who revere him with His grace and kindness.

1. God's Grace and Kindness - A Reflection on Numbers 6:25

2. Revering the Lord - Appreciating What He Offers Us

1. Psalm 67:1 2 God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

2. Ephesians 2:8 9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Numbers 6:26 The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

This passage speaks of the blessing of the Lord upon one's life - that he will lift up his countenance and give peace.

1. The Blessing of the Lord: How to Receive His Countenance and Peace

2. Living a Life of Blessing: How to Give and Receive God's Peace

1. John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Numbers 6:27 And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.

God will bless the children of Israel and put His name upon them.

1. The Blessing of the Lord: How God's Name Brings Blessing

2. The Power of God's Name: The Blessings of His Covenant

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. Isaiah 43:1-7

Numbers 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 7:1-9 describes the offerings brought by the leaders of each tribe for the dedication of the altar. The chapter emphasizes that each leader presents an identical offering consisting of six wagons and twelve oxen. These offerings are given to assist in the transportation and service of the tabernacle. The leaders present their offerings on separate days, with each day being dedicated to a specific tribe.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 7:10-89, a detailed account of the offerings brought by each tribal leader is presented. The chapter lists the specific items offered, including silver basins, silver sprinkling bowls, golden dishes filled with incense, and animals for sacrifice. Each leader's offering is described in great detail, emphasizing their generosity and dedication to supporting worship at the tabernacle.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 7 concludes by highlighting that Moses enters into the tabernacle to hear God's voice from above the mercy seat on top of the Ark of the Covenant. This communication between God and Moses signifies divine approval and acceptance of both Moses' leadership and the offerings brought by each tribal leader. The chapter emphasizes that these offerings were given willingly and with a sincere heart, demonstrating their commitment to worshiping God.

In summary:

Numbers 7 presents:

Offerings brought by leaders for dedication of altar;

Identical offering from each leader six wagons; twelve oxen;

Assistance in transportation, service for tabernacle.

Detailed account of offerings brought by tribal leaders;

Silver basins; sprinkling bowls; golden dishes filled with incense;

Animals for sacrifice; emphasis on generosity, dedication.

Moses entering into tabernacle to hear God's voice;

Divine approval, acceptance signified through communication;

Offerings given willingly, sincerely as commitment to worship.

This chapter focuses on the offerings brought by the leaders of each tribe for the dedication of the altar. Numbers 7 begins by describing how each leader presents an identical offering consisting of six wagons and twelve oxen. These offerings are given to assist in the transportation and service of the tabernacle. The leaders present their offerings on separate days, with each day dedicated to a specific tribe.

Furthermore, Numbers 7 provides a detailed account of the offerings brought by each tribal leader. The chapter lists specific items offered, including silver basins, silver sprinkling bowls, golden dishes filled with incense, and animals for sacrifice. Each leader's offering is described in great detail, highlighting their generosity and dedication to supporting worship at the tabernacle.

The chapter concludes by highlighting that Moses enters into the tabernacle to hear God's voice from above the mercy seat on top of the Ark of the Covenant. This communication between God and Moses signifies divine approval and acceptance both of Moses' leadership and of the offerings brought by each tribal leader. It emphasizes that these offerings were given willingly and with a sincere heart, demonstrating their commitment to worshiping God.

Numbers 7:1 And it came to pass on the day that Moses had fully set up the tabernacle, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof, both the altar and all the vessels thereof, and had anointed them, and sanctified them;

On the day that Moses had finished setting up the tabernacle and had anointed and sanctified it and all the instruments, he anointed and sanctified the altar and all the vessels.

1. "God's Faithfulness in the Building of His Tabernacle"

2. "The Significance of Holiness in God's House"

1. Exodus 40:9-11 - And thou shalt anoint the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and sanctify the altar: and it shall be an holy altar. Also thou shalt anoint the laver and his foot, and sanctify it. And thou shalt bring Aaron and his sons unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and wash them with water.

2. Leviticus 8:10-11 - And Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein, and sanctified them. And he sprinked thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels, both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them.

Numbers 7:2 That the princes of Israel, heads of the house of their fathers, who were the princes of the tribes, and were over them that were numbered, offered:

The princes of the twelve tribes of Israel offered sacrifices to God.

1. God's Provision: The Offerings of the Twelve Tribes

2. Offering Thanks: The Sacrifices of the Israelites

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

2. Leviticus 1:2-3 - Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock. If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD.

Numbers 7:3 And they brought their offering before the LORD, six covered wagons, and twelve oxen; a wagon for two of the princes, and for each one an ox: and they brought them before the tabernacle.

Two princes brought their offering to the Lord, which consisted of six covered wagons and twelve oxen, with one wagon and one ox for each prince.

1. Generosity in Giving: The Example of the Princes in Numbers 7

2. The Value of Sacrifice: Giving What We Hold Most Dear

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Numbers 7:4 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Israelites offered sacrifices and gifts to the Lord.

1. Giving back to God: The importance of offering gifts and sacrifices to the Lord.

2. Trusting in God: The Israelites' expression of faith in God.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Numbers 7:5 Take it of them, that they may be to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; and thou shalt give them unto the Levites, to every man according to his service.

God commanded Moses to take offerings from the people of Israel and give them to the Levites, in order for them to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Importance of Serving God and His People

2. The Power of Giving and Receiving

1. Numbers 7:5 - Take it of them, that they may be to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; and thou shalt give them unto the Levites, to every man according to his service.

2. Matthew 25:40 - And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Numbers 7:6 And Moses took the wagons and the oxen, and gave them unto the Levites.

The Israelite people gave wagons and oxen to the Levites as an offering.

1. The importance of offering back to God what we have been blessed with.

2. How our generous offerings to God provide blessings to others.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:12-15 - For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, as it is written: The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little.

Numbers 7:7 Two wagons and four oxen he gave unto the sons of Gershon, according to their service:

This passage shows how God provided for the sons of Gershon by giving them two wagons and four oxen for their service.

1. God Provides - How God provides for our needs and shows us His faithfulness.

2. Serving God - Taking the example of the sons of Gershon to serve God with faithfulness and dedication.

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - Do not worry, for your heavenly Father knows what you need.

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Numbers 7:8 And four wagons and eight oxen he gave unto the sons of Merari, according unto their service, under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

Ithamar, the son of Aaron the Priest, distributed four wagons and eight oxen to the sons of Merari in accordance to their service.

1. Trusting God's provision in the midst of our service.

2. Following instructions from the Lord through Priestly leaders.

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - Therefore do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Numbers 7:9 But unto the sons of Kohath he gave none: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them was that they should bear upon their shoulders.

God gave the tribe of Kohath no portion in the offerings due to their responsibility of carrying the holy items of the sanctuary on their shoulders.

1. The importance of service to God and His people.

2. The importance of bearing one another's burdens.

1. Galatians 6:2 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

2. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Numbers 7:10 And the princes offered for dedicating of the altar in the day that it was anointed, even the princes offered their offering before the altar.

On the day the altar was anointed, the princes offered their offerings before it.

1. The importance of dedicating our prayers and offerings to God

2. The power of dedication and sacrifice to bring us closer to God

1. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2. Luke 9:23 - And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Numbers 7:11 And the LORD said unto Moses, They shall offer their offering, each prince on his day, for the dedicating of the altar.

Each of the princes of the twelve tribes of Israel were to make an offering for the dedication of the altar.

1. Dedicating Ourselves to the Lord

2. The Power of Giving to God

1. Deuteronomy 10:8 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.

2. Mark 12:41-44 - Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything all she had to live on.

Numbers 7:12 And he that offered his offering the first day was Nahshon the son of Amminadab, of the tribe of Judah:

On the first day of the dedication of the tabernacle, Nahshon the son of Amminadab, from the tribe of Judah, offered his offering.

1. Be Bold for God: Nahshon's example of faith and courage in Numbers 7.

2. God's Provision for His People: The significance of the Tabernacle in Numbers 7.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Psalm 84:11 - "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly."

Numbers 7:13 And his offering was one silver charger, the weight thereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them were full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

On the twelfth day of the dedication of the Tabernacle, Nahshon the son of Amminadab offered a silver charger and a bowl, both filled with fine flour and oil, as a meat offering.

1. The Dedication of the Tabernacle: A Call to Follow God's Will

2. Offering Sacrifice to the Lord: A Sign of Faith and Obedience

1. Leviticus 2:1-2 - And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon:

2. Exodus 25:1-2 - And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

Numbers 7:14 One spoon of ten shekels of gold, full of incense:

On the seventh day of the dedication of the altar, a spoon of ten shekels of gold, full of incense, was offered.

1. The Significance of Gifts - How the offering of a spoon of ten shekels of gold, full of incense, has spiritual meaning to us today.

2. The Value of Dedication - How dedicating ourselves to God can bring us closer to Him.

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - Isaiah's vision of God and the angels and the seraphim's call to worship.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Paul's instructions to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

Numbers 7:15 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage is about the offering of a young bullock, a ram, and a lamb of the first year as a burnt offering.

1. The Significance of Sacrificial Offerings

2. A Reflection on the Graciousness of God

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

2. Leviticus 17:11 - "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."

Numbers 7:16 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

this was the offering of Eliab the son of Helon.

This passage describes Eliab's offering of one kid of the goats for a sin offering.

1. The Power of Atonement: An Examination of Eliab's Sin Offering

2. The Strength of Surrender: An Analysis of Eliab's Sacrificial Gift

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Leviticus 4:3 - If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the Lord for a sin offering.

Numbers 7:17 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

Nahshon the son of Amminadab offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The importance of peace offerings and how they represent our faith in God.

2. The significance of the number five in the Bible and its spiritual meaning.

1. Philippians 4:6-7: Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Romans 5:1: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Numbers 7:18 On the second day Nethaneel the son of Zuar, prince of Issachar, did offer:

Nethaneel, a prince of Issachar, offered a sacrifice to the Lord on the second day.

1. The Importance of Faithful Service to God

2. Sacrificing Ourselves Wholeheartedly to the Lord

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Numbers 7:19 He offered for his offering one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

On the second day of the dedication of the tabernacle, Nahshon son of Amminadab offered a silver charger and bowl full of flour and oil for a meat offering.

1. Offerings of Dedication: How We Honor God through our Gifts

2. A Life of Worship: Giving Our Best to God

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

2. Leviticus 7:12 - If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried.

Numbers 7:20 One spoon of gold of ten shekels, full of incense:

The Israelites offered a golden spoon that was filled with incense as an offering to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Giving: What can we learn from the Israelites' offering of a golden spoon full of incense?

2. The Value of Sacrifice: How does the offering of a golden spoon full of incense show us the power of sacrifice?

1. Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

2. Psalm 51:16-17 - You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

Numbers 7:21 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

The offering of a young bullock, ram, and lamb of the first year as a burnt offering.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people's needs

2. The sacrificial nature of worship

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - "But you shall seek the place which the Lord your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, and to his habitation shall you seek, and thither you shall come: And thither you shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks: And there you shall eat before the Lord your God, and you shall rejoice in all that you put your hand unto, you and your households, wherein the Lord your God has blessed you.

2. Leviticus 1:1-17 - "And the Lord called unto Moses, and spoke unto him out of the tabernacle of the congregation, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the Lord, you shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock. If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the Lord. And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him."

Numbers 7:22 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

it shall be a sin offering perpetually throughout your generations

This passage explains the instruction to offer a goat as a sin offering perpetually throughout generations.

1: We must continue to offer our sin offerings to God, as a way of repenting and seeking forgiveness.

2: God's grace is everlasting, and by offering our sin offerings, we demonstrate our faith in Him and His mercy.

1: Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

2: Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed.

Numbers 7:23 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

Nethaneel, the son of Zuar, offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a peace offering.

1. The Offerings and Sacrifices of Peace

2. The Power of Giving and Receiving Peace

1. Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 9:6-7 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Numbers 7:24 On the third day Eliab the son of Helon, prince of the children of Zebulun, did offer:

A Summarization: On the third day of offerings for the Tabernacle, Eliab the son of Helon, prince of the children of Zebulun, presented his offering.

1: God desires us to give of our best.

2: Generosity brings joy to God and others.

1: Ephesians 4:28 - Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

2: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Numbers 7:25 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

The offering of one of the tribal leaders was a silver charger and a silver bowl, both containing an amount of flour mixed with oil.

1. The importance of sacrificial offerings in the life of a believer.

2. The significance of honoring God with our offerings.

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Leviticus 2:1-2 - And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon. And he shall bring it to Aaron's sons the priests: and he shall take thereout his handful of the flour thereof, and of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof.

Numbers 7:26 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense, was given as an offering to the Lord.

1. The Value of Giving: The Importance of Offering to the Lord

2. The Power of Generosity: The Significance of Giving to God

1. Malachi 3:10 - "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Numbers 7:27 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage is describing the offering of a young bullock, ram and lamb as a burnt offering.

1. Sacrifice: A Gift of Worship

2. The Power of Gratitude in Offering

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Leviticus 1:1-3 - The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting. He said, Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When anyone among you brings an offering to the Lord, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock.

Numbers 7:28 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

it shall be offered beside the continual burnt offering, and his drink offering.

This passage talks about a sin offering being offered in addition to the continual burnt offering along with a drink offering.

1. The importance of offering a sin offering to God.

2. The significance of offering sacrifices for atonement.

1. Leviticus 16:15-16 Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat. Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins.

2. Hebrews 9:22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Numbers 7:29 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Eliab the son of Helon.

Eliab, the son of Helon, offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Sacrifice of Peace: Understanding the Significance of Eliab's Offering

2. Giving of Yourself: The Meaning Behind Eliab's Peace Offering

1. Leviticus 3:1-17 - The regulations of the peace offering

2. Matthew 6:21 - Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

Numbers 7:30 On the fourth day Elizur the son of Shedeur, prince of the children of Reuben, did offer:

This passage describes the offering of Elizur, the son of Shedeur, on the fourth day of the offering of the princes of Israel.

1. The Power of Generous Giving: Exploring Elizur's Offering in Numbers 7:30

2. How Obedience Brings Blessing: Examining Faithfulness in Numbers 7:30

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Numbers 7:31 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

The offering of Nachshon, the prince of the tribe of Judah, to the Lord included a silver charger and bowl filled with fine flour and oil for a meat offering.

1. The Power of Generosity: Offering to the Lord with a Generous Heart

2. The Power of Sacrifice: Giving to the Lord What Matters Most

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Numbers 7:32 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

The Lord instructed that a golden spoon full of incense be brought as part of the offerings to the Tabernacle.

1. The Importance of Offering to God.

2. Stewardship and Sacrifice in Worship.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Leviticus 7:11-12 - This is the law of the fellowship offering: the priest who offers it must eat it in the sanctuary area; it is most holy. And no sin offering, of which any of the blood is brought into the tent of meeting to make atonement in the holy place, shall be eaten; it must be burned up.

Numbers 7:33 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage describes the offering of one bullock, one ram, and one lamb of the first year for a burnt offering.

1: An offering of sacrifice is a sign of true devotion to God.

2: We should bring our offerings to God with a willing heart and a humble attitude.

1: Leviticus 1:3-4 "If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD."

2: Hebrews 13:15-16 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Numbers 7:34 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

A goat was offered as a sin offering according to Numbers 7:34.

1. Understanding the Atoning Power of Jesus Christ

2. The Significance of Sacrificial Offerings in the Old Testament

1. Isaiah 53:10 - "Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand."

2. Hebrews 10:5-10 - "Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book. When he said above, You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings (these are offered according to the law), then he added, Behold, I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second."

Numbers 7:35 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Elizur the son of Shedeur.

Elizur, the son of Shedeur offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Power of Peace: How to Pursue a Life of Peace and Harmony

2. The Cost of Sacrifice: Understanding the Cost of Service and Obedience

1. Matthew 5:9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

2. Leviticus 17:11: "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life."

Numbers 7:36 On the fifth day Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai, prince of the children of Simeon, did offer:

Shelumiel, the son of Zurishaddai and prince of the children of Simeon, offered a sacrifice on the fifth day.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Giving to God and Reaping the Benefits

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Simeon's Leadership and Commitment to God

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Mark 12:41-44 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything all she had to live on.

Numbers 7:37 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

The offering of prince Nahshon was two silver vessels, one a charger weighing 130 shekels and the other a bowl weighing 70 shekels, filled with fine flour mixed with oil for a meat offering.

1. The Prince's Offering: An Example of Generosity

2. The Significance of the Prince's Offering

1. 2 Corinthians 8:2-4 - For in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

2. Leviticus 2:1 - When anyone brings a grain offering as an offering to the Lord, his offering shall be of fine flour. He shall pour oil on it and put frankincense on it.

Numbers 7:38 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

The Israelites contributed offerings including one golden spoon of ten shekels filled with incense.

1. The Power of Generous Giving

2. The Gift of Worship

1. Matthew 10:8 - "Freely you have received; freely give."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Numbers 7:39 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage describes the offering of a young bullock, ram, and lamb of the first year for a burnt offering.

1. The Power of Offering: How Sacrifice Unlocks God's Favor

2. The Importance of Worship: A Study of the Burnt Offering

1. Hebrews 10:4-10 - For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

2. Leviticus 1:10-13 - And if his offering be of the flocks, namely, of the sheep, or of the goats, for a burnt sacrifice; he shall bring it a male without blemish.

Numbers 7:40 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

This passage describes a sacrifice of a goat as a sin offering.

1. God's Provision for Sin - How Jesus provides the ultimate sacrifice for sin.

2. The Importance of Sacrificial Worship - Reflecting on how we can honor God through sacrificial offerings.

1. Romans 3:25 - "God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood to be received by faith."

2. Hebrews 10:10-14 - "And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Numbers 7:41 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Giving Up What We Love for God s Glory

2. The Importance of Peace and How We Can Achieve It

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Isaiah 32:17 - "The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever."

Numbers 7:42 On the sixth day Eliasaph the son of Deuel, prince of the children of Gad, offered:

This passage describes the offering of Eliasaph, prince of the children of Gad, on the sixth day.

1. Learning to Serve: The Example of Eliasaph

2. The Power of Generosity: The Offering of Eliasaph

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. Matthew 6:1-4 - Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Numbers 7:43 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, a silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

The offering of Nahshon, son of Amminadab, was one silver charger weighing 130 shekels and a silver bowl weighing 70 shekels, both filled with fine flour mixed with oil.

1. The Power of Offering: Considering the offering of Nahshon, son of Amminadab, as an example of how to give to God.

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Exploring the symbolism of the silver charger and bowl and how they exemplify a sacrifice to God.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed: Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you."

Numbers 7:44 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

On the seventh day of the consecration of the tabernacle, one golden spoon of ten shekels was presented, full of incense.

1. Giving of our Best: The offering of the golden spoon of incense in Numbers 7:44 teaches us the importance of giving our best to the Lord.

2. Gifts of Gratitude: The golden spoon of incense offered in Numbers 7:44 reminds us of the importance of expressing our gratitude to God with gifts of appreciation.

1. Philippians 4:18 - "I have received full payment, and more; I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

Numbers 7:45 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage describes the offering of a young bullock, ram, and lamb for a burnt offering.

1. The Power of Giving: How Offering Our Best to God Helps Us Grow

2. The Significance of Sacrifice: What Our Offering of Animals Reveals About Our Relationship With God

1. "And if ye offer a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD, ye shall offer it at your own will. It shall be eaten the same day ye offer it, and on the morrow: and if ought remain until the third day, it shall be burnt in the fire" (Leviticus 19:5-6).

2. "And he said unto them, This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, saying, Gather of it every man according to his eating, and an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents" (Exodus 16:16).

Numbers 7:46 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

The people of Israel offered a kid of the goats as a sin offering.

1. The Power of Repentance

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 10:1-4

2. Matthew 3:13-17

Numbers 7:47 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

Eliasaph, the son of Deuel, offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Sacrificial Nature of True Peace

2. The Significance of Offering in Obtaining Forgiveness

1. Isaiah 52:7 - "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!"

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Numbers 7:48 On the seventh day Elishama the son of Ammihud, prince of the children of Ephraim, offered:

On the seventh day of offering sacrifices, Elishama the son of Ammihud offered sacrifices on behalf of the tribe of Ephraim.

1. Sacrificial Offerings: Showing Gratitude to God

2. The Power of Generosity: The Example of Elishama

1. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

2. James 2:15-16 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

Numbers 7:49 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

On the seventh day of the dedication of the altar, Nethaneel, the son of Zuar, offered one silver charger and one silver bowl, both filled with fine flour mixed with oil, as a meat offering.

1. The importance of offering and sacrifice in the life of a believer

2. Giving to God out of a heart of obedience and love

1. Leviticus 7:11-15 - "And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the LORD. If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried. Besides the cakes, he shall offer for his offering leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings. And of it he shall offer one out of the whole oblation for an heave offering unto the LORD, and it shall be the priest's that sprinkleth the blood of the peace offerings. And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Numbers 7:50 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

God's generous and sacrificial giving is a reminder that we should give generously to Him.

1: We should give back to God with joy and thankfulness.

2: Our offerings should be given with love and devotion.

1: Psalm 96:8 - Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

2: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Numbers 7:51 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage speaks of the offering of a young bullock, a ram and a lamb of the first year for a burnt offering.

1. The Significance of Offering a Burnt Offering

2. The Importance of Giving Our Best to God

1. Leviticus 1:3-4 - "If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD. And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Numbers 7:52 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

this was the offering of Shelomith the son of Zurishaddai.

This passage describes the offering given by Shelomith the son of Zurishaddai, which was one kid of the goats for a sin offering.

1. "The Power of a Sin Offering"

2. "The Importance of Giving to God"

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

2. Isaiah 53:10 - "Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand."

Numbers 7:53 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Elishama the son of Ammihud.

This passage describes the offering of Elishama the son of Ammihud, which included two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year.

1. Offerings of Peace: How Sacrifice Can Bring Us Closer to God

2. The Cost of Obedience: What it Means to Follow God s Commands

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

2. Leviticus 7:11-12 And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the Lord. If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried.

Numbers 7:54 On the eighth day offered Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, prince of the children of Manasseh:

On the eighth day, Gamaliel, the prince of the children of Manasseh, offered a sacrifice.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Our Offerings Can Impact Our Lives

2. God's Faithful Leaders: The Example of Gamaliel

1. Hebrews 13:15-16: "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6: "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you."

Numbers 7:55 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

On the second day of offerings, Nahshon, prince of the tribe of Judah, offered a silver charger weighing 130 shekels and a silver bowl weighing 70 shekels filled with fine flour and oil as a meat offering.

1. The Power of Generosity: Nahshon's offering of two silver vessels filled with fine flour and oil demonstrates the power of generosity in our lives.

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Nahshon's offering of two silver vessels full of fine flour and oil reflects the significance of sacrifice in our spiritual walk.

1. Numbers 7:55 - His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

2. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Numbers 7:56 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

The Israelites brought a golden spoon filled with incense as part of their offering to the Lord.

1. The Power of Giving: How our offering to the Lord can be a powerful expression of our faith.

2. The Value of Worship: Understanding the importance of dedicating our time and resources to worshipping God.

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Psalm 96:8 - Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

Numbers 7:57 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage describes the offerings given to the Lord by the leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel on the day of dedication of the altar.

1. God s faithfulness to His people, demonstrated through the offering of sacrifices.

2. The importance of dedicating ourselves to God through acts of surrender and worship.

1. Leviticus 1:10-13 - And if his offering be of the flocks, namely, of the sheep, or of the goats, for a burnt sacrifice; he shall bring it a male without blemish.

2. Philippians 4:18 - I have all and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

Numbers 7:58 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

it shall be offered before the Lord.

A goat was to be offered to the Lord as a sin offering.

1. The Meaning of Offering a Sin Offering - Numbers 7:58

2. The Importance of Sacrificing to the Lord - Numbers 7:58

1. Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

2. Leviticus 5:6 - And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the Lord for his sin which he hath sinned, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats, for a sin offering; and the priest shall make an atonement for him concerning his sin.

Numbers 7:59 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

Gamaliel, the son of Pedahzur, offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Peace of Sacrifice: Examining the Meaning of Gamaliel's Offering

2. The Power of Giving: Exploring the Significance of Offering Up Your Best

1. Exodus 24:5-8 - And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Numbers 7:60 On the ninth day Abidan the son of Gideoni, prince of the children of Benjamin, offered:

The ninth prince of the tribe of Benjamin offered his gifts to the Lord.

1: Generosity should flow from our hearts like a river when it comes to giving to the Lord.

2: Even in the midst of struggle, we should never forget to show gratitude to God for His faithfulness and provision.

1: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 7:61 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

On the day of dedication of the altar, Nahshon presented his offering to the Lord, which was a silver charger and a silver bowl both filled with fine flour and oil.

1. The offering of our hearts - How we can give to God sacrificially.

2. The dedication of the altar - Learning from the example of Nahshon.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Numbers 7:62 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

This passage states that one golden spoon filled with incense was provided to the Lord during the dedication of the Tabernacle.

1. The Power of Atonement: Understanding the Significance of the Golden Spoon of Incense

2. The Importance of Dedication: Learning from the Tabernacle and Its Offerings

1. Exodus 30:34-38; Leviticus 2:1-2 - Instructions regarding the offering of incense in the Tabernacle

2. Exodus 25-40; Numbers 8-9 - Detailed instructions for building and dedicating the Tabernacle.

Numbers 7:63 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage describes a sacrifice offered by the princes of Israel to God.

1: We can offer ourselves to God in sacrifice, through praise and service.

2: We can show reverence and honor to God through offering Him our best.

1: Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2: Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Numbers 7:64 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

Sin offerings were seen as integral part of the religious life in Ancient Israel.

1: We must make sin offerings to the Lord as part of our religious life.

2: Offerings to the Lord demonstrate our humility and faithfulness.

1: Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Hebrews 10:4-10 - For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book. When he said above, You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings (these are offered according to the law), then he added, Behold, I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second.

Numbers 7:65 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Abidan the son of Gideoni.

Abidan the son of Gideoni offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. How to Offer Peaceful Sacrifices

2. The Gifts of Abidan: A Model of Offering Peace

1. Numbers 7:65

2. Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 7:66 On the tenth day Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai, prince of the children of Dan, offered:

This passage describes Ahiezer, the son of Ammishaddai, prince of the children of Dan, offering a sacrifice on the tenth day.

1. "The Power of Sacrifice: How Giving Up What We Hold Dear Brings Us Closer to God"

2. "The Leadership of Ahiezer: A Model of Faithful Service"

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - "Be shepherds of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

Numbers 7:67 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

The offering of one of the tribal princes of Israel was a silver charger and a silver bowl, both filled with fine flour mixed with oil for a meat offering.

1. The Power of Giving Generously

2. A Heart of Sacrifice

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Leviticus 7:12 - If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried.

Numbers 7:68 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

On the seventh day of the dedication of the Tabernacle, one golden spoon of ten shekels filled with incense was offered.

1. The Value of Offering: How to Offer the Best of What We Have

2. The Importance of Dedication: Celebrating God's Presence in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

2. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? And who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

Numbers 7:69 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

God's people were to bring offerings to the tabernacle in order to honor Him.

1: We can honor God by offering our best to Him.

2: Our offerings to God should be a reflection of our devotion to Him.

1: Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Numbers 7:70 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

one of the chief of the fathers offered it.

A goat was offered as a sin offering by one of the leaders of the people.

1. The Power of Atonement: How Jesus Paid the Price for Our Sins

2. The Significance of Sacrifice: The Need for Restitution

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

2. Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.

Numbers 7:71 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Power of Sacrifice in Peace - Numbers 7:71

2. The Blessings of Giving Generously - Numbers 7:71

1. Philippians 4:6-7: Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. James 4:7: Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Numbers 7:72 On the eleventh day Pagiel the son of Ocran, prince of the children of Asher, offered:

Pagiel offers the Lord a generous offering of dedication.

1: We should always strive to give to the Lord our best.

2: We should be generous with our gifts to the Lord and to His people.

1: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2: Malachi 3:8-10 - Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse the whole nation of you because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

Numbers 7:73 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

Aaron made an offering to the Lord which included a silver charger weighing 130 shekels and a silver bowl of 70 shekels, both of which were filled with fine flour and oil.

1. The Power of Giving: The Importance of Making an Offering to God

2. The Beauty of Sacrifice: The Meaning of the Offerings Made by Aaron

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."

2. Mark 12:41-44 - "And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

Numbers 7:74 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

This passage describes the offering of a golden spoon filled with incense to the Lord.

1. The Power of Generosity: Giving to the Lord with a Full Heart

2. The Significance of Incense: A Fragrant Offering of Gratitude

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

2. Psalm 141:2 - May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.

Numbers 7:75 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

This passage talks about the sacrifice of a young bullock, one ram and one lamb for a burnt offering.

1. The power of sacrificial offering - how it can bring us closer to God

2. Surrendering to God through sacrifice

1. Hebrews 13:15 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

Numbers 7:76 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

The Israelites made a sin offering of one kid of the goats.

1. The Power of Atonement: What It Means to Make a Sin Offering

2. The Significance of Sacrifices in Ancient Israel

1. Hebrews 10:1-4 - For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

2. Leviticus 16:15-17 - Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat.

Numbers 7:77 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Pagiel the son of Ocran.

Pagiel, the son of Ocran, offered two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

1. The Power of Peaceful Sacrifice: Examining the Offering of Pagiel

2. Giving Peacefully: The Significance of Pagiel's Offering

1. Matthew 5:43-48 - "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

2. Romans 12:14-21 - "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

Numbers 7:78 On the twelfth day Ahira the son of Enan, prince of the children of Naphtali, offered:

This passage describes an offering presented to the Lord by Ahira, the son of Enan and prince of Naphtali.

1. Making a Sacrifice to the Lord - How our offerings to the Lord demonstrate our faith and devotion.

2. The Power of Dedication - How steadfast dedication to the Lord is rewarded.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Numbers 7:79 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

This passage describes the offering of one silver charger and one silver bowl of fine flour mingled with oil presented to the Lord by the son of Gershom.

1. Offerings of Sacrifice and Worship to the Lord

2. The True Cost of Giving to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty:

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Numbers 7:80 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

One golden spoon of ten shekels, filled with incense, was given to the Lord.

1. The Value of Offering to the Lord: A Look at Numbers 7:80

2. Recognizing the Worth of Sacrificing to God: A Study of Numbers 7:80

1. Exodus 30:34-38 God instructs Moses to make incense to Him.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 We are to offer spiritual sacrifices to God.

Numbers 7:81 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

The passage is about a burnt offering of one young bullock, one ram, and one lamb of the first year.

1. The Power of Offering: Understanding the Significance of Sacrificial Offerings in the Bible

2. The Blessing of Obedience: The Benefits of Following God s Commandments

1. Hebrews 9:22 "In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness."

2. Leviticus 1:3-4 "If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, you are to offer a male without defect. You are to present it at the entrance to the tent of meeting so that it will be acceptable to the Lord. You are to lay your hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on your behalf to make atonement for you."

Numbers 7:82 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

it shall be offered beside the continual burnt offering.

This passage from Numbers 7:82 speaks about providing a kid of the goat as a sin offering alongside the continual burnt offering.

1. Taking Responsibility for Our Sins - Acknowledge and Confess Our Sins and Repent for the Forgiveness of God

2. The Importance of the Continual Burnt Offering Recognize Our Dependency on God for Salvation

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

2. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Numbers 7:83 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Ahira the son of Enan.

Ahira the son of Enan made an offering of two oxen, five rams, five he goats, and five lambs of the first year in the form of peace offerings.

1. The Power of Giving Peacefully

2. Offering Peace in the Midst of Conflict

1. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Numbers 7:84 This was the dedication of the altar, in the day when it was anointed, by the princes of Israel: twelve chargers of silver, twelve silver bowls, twelve spoons of gold:

The princes of Israel dedicated the altar on the day it was anointed with twelve chargers of silver, twelve silver bowls, and twelve spoons of gold.

1. The importance of dedicating ourselves to the Lord.

2. The power of sacrificial giving.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Numbers 7:85 Each charger of silver weighing an hundred and thirty shekels, each bowl seventy: all the silver vessels weighed two thousand and four hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:

The total weight of all the silver vessels in the offering of the princes of Israel was 2400 shekels.

1. The Importance of Giving Generously

2. What is the Value of Offering Sacrifices?

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

2. Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

Numbers 7:86 The golden spoons were twelve, full of incense, weighing ten shekels apiece, after the shekel of the sanctuary: all the gold of the spoons was an hundred and twenty shekels.

This passage describes the twelve golden spoons used in the sanctuary of the Lord, which were each filled with incense and weighed ten shekels apiece, totaling one hundred and twenty shekels.

1. The Importance of Obedience to the Lord's Commands

2. The Significance of the Offerings in the Sanctuary

1. 1 Chronicles 29:1-9

2. Hebrews 9:1-10

Numbers 7:87 All the oxen for the burnt offering were twelve bullocks, the rams twelve, the lambs of the first year twelve, with their meat offering: and the kids of the goats for sin offering twelve.

Twelve bullocks, rams, lambs, and goats were sacrificed as burnt offerings and sin offerings according to the instructions given in Numbers 7:87.

1. The Importance of Sacrifice in Worship

2. Understanding the Significance of the Twelve Offerings in Numbers 7:87

1. Hebrews 10:1-4 - For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

2. Leviticus 4:27-31 - And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance, while he doeth somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and be guilty; or if his sin, which he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; then he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin which he hath sinned.

Numbers 7:88 And all the oxen for the sacrifice of the peace offerings were twenty and four bullocks, the rams sixty, the he goats sixty, the lambs of the first year sixty. This was the dedication of the altar, after that it was anointed.

The dedication of the altar involved 24 bullocks, 60 rams, 60 he goats, and 60 lambs of the first year.

1. The importance of dedicating ourselves to God's service.

2. The significance of sacrificial offerings in the Bible.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him, therefore, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips that confess his name. And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Numbers 7:89 And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him.

Moses heard a voice speaking to him from the mercy seat, located between the two cherubim, when he entered the Tabernacle of the Congregation.

1. The Power of the Mercy Seat

2. Listening to the Voice of God

1. Exodus 25:17-22 - God's instructions to Moses on how to make the mercy seat

2. Hebrews 4:14-16 - Jesus, the great high priest, who sits at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens

Numbers 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 8:1-4 describes the instructions given by God to Moses regarding the lighting of the seven lamps on the golden lampstand (menorah) in the tabernacle. The chapter emphasizes that Aaron is to arrange and light the lamps in such a way that their light shines forward, illuminating the area in front of the lampstand. This act serves as a symbol of God's presence and guidance among His people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 8:5-26, specific instructions are given for consecrating and setting apart the Levites for service in the tabernacle. The chapter outlines various rituals and procedures, including sprinkling water of purification on them, shaving their entire bodies, washing their clothes, and presenting them before Aaron and his sons as an offering from the Israelites.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 8 concludes by highlighting that after being consecrated, the Levites are to assist Aaron and his sons in their duties at the tabernacle. They are appointed to serve as helpers for tasks related to setting up, dismantling, carrying, and guarding sacred items during worship. The chapter emphasizes that this appointment is a substitution for all firstborn males among Israelites who were originally set apart but spared during Passover when God struck down all firstborns of Egypt.

In summary:

Numbers 8 presents:

Instructions for lighting seven lamps on golden lampstand;

Aaron arranging, lighting lamps; symbolizing God's presence, guidance.

Consecration, setting apart of Levites for service;

Rituals, procedures sprinkling water; shaving; washing clothes;

Presented before Aaron as an offering from Israelites.

Levites appointed to assist Aaron, sons at tabernacle;

Helpers for tasks related to setup, dismantling, carrying, guarding;

Substitution for firstborn males among Israelites spared during Passover.

This chapter focuses on the lighting of the lamps on the golden lampstand, consecration of the Levites, and their appointment to assist Aaron and his sons in their duties at the tabernacle. Numbers 8 begins by describing God's instructions to Moses regarding the arrangement and lighting of the seven lamps on the lampstand. The chapter emphasizes that Aaron is responsible for arranging and lighting these lamps in a way that their light shines forward, symbolizing God's presence and guidance among His people.

Furthermore, Numbers 8 provides specific instructions for consecrating and setting apart the Levites for service in the tabernacle. The chapter outlines various rituals and procedures, including sprinkling water of purification on them, shaving their entire bodies, washing their clothes, and presenting them before Aaron and his sons as an offering from the Israelites.

The chapter concludes by highlighting that after being consecrated, the Levites are appointed to assist Aaron and his sons in their duties at the tabernacle. They are assigned as helpers for tasks related to setting up, dismantling, carrying, and guarding sacred items during worship. This appointment serves as a substitution for all firstborn males among Israelites who were originally set apart but were spared during Passover when God struck down all firstborns of Egypt.

Numbers 8:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God commands Moses to perform a special ceremony for the Levites.

1: We can serve God in special ways when we are called.

2: When God calls us, it is our responsibility to respond.

1: Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here I am. Send me!

2: Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Numbers 8:2 Speak unto Aaron, and say unto him, When thou lightest the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light over against the candlestick.

God commanded Aaron to light the seven lamps of the candlestick to provide light.

1. The importance of following God's commands.

2. The power of light to overcome darkness.

1. John 8:12 - "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Numbers 8:3 And Aaron did so; he lighted the lamps thereof over against the candlestick, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Aaron lit the lamps according to the instructions of the Lord given to Moses.

1. Obeying the Lord's Commandments Brings Blessings

2. The Power of Following Instructions

1. Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

2. Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Numbers 8:4 And this work of the candlestick was of beaten gold, unto the shaft thereof, unto the flowers thereof, was beaten work: according unto the pattern which the LORD had shewed Moses, so he made the candlestick.

Moses followed the pattern God showed him to make a candlestick out of beaten gold.

1. The importance of following God's plan.

2. How our faith should be reflected in our actions.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments".

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Numbers 8:5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage from Numbers 8:5 reveals God's instruction to Moses to carry out his commands.

1. God's Commandments: Obeying God's Plan for Our Lives

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Lead

1. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Joshua 1:8-9 - This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 8:6 Take the Levites from among the children of Israel, and cleanse them.

The Lord instructs Moses to take the Levites from among the children of Israel and cleanse them.

1. "A Call Towards Holiness: The Levites' Example"

2. "The Power of Purity: Cleanse Yourselves"

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'"

2. Psalm 51:7 - "Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow."

Numbers 8:7 And thus shalt thou do unto them, to cleanse them: Sprinkle water of purifying upon them, and let them shave all their flesh, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean.

God instructed Moses to purify the Levites by sprinkling them with water and having them shave their body hair and wash their clothes.

1. The Power of Purification: How Cleansing Brings Closeness to God

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God s Instructions in Numbers 8

1. Hebrews 10:22 - Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

2. Ezekiel 36:25 - Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Numbers 8:8 Then let them take a young bullock with his meat offering, even fine flour mingled with oil, and another young bullock shalt thou take for a sin offering.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to offer two young bullocks, one for a meat offering and one for a sin offering, along with a fine flour and oil mixture.

1. Sacrifice and Obedience: Living a Life that Pleases the Lord

2. The Significance of Sin Offerings in Ancient Israel

1. Hebrews 10:1-10 - The Superiority of Jesus' Sacrifice

2. Leviticus 10:1-7 - The Significance of the Sin Offerings.

Numbers 8:9 And thou shalt bring the Levites before the tabernacle of the congregation: and thou shalt gather the whole assembly of the children of Israel together:

The Levites were to be presented before the tabernacle as a sign of respect and honor to the Lord.

1: We should always honor and respect the Lord in all our actions.

2: We must always be mindful of the Lord's presence and strive to live according to His will.

1: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

2: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Numbers 8:10 And thou shalt bring the Levites before the LORD: and the children of Israel shall put their hands upon the Levites:

The Levites are brought before the Lord and the Israelites lay their hands on them.

1. The importance of bringing God's people into His presence.

2. The significance of laying hands on God's people in blessing.

1. Isaiah 66:2 - "For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."

2. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Numbers 8:11 And Aaron shall offer the Levites before the LORD for an offering of the children of Israel, that they may execute the service of the LORD.

Aaron is commanded to offer the Levites to the Lord so that they may serve in the service of the Lord.

1. An Offering of Service: The Biblical Mandate for Serving God.

2. The Power of Worship: Offering Ourselves to God.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Numbers 8:12 And the Levites shall lay their hands upon the heads of the bullocks: and thou shalt offer the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering, unto the LORD, to make an atonement for the Levites.

The Levites were instructed to offer two bulls as a sin offering and burnt offering to make atonement for them.

1. The Holiness of God: How We Approach Him

2. The Atonement: Bringing Peace and Reconciliation

1. Leviticus 16:15-18, Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins. And so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which dwells with them in the midst of their uncleannesses. No one may be in the tent of meeting from the time he enters to make atonement in the Holy Place until he comes out and has made atonement for himself and for his house and for all the assembly of Israel.

2. Romans 5:11, More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Numbers 8:13 And thou shalt set the Levites before Aaron, and before his sons, and offer them for an offering unto the LORD.

The Lord commanded that the Levites be presented to Aaron and his sons as an offering.

1. The Ultimate Sacrifice: An Analysis of the Levites as a Holy Offering

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commands in Numbers 8

1. Hebrews 7:27 who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people's, for this he did once for all when he offered up himself.

2. Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Numbers 8:14 Thus shalt thou separate the Levites from among the children of Israel: and the Levites shall be mine.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to separate the Levites from among them, as they were to belong to Him.

1. God has a special calling for each of us - Numbers 8:14

2. God values every member of His family - Numbers 8:14

1. Ephesians 1:4-6 - Even before the foundations of the world, God chose us to be His children.

2. Romans 8:29 - Those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son.

Numbers 8:15 And after that shall the Levites go in to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation: and thou shalt cleanse them, and offer them for an offering.

The Levites were instructed to serve in the Tabernacle and were to be cleansed and offered as an offering.

1. The Sacrificial Service of the Levites

2. The Power of Offering and Cleansing

1. Hebrews 9:13-14 - For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. Leviticus 25:10 - And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

Numbers 8:16 For they are wholly given unto me from among the children of Israel; instead of such as open every womb, even instead of the firstborn of all the children of Israel, have I taken them unto me.

God has chosen the Levites to serve Him in the place of the firstborn children of Israel.

1. God's Choice: An Invitation to Serve

2. God's Mercy: A Substitution for the Firstborn

1. Exodus 13:1-2, "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine."

2. Hebrews 7:11-12, "If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?"

Numbers 8:17 For all the firstborn of the children of Israel are mine, both man and beast: on the day that I smote every firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for myself.

God claims all the firstborn of the children of Israel as His own, as a reminder of when He struck down the firstborn of Egypt.

1. God s Protection of His People: The Significance of the Firstborn

2. A Reminder of God s Sovereignty: The Sanctification of the Firstborn

1. Exodus 13:2, Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.

2. Luke 2:23, (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord ).

Numbers 8:18 And I have taken the Levites for all the firstborn of the children of Israel.

God chose the Levites to take the place of the firstborn of the children of Israel.

1. God s Special Selection: The Levites Role in Serving the Lord

2. The Blessing of Being Chosen by God

1. John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit fruit that will last.

2. Isaiah 41:8-9 But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of Abraham my friend, I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said, You are my servant ; I have chosen you and have not rejected you.

Numbers 8:19 And I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and to his sons from among the children of Israel, to do the service of the children of Israel in the tabernacle of the congregation, and to make an atonement for the children of Israel: that there be no plague among the children of Israel, when the children of Israel come nigh unto the sanctuary.

The Lord has given the Levites to Aaron and his sons from among the Israelites to serve in the tabernacle and make atonement for the children of Israel, that the plague will not come upon them when they come near to the sanctuary.

1. The Power of Atonement: How Atonement Leads to Mercy and Protection

2. The Beauty of Service: How Serving Brings Closeness to the Lord

1. Leviticus 16:6-7 - And Aaron shall offer his bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself, and for his house. And he shall take the two goats, and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Numbers 8:20 And Moses, and Aaron, and all the congregation of the children of Israel, did to the Levites according unto all that the LORD commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so did the children of Israel unto them.

Moses, Aaron, and the Israelites obeyed the Lord's commands regarding the Levites.

1. Obeying the Lord's Commands Brings Blessing

2. Showing Respect and Honor to Others

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. 1 Peter 2:17 - Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Numbers 8:21 And the Levites were purified, and they washed their clothes; and Aaron offered them as an offering before the LORD; and Aaron made an atonement for them to cleanse them.

The Levites were cleansed and clothed, and Aaron made an atonement for them as an offering to the Lord.

1. The Power of Atonement: How Jesus' Obedience Brings Us Cleansing and Salvation

2. The Significance of the Levites: How God's People Are Called to Service

1. Hebrews 10:12-14 - But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

2. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Numbers 8:22 And after that went the Levites in to do their service in the tabernacle of the congregation before Aaron, and before his sons: as the LORD had commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so did they unto them.

The Levites were given instructions by Moses to serve in the tabernacle of the congregation before Aaron and his sons.

1: We must all be obedient to God's commandments, just as the Levites were.

2: We should all strive to serve God in whatever capacity He has called us to.

1: Jeremiah 7:23 - "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people: and walk you in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you."

2: Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Numbers 8:23 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage illustrates God's guidance to Moses in the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. God's Guidance in Times of Need

2. Obedience to God's Commands

1. Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 32:8, "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Numbers 8:24 This is it that belongeth unto the Levites: from twenty and five years old and upward they shall go in to wait upon the service of the tabernacle of the congregation:

In Numbers 8:24 the Lord commands that Levites aged 25 and up shall serve in the Tabernacle.

1. "The Call to Serve: A Reflection on Numbers 8:24"

2. "Having Faith in Your Service: A Look at Numbers 8:24"

1. Luke 5:1-11 - Jesus calls his first disciples

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

Numbers 8:25 And from the age of fifty years they shall cease waiting upon the service thereof, and shall serve no more:

At the age of 50, Levites must stop performing their duties as ministers of the tabernacle.

1. The importance of honoring God's commands

2. Releasing responsibility and allowing God to take control

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 ( And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. )

2. Numbers 3:7-8 ( And you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall attend to their priesthood. But if any outsider comes near, he shall be put to death. )

Numbers 8:26 But shall minister with their brethren in the tabernacle of the congregation, to keep the charge, and shall do no service. Thus shalt thou do unto the Levites touching their charge.

This passage emphasizes the importance of keeping the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation and outlines the responsibilities of the Levites.

1. The Power of God's Charge: Living with God's Purpose

2. The Responsibility of the Levites: Being Faithful to Our Calling

1. Exodus 35:19 - "All that are able to make a wise hearted among you shall come and make all that the Lord hath commanded;"

2. Hebrews 13:17 - "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Numbers 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 9:1-14 introduces the instructions regarding the observance of the Passover for the Israelites in the wilderness. The chapter emphasizes that God commands Moses to tell the people to keep the Passover on its appointed time, which falls on the fourteenth day of the first month. However, there are individuals who are ritually impure or have come into contact with a dead body and are unable to observe it at that time. God provides a provision for them to observe a "second Passover" one month later.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 9:15-23, specific instructions regarding the movement and resting of the cloud above the tabernacle are presented. The chapter describes how God's presence appears as a cloud during both day and night. When it lifts from above the tabernacle, signaling their departure, Israelites would break camp and follow it. When it settles again, they would set up camp and remain there until further movement.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 9 concludes by highlighting that whenever Israelites set out or camped at God's command through Moses, they obeyed without question or delay. The chapter emphasizes their obedience in following God's guidance through His visible presence manifested as a cloud above the tabernacle. This obedience demonstrates their trust and reliance on God's leading throughout their journey in the wilderness.

In summary:

Numbers 9 presents:

Instructions for observing Passover on appointed time;

Provision for individuals unable to observe due to ritual impurity;

Opportunity for "second Passover" one month later.

Movement, resting of cloud above tabernacle as guidance;

Following God's presence manifested as a cloud during day, night;

Breaking camp when cloud lifts; setting up when it settles.

Obedience of Israelites to God's commands through Moses;

Following His guidance without question or delay;

Demonstration of trust and reliance on God's leading.

This chapter focuses on the observance of the Passover, the movement and resting of the cloud above the tabernacle, and the obedience of the Israelites to God's commands. Numbers 9 begins by introducing instructions regarding the observance of the Passover for the Israelites in the wilderness. The chapter emphasizes that they are commanded to keep it on its appointed time, but provisions are made for those who are ritually impure or have come into contact with a dead body. They are given an opportunity to observe a "second Passover" one month later.

Furthermore, Numbers 9 provides specific instructions regarding how Israelites should move and rest based on God's visible presence manifested as a cloud above the tabernacle. The chapter describes how this cloud appears during both day and night. When it lifts from above the tabernacle, signaling their departure, they would break camp and follow it. When it settles again, they would set up camp and remain there until further movement.

The chapter concludes by highlighting that whenever Israelites set out or camped at God's command through Moses, they obeyed without question or delay. Their obedience in following God's guidance through His visible presence as a cloud above the tabernacle is emphasized. This obedience demonstrates their trust and reliance on God's leading throughout their journey in the wilderness.

Numbers 9:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

The Lord commands Moses to observe the Passover in the wilderness of Sinai.

1: Through the Lord's guidance, we can find joy and hope even in our most difficult times.

2: Even in our most trying times, we will find comfort and peace when we follow the Lord's instructions.

1: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 9:2 Let the children of Israel also keep the passover at his appointed season.

This passage emphasizes the importance of the children of Israel keeping the Passover at the appointed time.

1. "The Meaning of Passover: Celebrating the Promises of God"

2. "Living in Obedience to God's Appointed Times"

1. Exodus 12:1-14 - God's instructions to Israel regarding the Passover.

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - God's commands regarding the Passover and other appointed feasts.

Numbers 9:3 In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, ye shall keep it in his appointed season: according to all the rites of it, and according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it.

On the fourteenth day of the month, the Israelites were to observe the Passover in accordance with all its rites and ceremonies.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Keeping the Passover"

2. "The Blessings of Covenant Faithfulness"

1. Deuteronomy 16:1-8

2. Exodus 12:1-28

Numbers 9:4 And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, that they should keep the passover.

Moses commanded the Israelites to observe the Passover.

1. The power of obedience: Obeying God's commands brings blessing.

2. The importance of tradition: Understanding and preserving the traditions of our faith.

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart.

Numbers 9:5 And they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at even in the wilderness of Sinai: according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel.

The Israelites kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month in the wilderness of Sinai as commanded by the Lord through Moses.

1. The faithfulness of the Israelites in following the Lord's commands

2. The importance of obeying God's instructions

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 Therefore you shall be careful to do as the Lord your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 Then Samuel said: Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being king.

Numbers 9:6 And there were certain men, who were defiled by the dead body of a man, that they could not keep the passover on that day: and they came before Moses and before Aaron on that day:

Certain men were unable to keep the Passover because they were defiled by the dead body of someone. They approached Moses and Aaron for a solution.

1. We must remain clean and undefiled, despite our circumstances, in order to honor God.

2. The power of faith and prayer should never be underestimated in times of difficulty.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 - "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. James 5:16 - "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Numbers 9:7 And those men said unto him, We are defiled by the dead body of a man: wherefore are we kept back, that we may not offer an offering of the LORD in his appointed season among the children of Israel?

Two men ask why they are unable to offer a sacrifice to the Lord as it is His appointed season among the Israelites, as they have been defiled by contact with a dead body.

1. The Power of a Righteous Covenant: Understanding the Promises of God Through Numbers 9:7

2. Keeping God's Appointments: Faithful Obedience Despite Obstacles in Numbers 9:7

1. Leviticus 15:31 - "Thus shall ye separate the children of Israel from their uncleanness; that they die not in their uncleanness, when they defile my tabernacle that is among them."

2. Deuteronomy 26:13-14 - "Then thou shalt say before the LORD thy God, I have brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them."

Numbers 9:8 And Moses said unto them, Stand still, and I will hear what the LORD will command concerning you.

Moses instructed the people to remain still while he listened to the Lord's instructions.

1. Waiting on God's Timing: Trusting in the Lord's Guidance

2. Standing Firm in Adversity: Finding Strength and Comfort in the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Numbers 9:9 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Israelites must observe the Passover each year according to the Lord's instructions.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. Living Out Our Faith Through Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Numbers 9:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If any man of you or of your posterity shall be unclean by reason of a dead body, or be in a journey afar off, yet he shall keep the passover unto the LORD.

God commanded the Israelites to observe the Passover, even if they were unclean or travelling far away.

1. God's Commandments are Relevant in All Life Situations

2. Obedience Brings Blessings from God

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that you shall possess."

2. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

Numbers 9:11 The fourteenth day of the second month at even they shall keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

On the fourteenth day of the second month, the Israelites are to observe the Passover and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

1. The Meaning of the Passover: Exploring the Theology and Traditions of the Israelites

2. The Power of Faith: How the Passover Demonstrates the Strength of Believing in God

1. Exodus 12:1-14 - The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, "This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you.

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover to the Lord your God, for in the month of Abib the Lord your God brought you out of Egypt by night.

Numbers 9:12 They shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it.

The Israelites were instructed to follow the ordinances of the Passover and not leave any of the meat until the morning, or break any of the bones.

1. Following God s Instructions: The Story of the Passover

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Learning from the Israelites

1. Exodus 12:8-14

2. Deuteronomy 16:1-8

Numbers 9:13 But the man that is clean, and is not in a journey, and forbeareth to keep the passover, even the same soul shall be cut off from among his people: because he brought not the offering of the LORD in his appointed season, that man shall bear his sin.

Those who are ceremonially clean and are not travelling are required to offer the Lord's offering at the appointed time; anyone who fails to do so will bear their own sin.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Appointed Times

2. The Consequences of Neglecting God's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 16:16 - Honor the Lord your God by observing his appointed feasts the Lord's Passover, the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks, and the Festival of Shelters and by rejoicing before the Lord your God during these appointed times.

2. Hebrews 10:26-27 - If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

Numbers 9:14 And if a stranger shall sojourn among you, and will keep the passover unto the LORD; according to the ordinance of the passover, and according to the manner thereof, so shall he do: ye shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger, and for him that was born in the land.

This passage states that if a foreigner resides in the land and wishes to celebrate the Passover, they must abide by the same laws as those born in the land.

1. Welcome the Stranger: The importance of inclusivity in God's kingdom.

2. The Power of Obedience: Keeping God's commandments, no matter your background.

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

2. Exodus 12:49 - "There shall be one law for the native and for the stranger who sojourns among you."

Numbers 9:15 And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning.

On the day the tabernacle was set up, a cloud covered the tabernacle and at night there was an appearance of fire until morning.

1. The Significance of the Tabernacle: A Study of God's Presence in the Wilderness

2. The Miracle of Fire: The Lord's Protection and Provision in the Wilderness

1. Exodus 40:17-18 - And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up. And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars.

2. Psalm 78:14 - In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

Numbers 9:16 So it was alway: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.

The cloud of God's presence covered the tabernacle by day, and at night there was the appearance of fire.

1. The Glory of the Lord: God's Presence in the Tabernacle

2. The Fire of the Lord: God's Unfailing Provision

1. Exodus 40:34-38 - The cloud of the Lord's presence covered the tabernacle, and a fire went before them

2. Isaiah 4:5-6 - The Lord will create over the whole habitation of Mount Zion a cloud of smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night.

Numbers 9:17 And when the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, then after that the children of Israel journeyed: and in the place where the cloud abode, there the children of Israel pitched their tents.

The cloud of the LORD guided the Israelites throughout their journey, and they set up camp wherever it stopped.

1. Following God's guidance even when it may be difficult is always the right choice.

2. God's presence is always with us, and He will direct our steps if we trust in Him.

1. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."

Numbers 9:18 At the commandment of the LORD the children of Israel journeyed, and at the commandment of the LORD they pitched: as long as the cloud abode upon the tabernacle they rested in their tents.

The Children of Israel followed the Lord's commands and rested when the cloud abode upon the tabernacle.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Rest

2. Gratitude for God's Guidance

1. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

2. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Numbers 9:19 And when the cloud tarried long upon the tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD, and journeyed not.

The Israelites obeyed the LORD and did not journey while the cloud tarried long upon the tabernacle.

1. Being Faithful to God even when it's Difficult

2. Obeying God's Commandments out of Love

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Numbers 9:20 And so it was, when the cloud was a few days upon the tabernacle; according to the commandment of the LORD they abode in their tents, and according to the commandment of the LORD they journeyed.

The Israelites followed the Lord's command and stayed in their tents for a few days when the cloud was above the tabernacle and then continued in their journey according to the Lord's command.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands

2. The Strength of Faith: Trusting in God's Guidance

1. Deuteronomy 8:3: "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Numbers 9:21 And so it was, when the cloud abode from even unto the morning, and that the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they journeyed: whether it was by day or by night that the cloud was taken up, they journeyed.

The people of Israel journeyed when the cloud that led them was taken up, either by day or by night.

1. Trusting God in the darkness of life.

2. Following God's guidance no matter the time of day.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Numbers 9:22 Or whether it were two days, or a month, or a year, that the cloud tarried upon the tabernacle, remaining thereon, the children of Israel abode in their tents, and journeyed not: but when it was taken up, they journeyed.

The children of Israel abided in their tents when the cloud tarried upon the tabernacle, regardless of how long it stayed.

1. God calls us to a life of obedience, even when the journey is unclear.

2. Faithfulness and trust in God, even in the midst of uncertainty, brings blessing.

1. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

2. John 15:9-11 - As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Numbers 9:23 At the commandment of the LORD they rested in the tents, and at the commandment of the LORD they journeyed: they kept the charge of the LORD, at the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

The Israelites followed the Lord's commands to rest and journey at His commandment and kept the charge of the Lord through Moses.

1. God's commands are the path to obedience and blessing

2. Faithful obedience to the Lord brings favor and peace

1. Matthew 7:24, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:"

2. Deuteronomy 11:13-15, "And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full."

Numbers 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 10:1-10 describes the construction and purpose of the silver trumpets. The chapter emphasizes that God instructs Moses to make two silver trumpets which will be used for various purposes. These trumpets serve as a means of communication and signaling for the congregation, including calling them together, sounding an alarm for war, and marking the beginning of festivals and sacrifices. The chapter outlines specific instructions on when and how these trumpets are to be blown by both priests and leaders.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 10:11-28, the chapter details the departure of Israelites from Mount Sinai. It describes how they set out from Sinai according to God's command, with each tribe moving in their designated order under their respective banners. Moses invites his father-in-law Hobab to join them on their journey to the promised land but grants him the choice to stay if he prefers.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 10 concludes by highlighting Moses' interaction with his brother-in-law Hobab regarding his knowledge of the wilderness. Hobab is knowledgeable about suitable camping places and serves as a guide for Israelites during their journey through unfamiliar territory. The chapter emphasizes that Moses persuades Hobab to accompany them by promising him a share in any future blessings that God bestows upon His people.

In summary:

Numbers 10 presents:

Construction, purpose of silver trumpets;

Means of communication, signaling for congregation;

Calling together; alarm for war; marking festivals, sacrifices.

Departure of Israelites from Mount Sinai;

Moving according to God's command; tribes in designated order;

Invitation extended to Moses' father-in-law Hobab; choice given.

Moses' interaction with Hobab regarding knowledge of wilderness;

Hobab serving as guide during journey through unfamiliar territory;

Persuasion to accompany with promise of share in future blessings.

This chapter focuses on the construction and purpose of the silver trumpets, the departure of Israelites from Mount Sinai, and Moses' interaction with his brother-in-law Hobab. Numbers 10 begins by describing how God instructs Moses to make two silver trumpets. These trumpets serve as a means of communication and signaling for the congregation, including calling them together, sounding an alarm for war, and marking the beginning of festivals and sacrifices.

Furthermore, Numbers 10 details the departure of Israelites from Mount Sinai according to God's command. Each tribe moves in their designated order under their respective banners. Moses extends an invitation to his father-in-law Hobab to join them on their journey to the promised land but grants him the choice to stay if he prefers.

The chapter concludes by highlighting Moses' interaction with Hobab regarding his knowledge of the wilderness. Hobab possesses valuable knowledge about suitable camping places and serves as a guide for Israelites during their journey through unfamiliar territory. Moses persuades Hobab to accompany them by promising him a share in any future blessings that God bestows upon His people.

Numbers 10:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God gives Moses instructions on building and using the Tabernacle.

1: We should be obedient to God's instructions.

2: Through faith we can build a closer connection with God.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

2: Hebrews 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Numbers 10:2 Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps.

God instructs Moses to make two silver trumpets to be used for the calling of assemblies and the journeying of the camps.

1. God's Guidance in Times of Change

2. The Power of Unity through Sound

1. John 10:3-5 - To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

2. Psalm 150:3-6 - Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

Numbers 10:3 And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall assemble themselves to thee at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

All of the assembly of Israel was instructed to assemble at the door of the tabernacle when the priests blew the trumpets.

1. The Power of Obedience in the Old Testament

2. The Meaning of Assembly in the Bible

1. Exodus 19:17 - And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

2. Acts 2:1-4 - And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Numbers 10:4 And if they blow but with one trumpet, then the princes, which are heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves unto thee.

God commands us to come together in unity.

1. The Power of Unity - How coming together in unity can lead to greater strength and success.

2. The Call to Community - How God calls us to fellowship with one another in love and understanding.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Numbers 10:5 When ye blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the east parts shall go forward.

This passage from Numbers 10:5 states that when the alarm is sounded, the camps on the east side should proceed.

1. "The Power of Warning: Moving Forward with Faith"

2. "Responding to the Call: Taking Action When God Speaks"

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Numbers 10:6 When ye blow an alarm the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall take their journey: they shall blow an alarm for their journeys.

The Israelites were commanded to blow a trumpet as an alarm when they prepared to travel, and when they blew the alarm a second time, the camp on the south side would begin their journey.

1. The power of obedience to God's commands

2. The importance of being prepared for travel

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Numbers 10:7 But when the congregation is to be gathered together, ye shall blow, but ye shall not sound an alarm.

God commands the Israelites to sound trumpets when assembling the congregation, but not to sound an alarm.

1. The Importance of Assembling Together in Faith

2. God's Commandment: The Power of Obedience

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Numbers 10:8 And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the trumpets; and they shall be to you for an ordinance for ever throughout your generations.

The sons of Aaron are to blow trumpets for a perpetual ordinance throughout all generations.

1: We are to remember the Lord through the sounding of the trumpets, for it is an ordinance for all generations.

2: We are to forever remember the Lord through the blowing of the trumpets, as this is an everlasting ordinance.

1: Exodus 19:16 - On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

2: Joshua 6:4-5 - So seven priests carrying seven trumpets made of rams horns went in front of the Lord, walking and blowing the trumpets. And the armed men went in front of them, and the rear guard followed the ark of the Lord, while the trumpets kept sounding. This was an ordinance for Israel and is to be observed to this day.

Numbers 10:9 And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the LORD your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies.

The Israelites were instructed to blow trumpets in times of war against their oppressors, so that God would remember them and protect them.

1. God is always with us, even in times of trial and adversity

2. Trust in the Lord for strength and protection in times of war

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 10:10 Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the LORD your God.

This passage emphasizes the importance of blowing the trumpets in remembrance of God during joyful times, holidays, and the beginning of the month.

1. Finding Joy in the Lord: Celebrating with Blessings from Above

2. The Sound of Praise: Remembering God Through Our Celebrations

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

2. Isaiah 61:3 - to grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit.

Numbers 10:11 And it came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from off the tabernacle of the testimony.

On the twentieth day of the second month in the second year, the cloud was removed from the tabernacle of the testimony.

1. God is Faithful: Even When We Don't Understand Why, We Can Always Trust in God

2. Following God's Lead: How to Recognize and Obey God's Direction

1. Isaiah 30:21 - And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Numbers 10:12 And the children of Israel took their journeys out of the wilderness of Sinai; and the cloud rested in the wilderness of Paran.

The Israelites left the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness of Paran.

1. God's unchanging faithfulness will lead us to our future destinations no matter how difficult the journey.

2. We must put our trust in God to guide us through our wilderness experiences.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Deuteronomy 1:7 - Turn and take your journey, and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, in the hill country and in the lowland and in the Negeb and by the seacoast, the land of the Canaanites, and Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates.

Numbers 10:13 And they first took their journey according to the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

This passage describes the Israelites beginning their journey according to the commands of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

1. Obedience is Better than Sacrifice: A Study in Following God's Commands (1 Samuel 15:22)

2. Trusting God's Plan: The Israelites Begin Their Journey (Isaiah 30:21)

1. Psalm 119:60 - I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 10:14 In the first place went the standard of the camp of the children of Judah according to their armies: and over his host was Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

Nahshon is the leader of the camp of Judah, according to Numbers 10:14.

1. The importance of faithful leadership in God's service.

2. God's provision of spiritual leaders to guide His people.

1. Joshua 1:7-9, "Be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2. Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Numbers 10:15 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Issachar was Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

Nethaneel, the son of Zuar, was the leader of the tribe of Issachar.

1. Being a Leader: Learning from Nethaneel's Example.

2. The Value of Unity: How the Tribe of Issachar Prospered Under Nethaneel's Leadership.

1. Joshua 22:12-13 And when the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh, to go up to war against them. And the children of Israel sent unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest,

2. 1 Chronicles 12:32 And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment.

Numbers 10:16 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Zebulun was Eliab the son of Helon.

Eliab the son of Helon was appointed to lead the tribe of Zebulun in Numbers 10:16.

1. The Importance of Leadership: How a Single Person Can Make a Difference

2. Following God's Plan: Appreciating God's Design for Us

1. Proverbs 11:14, "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety"

2. Matthew 16:25, "For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

Numbers 10:17 And the tabernacle was taken down; and the sons of Gershon and the sons of Merari set forward, bearing the tabernacle.

The sons of Gershon and Merari took down the Tabernacle and carried it forward.

1. The Power of Unity and Working Together

2. The Importance of Serving God

1. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.

Numbers 10:18 And the standard of the camp of Reuben set forward according to their armies: and over his host was Elizur the son of Shedeur.

Elizur, the son of Shedeur, was the leader of the camp of Reuben.

1. Reuben's camp was led by Elizur, a man of faith and courage.

2. Leadership is not determined by our own strength, but by God's grace.

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 10:19 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Simeon was Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai was appointed as the leader of the tribe of Simeon in Numbers 10:19.

1. The Importance of Leadership in the Bible

2. How to Follow the Examples of Biblical Leaders

1. 1 Corinthians 11:1 - "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

2. 1 Peter 5:3 - "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve."

Numbers 10:20 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Gad was Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

The tribe of Gad was led by Eliasaph, son of Deuel.

1. The power of leadership: from Deuel to Eliasaph.

2. Uniting under a common cause: the tribe of Gad.

1. Romans 12:8 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

2. Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Numbers 10:21 And the Kohathites set forward, bearing the sanctuary: and the other did set up the tabernacle against they came.

The Kohathites carried the sanctuary while the other Israelites set up the tabernacle until they arrived.

1. The importance of cooperation and teamwork in the Church.

2. The beauty of carrying out God's will.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 - The body of Christ and the importance of each part working together.

2. Exodus 25:8-9 - Instructions for the Israelites to build the tabernacle.

Numbers 10:22 And the standard of the camp of the children of Ephraim set forward according to their armies: and over his host was Elishama the son of Ammihud.

The children of Ephraim set out for battle with Elishama the son of Ammihud leading them.

1. The importance of having strong leadership in times of difficulty.

2. The significance of having trust in the people that are leading us.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Proverbs 18:15 - The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

Numbers 10:23 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Manasseh was Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

Gamaliel, the son of Pedahzur, was the leader of the tribe of Manasseh.

1. The Blessing of Leadership - How God uses leaders to guide His people.

2. God's Faithfulness - How God can be trusted to provide direction and guidance.

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. Acts 5:34-39 - But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered.

Numbers 10:24 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Benjamin was Abidan the son of Gideoni.

Abidan, son of Gideoni, was the leader of the Benjaminite tribe in the army of Israel.

1. Leadership is an important role and should not be taken lightly.

2. God chooses leaders to serve and guide His people.

1. Numbers 10:24 - Abidan the son of Gideoni was appointed as the leader of the Benjaminite tribe.

2. 1 Chronicles 12:28 - The sons of Benjamin were appointed as the leader of the tribes of Israel.

Numbers 10:25 And the standard of the camp of the children of Dan set forward, which was the rereward of all the camps throughout their hosts: and over his host was Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

The camp of the children of Dan set forward, and Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai was the leader of their host.

1. The Power of Leadership: How Following a Good Leader Can Lead to Success

2. The Strength of Unity: The Power of Working Together as One

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

2. Acts 4:32 - And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

Numbers 10:26 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Asher was Pagiel the son of Ocran.

Pagiel the son of Ocran was appointed leader of the Asher tribe in the Israelite camp.

1. The importance of leadership in the church.

2. Following God's appointed leaders.

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

Numbers 10:27 And over the host of the tribe of the children of Naphtali was Ahira the son of Enan.

The chapter of Numbers 10 mentions that Ahira, son of Enan, was the leader of the Naphtali tribe.

1. Living a life without limits: Lessons from Ahira, the leader of the Naphtali tribe.

2. Courage in Leadership: The example of Ahira, the leader of the Naphtali tribe.

1. Deuteronomy 33:23 And of Naphtali he said, O Naphtali, satisfied with favor, and full with the blessing of the Lord, possess thou the west and the south.

2. Psalm 68:27 There is little Benjamin with their ruler, the princes of Judah and their council, the princes of Zebulun, and the princes of Naphtali.

Numbers 10:28 Thus were the journeyings of the children of Israel according to their armies, when they set forward.

This passage recounts the journey of the Israelites and their divisions according to their armies as they set out on their travels.

1. The importance of organization and discipline in our lives

2. The power of faith and obedience in times of adversity

1. Hebrews 11:8-9 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 10:29 And Moses said unto Hobab, the son of Raguel the Midianite, Moses' father in law, We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good: for the LORD hath spoken good concerning Israel.

Moses asked Hobab, his father-in-law, to join them on their journey to the promised land, assuring him that the Lord had blessed Israel.

1. Putting Faith in the Lord's Promises - Numbers 10:29

2. Relying on the Lord's Blessings - Numbers 10:29

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Numbers 10:30 And he said unto him, I will not go; but I will depart to mine own land, and to my kindred.

The Israelites wanted to return home to their families.

1. The importance of family and the value of cherishing relationships

2. Taking the time to invest in those we love

1. Genesis 2:18-24 - God's intentions for marriage and family

2. Psalm 68:5-6 - God as our Father and source of security and comfort

Numbers 10:31 And he said, Leave us not, I pray thee; forasmuch as thou knowest how we are to encamp in the wilderness, and thou mayest be to us instead of eyes.

Moses asks Hobab the son of Raguel to accompany the Israelites on their journey in the wilderness, as Hobab has knowledge of the terrain and can be of assistance.

1. The power of community: how coming together can help us face any challenge.

2. The importance of relying on those with wisdom and experience.

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

2. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

Numbers 10:32 And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what goodness the LORD shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee.

The Israelites promised to do good for Hobab if he joined them in their journey.

1. When we work together, we can accomplish greater good than we can alone.

2. Doing good for others is a way to honor God.

1. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

2. Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Numbers 10:33 And they departed from the mount of the LORD three days' journey: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD went before them in the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them.

The Israelites departed from the mount of the LORD and the ark of the covenant went with them for three days to find a new resting place.

1. The Power of the Ark: Learning to Follow God's Lead

2. Three Steps to Finding Rest: A Journey of Trust and Obedience

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - Instructions for making the Ark of the Covenant

2. Psalm 95:7-11 - A call to recognize the Lord's sovereignty and follow Him obediently.

Numbers 10:34 And the cloud of the LORD was upon them by day, when they went out of the camp.

The cloud of the Lord was present with the Israelites as they moved from the camp.

1. How the Lord is Always with Us

2. The Power of God's Presence

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 10:35 And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said, Rise up, LORD, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee.

Moses prayed that God would rise up and scatter their enemies who hated them as the ark began its journey.

1. The Power of Prayer - How we can rely on God to answer when we pray.

2. The Journey of Faith - How our faith can carry us forward in times of adversity.

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Numbers 10:36 And when it rested, he said, Return, O LORD, unto the many thousands of Israel.

The Israelites asked the Lord to return to them and bless them with his presence.

1. God's Unconditional Love for His People

2. The Power of Prayer and Praise

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Psalm 107:1-2 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble.

Numbers 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 11:1-15 describes the complaints and discontentment of the Israelites in the wilderness. The chapter emphasizes that the people begin to complain about their hardships and long for the food they had in Egypt. Their complaints reach Moses, who becomes overwhelmed by their constant grievances. He expresses his frustration to God, feeling burdened by the responsibility of leading such a large number of people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 11:16-35, God instructs Moses to gather seventy elders from among the Israelites to assist him in bearing the burden of leadership. These chosen individuals are filled with God's Spirit and share in Moses' authority. Additionally, God promises to provide an abundance of meat for the people, which initially surprises Moses due to logistical challenges.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 11 concludes by highlighting how God fulfills His promise by sending a great quantity of quail into the camp. The chapter describes how the quail cover a vast area around them, allowing each person to gather as much as they desire. However, while they are still consuming this meat, a severe plague breaks out among them as a consequence of their excessive craving and ingratitude towards God's provision.

In summary:

Numbers 11 presents:

Complaints, discontentment of Israelites in wilderness;

Longing for food from Egypt; overwhelming burden on Moses;

Expressing frustration; seeking relief from constant grievances.

Gathering seventy elders to assist Moses;

Filling them with God's Spirit; sharing authority;

God's promise of abundance of meat for people; logistical challenges.

Fulfillment of promise through sending great quantity of quail;

Quail covering vast area around camp; excessive consumption;

Severe plague breaking out due to ingratitude towards God's provision.

This chapter focuses on the complaints and discontentment of the Israelites in the wilderness, the appointment of seventy elders to assist Moses, and God's provision of meat followed by a severe consequence. Numbers 11 begins by describing how the people start to complain about their hardships and express a longing for the food they had in Egypt. Moses becomes overwhelmed by their constant grievances and expresses his frustration to God, feeling burdened by the responsibility of leading such a large number of people.

Furthermore, Numbers 11 details how God instructs Moses to gather seventy elders from among the Israelites to share in his leadership burden. These chosen individuals are filled with God's Spirit and given authority alongside Moses. Additionally, God promises to provide an abundance of meat for the people, which initially surprises Moses due to logistical challenges.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how God fulfills His promise by sending a great quantity of quail into the camp. The quail cover a vast area around them, allowing each person to gather as much as they desire. However, while they are still consuming this meat, a severe plague breaks out among them as a consequence of their excessive craving and ingratitude towards God's provision.

Numbers 11:1 And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.

The people of Israel complained to the Lord about their circumstances, and the Lord was displeased and kindled a fire that consumed those in the outermost parts of the camp.

1. God's Judgment: Learning from the Complaints of Israel

2. The Power of Complaining and How to Respond to It

1. James 4:13-15 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

2. Proverbs 16:27 - A worthless man devises mischief: and in his lips there is as a burning fire.

Numbers 11:2 And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched.

When the people of Israel cried out to Moses, he prayed to the Lord and the fire was extinguished.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Faithful Intercession Can Bring Peace

2. The Importance of Following Leaders: The Example of Moses in Numbers 11

1. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2. Hebrews 13:7 - Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Numbers 11:3 And he called the name of the place Taberah: because the fire of the LORD burnt among them.

The people of Israel were so angry with God's provision that He sent fire from Heaven as a judgement, and the place was named Taberah.

1. God Still Judges Sin - No matter how far removed we may think ourselves to be from God's judgement, He still sees and will act when necessary.

2. The Danger of Grumbling - Murmuring and complaining can lead to destructive consequences in our lives.

1. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Numbers 11:4 And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?

The people of Israel were grumbling and complaining about their lack of food, wishing someone could provide them with flesh to eat.

1. The Power of Complaining: Learning to Appreciate What We Have

2. God's Provision: Trusting in His Plan and Timing

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

2. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

Numbers 11:5 We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick:

The Israelites longed for the food they ate in Egypt, such as fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic.

1. Don't take God's provision for granted.

2. Remembering our blessings can be a source of strength in times of hardship.

1. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Numbers 11:6 But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.

The Israelites were complaining of being hungry and thirsty and had nothing to eat or drink except for the manna provided by God.

1. "Lessons from Complaining: Trusting in God"

2. "Cultivating Contentment: Appreciating What We Have"

1. Psalm 34:8 - "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Numbers 11:7 And the manna was as coriander seed, and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium.

In Numbers 11:7, it is described that the manna was shaped like coriander seed and had the color of bdellium.

1. God Provides What We Need - Exploring Numbers 11:7 and its implications on God's provision in our lives.

2. The Color of God's Love - Using Numbers 11:7 to explore the beauty of God's love and how it manifests in our lives.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaching us not to worry and to trust in God's provision.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Paul reminding us to have joy and peace in God's love.

Numbers 11:8 And the people went about, and gathered it, and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it: and the taste of it was as the taste of fresh oil.

The people gathered manna and ground it in mills, pounded it in a mortar, and baked it in pans to make cakes that tasted like fresh oil.

1. The Bread of Life: Trusting God in Times of Adversity

2. The Sweet Taste of God s Providence

1. Matthew 6:11 - Give us this day our daily bread

2. Genesis 18:14 - Is any thing too hard for the Lord?

Numbers 11:9 And when the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell upon it.

On the morning of the Israelites journey in the wilderness, God provided them with manna, which fell again each night with the dew.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How God Continues to Provide for Us in Times of Need.

2. The Journey of Faith: How We Can Rely on God to Walk with Us Through Life's Challenges.

1. Psalm 91:2 "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Matthew 6:25-26 "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Numbers 11:10 Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly; Moses also was displeased.

Moses heard the people of Israel weeping and was displeased, and the LORD was greatly angered.

1. The Danger of Complaining: Reflections on Numbers 11:10

2. The Power of Discontentment: How to Handle Unhappiness Biblically

1. James 5:9 - Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

2. Philippians 2:14-15 - Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.

Numbers 11:11 And Moses said unto the LORD, Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me?

Moses questions God's decision to make him responsible for all the people.

1: God gives us responsibilities, and we must trust in His wisdom and faithfulness to see us through them.

2: We can approach God with our questions and doubts, knowing He will listen to us and provide us with comfort.

1: Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2: 1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Numbers 11:12 Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child, unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers?

God questions Moses' request to carry all the people of Israel into the promised land, asking if He had created them for this purpose.

1. The Power of God's Promise - Exploring the faithfulness of God to fulfill His promises.

2. The Weight of Leadership - Examining the burden of Moses' calling to lead the people of Israel.

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart;

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Numbers 11:13 Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people? for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat.

The people of Israel are crying out to Moses, asking for flesh to eat.

1. Recognizing Our Dependence on God - Romans 5:3-5

2. The Provision of God - Philippians 4:19

1. Psalm 78:19 - "Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?"

2. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

Numbers 11:14 I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.

This passage talks about Moses' inability to carry the burden of the Israelites alone.

1. "The Strength of God's Help"

2. "The Value of Community"

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Galatians 6:2 - "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Numbers 11:15 And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness.

Moses is asking God to kill him if he has not found favor in God's sight, rather than let him witness his own misery.

1. Relying on God's Mercy and Grace in Times of Desperation

2. Learning to Trust God's Plan and Timing

1. Psalm 130:3-4 - If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Numbers 11:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee.

Moses was instructed to gather seventy elders of Israel to stand with him in the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The Importance of Community: How We Can Better Serve God Together

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions in All Areas of Life

1. Acts 6:2-4 - The early church appointed the first deacons to serve the community.

2. 1 Peter 5:1-3 - Peter calls on elders to lead with humility and serve as examples to the flock.

Numbers 11:17 And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.

God will come down and speak with Moses in order to give him help in bearing the burden of leading the people of Israel. He promises to give some of His spirit to the people to help Moses.

1. The Power of the Holy Spirit in Overcoming Challenges

2. The Strength of Community in Bearing Burdens

1. Isaiah 40:30-31 - Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Numbers 11:18 And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? for it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat.

The people of Israel were complaining about their circumstances and asking God for meat, so He promised to give them meat the next day.

1. God is faithful to provide for our needs.

2. Even when we struggle, we can trust God to answer our prayers.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 145:16 - You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Numbers 11:19 Ye shall not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days;

This passage highlights the importance of patience, and the need to be mindful of the blessings that come with waiting.

1. "The Blessing of Patience"

2. "The Power of Waiting"

1. James 5:7-8 - "Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!"

Numbers 11:20 But even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the LORD which is among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt?

This passage speaks of the people of God's discontent with the Lord despite His provision for them.

1. Learning Contentment in All Circumstances: Finding Joy in God s Provision

2. The Consequences of Discontentment: The Weeping of Unbelief

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Numbers 11:21 And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month.

Moses expresses his concern to God about providing enough food for the 600,000 footmen in his people.

1: God will provide for all our needs.

2: We can trust in God to lead us in times of need.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?

2: Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, or his children begging bread.

Numbers 11:22 Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

The Israelites are asking whether they will be provided with enough food for their survival.

1. God will always provide for us, even in the most challenging times.

2. Being satisfied with what we have is a sign of true faith in God.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Consider the birds of the air and the lilies of the field.

2. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Numbers 11:23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD's hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

God is capable of great things and His word will come to pass.

1. Relying on God's Power and Promises

2. Trusting in God's Word

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 37:7 - Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices.

Numbers 11:24 And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle.

Moses went out to the people and shared the Lord's words, then he gathered 70 elders and placed them around the tabernacle.

1. How God's Word is Our Guide: Learning from Moses

2. The Power of Community: Working Together for the Lord

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. Acts 2:42 - They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Numbers 11:25 And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.

The Lord came down and gave the spirit to the seventy elders so they could prophesy.

1: God is always in control and will provide us with the spirit to do His will.

2: God's presence is always with us and He will lead us to do His work.

1: John 14:26 - But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

2: Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Numbers 11:26 But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp.

Two men, Eldad and Medad, received the Spirit of God and prophesied in the camp without going to the tabernacle.

1. The Power of the Holy Spirit to Rest on All People

2. God s Unconditional Gift of Faith

1. Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Numbers 11:27 And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp.

The young man reported that Eldad and Medad were prophesying in the camp.

1. Don't be jealous of others' gifts and talents, use them to serve God.

2. God can use anyone to accomplish His purposes, regardless of age or experience.

1. Romans 12:6-8 - Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

Numbers 11:28 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.

Joshua, a young man who was a servant to Moses, asked Moses to forbid the people from complaining.

1. Persevere in Faithfulness - Hebrews 10:35-39

2. Remain Content - Philippians 4:10-13

1. Ecclesiastes 5:19 - Everyone should be content with what he has, since God will not be mocked.

2. Deuteronomy 3:22 - Do not be afraid of them; the Lord your God himself will fight for you.

Numbers 11:29 And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!

Moses wished all of the Lord's people would have the Lord's spirit upon them.

1. The importance of living with the Lord's spirit.

2. The power of having faith in the Lord.

1. Acts 2:17-18 - "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:"

2. Joel 2:28 - "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:"

Numbers 11:30 And Moses gat him into the camp, he and the elders of Israel.

Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp after seeking God's guidance.

1: God guides us through difficult times.

2: Asking for God's guidance can save us from hardship.

1: Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: James 1:5-6, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

Numbers 11:31 And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth.

The LORD sent a wind that brought quails to the camp of the Israelites, covering the ground up to two cubits high.

1. God provides for his people: a lesson from the Israelites in Numbers 11.

2. Gratitude in the face of God's abundance: the Israelites in Numbers 11.

1. Numbers 11:31

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Numbers 11:32 And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp.

The people of Israel stood up for two days gathering quails, and the least gathered ten homers.

1. The Power of Perseverance: The Israelites' story of persistence in the face of difficulty.

2. The Blessing of Obedience: God's blessing upon those who follow His commands.

1. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may confirm his covenant that He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Numbers 11:33 And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague.

The people of Israel were punished by the Lord with a great plague for eating the quail before it had been chewed.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: Learning from Israel's Mistake

2. The Consequences of Greed: A Warning from the Book of Numbers.

1. Hebrews 12:29 - "For our God is a consuming fire."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Numbers 11:34 And he called the name of that place Kibrothhattaavah: because there they buried the people that lusted.

The Israelites sinned by complaining and were punished by dying in Kibrothhattaavah.

1. God will not tolerate sinful behavior and will punish those who disobey His commands.

2. We must be obedient to the Lord and humble ourselves in His presence to show reverence and respect.

1. Proverbs 8:13 - The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Numbers 11:35 And the people journeyed from Kibrothhattaavah unto Hazeroth; and abode at Hazeroth.

The people traveled from Kibrothhattaavah to Hazeroth and stayed there.

1. The importance of following God's direction in our lives.

2. The value of persevering through difficulties.

1. Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

2. Hebrews 12:1-3 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Numbers 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 12:1-5 describes the rebellion of Miriam and Aaron against Moses. The chapter emphasizes that Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses because of his Cushite wife and claim that God speaks through them as well. God intervenes and calls the three siblings to the tent of meeting. He reaffirms Moses' unique position as His chosen prophet, emphasizing that He speaks to Moses face to face while using dreams and visions for others.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 12:6-10, God's anger is kindled against Miriam and Aaron for their rebellion. The chapter depicts how God defends Moses' authority by afflicting Miriam with leprosy. Aaron pleads with Moses to intercede on behalf of Miriam, acknowledging their wrongdoing. In response, Moses appeals to God for her healing, demonstrating his humility and compassion.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 12 concludes by highlighting how Miriam is isolated outside the camp for seven days due to her leprosy. The chapter underscores that after her period of isolation ends, she is healed and readmitted into the camp at the request of the people. This incident serves as a lesson on the importance of respecting God's chosen leaders and highlights both the consequences of rebellion against them and their capacity for forgiveness.

In summary:

Numbers 12 presents:

Rebellion of Miriam, Aaron against Moses;

Concern over his Cushite wife; claiming divine authority;

God reaffirming unique position, communication with Moses.

God's anger kindled; affliction of leprosy upon Miriam;

Aaron pleading for intercession; acknowledgment of wrongdoing;

Moses appealing for healing; demonstration of humility, compassion.

Miriam isolated outside camp due to leprosy;

Period lasting seven days; healing, restoration after isolation ends;

Lesson on respecting God's chosen leaders; consequences of rebellion; capacity for forgiveness.

This chapter focuses on the rebellion of Miriam and Aaron against Moses, God's response to their actions, and the subsequent healing and restoration of Miriam. Numbers 12 begins by describing how Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses due to his Cushite wife and claim that they too have a role in receiving divine communication. God intervenes by summoning the three siblings to the tent of meeting. He reaffirms Moses' unique position as His chosen prophet, emphasizing that He speaks to Moses face to face while using dreams and visions for others.

Furthermore, Numbers 12 depicts how God's anger is kindled against Miriam and Aaron for their rebellion. As a consequence, Miriam is afflicted with leprosy. Aaron pleads with Moses to intercede on behalf of Miriam, acknowledging their wrongdoing. In response, Moses humbly appeals to God for her healing, demonstrating his compassion despite their actions.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how Miriam is isolated outside the camp for seven days due to her leprosy. After this period ends, she is healed and readmitted into the camp at the request of the people. This incident serves as a lesson on the importance of respecting God's chosen leaders and highlights both the consequences of rebellion against them and their capacity for forgiveness.

Numbers 12:1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses for marrying an Ethiopian woman.

1. God loves and accepts all people, regardless of their background or race.

2. We should be more accepting of others and not speak against them for their choices.

1. Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Numbers 12:2 And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it.

The Israelites questioned if God had only spoken through Moses and God heard them.

1. The Power of Faith: A Reflection on Numbers 12:2

2. A Study on Knowing the Lord's Voice: Exploring Numbers 12:2

1. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Numbers 12:3 (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

Moses was renowned for his meekness and humility.

1. The Power of Humility - The Example of Moses

2. The Miracle of Meekness - A Lesson from Moses

1. Philippians 2:5-8 (Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.)

2. James 3:13-18 (Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.)

Numbers 12:4 And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out.

The Lord spoke to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, and commanded them to come to the tabernacle of the congregation. The three then went.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following the Lord's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Value of Fellowship: How Coming Together Strengthens Our Faith

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Numbers 12:5 And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

The Lord descended upon the tabernacle in a pillar of cloud and called for Aaron and Miriam to come forth.

1. God is Omnipresent - No matter where we are, God is still there with us.

2. God is in Control - We should put our faith in Him and trust His will.

1. Exodus 33:9-10 And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked with Moses. And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door.

2. Hebrews 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building.

Numbers 12:6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

God reveals himself to prophets in visions and dreams.

1. God's Guidance Through Visions and Dreams

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Prophets

1. Acts 2:17-18 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Numbers 12:7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

This passage emphasizes the faithfulness of Moses, who is a servant of God.

1: God is always faithful and so too should we strive to be faithful in all we do.

2: We should look to Moses for an example of how to live a life of faithfulness.

1: 1 Corinthians 4:2 - "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

2: Hebrews 3:5 - "And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after."

Numbers 12:8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

God speaks to Moses directly and clearly, emphasizing the importance of not speaking against him.

1: God speaks directly to us and we must obey Him.

2: Do not speak against the Lord's chosen servants.

1: James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

2: John 14:15-17 - If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Numbers 12:9 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed.

The LORD's anger was kindled against Miriam and Aaron, and He departed.

1. The Danger of Gossip: Learning from the Example of Miriam and Aaron

2. The Lord's Unfailing Justice: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. James 3:5-6 - "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell."

2. Numbers 14:20 - "The LORD answered: I have forgiven them, as you asked."

Numbers 12:10 And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

Miriam was afflicted with leprosy as a punishment for speaking against Moses.

1. The Price of Complaining: A Lesson from the Story of Miriam

2. The Power of Forgiveness: How Moses Showed Mercy and Compassion to Miriam

1. 1 Peter 5:5 - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

2. Ephesians 4:2 - "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love."

Numbers 12:11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.

Aaron entreats Moses not to hold them accountable for their foolishness and sin.

1. The Strength of Entreaty: How to ask for Forgiveness

2. The Power of Accountability: Recognizing and Acknowledging our Mistakes

1. Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

2. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

Numbers 12:12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

God's mercy and protection of Moses' sister, Miriam, is shown by not letting her die despite her grave sin of speaking against Moses.

1. God is merciful and forgiving, even in the face of extreme disobedience.

2. We are all capable of sin, but God's love and mercy is unfailing.

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

2. Galatians 6:1 - Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness.

Numbers 12:13 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

Moses requests God to heal Miriam in Numbers 12:13.

1. God's ability to heal us in times of need.

2. The power of prayer to ask for God's healing grace.

1. James 5:13-16 Pray for one another in faith and God will heal.

2. Isaiah 53:5 By His wounds we are healed.

Numbers 12:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

The LORD commanded Moses to have Miriam put out of the camp for seven days as punishment for speaking against him and Aaron.

1. The Consequences of our Actions: Learning from Miriam's Mistake

2. The Power of Forgiveness in Times of Temptation

1. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

Numbers 12:15 And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.

Miriam was punished for her disobedience by being excluded from the camp of Israel for seven days.

1. Obeying God pleases Him and leads to blessings.

2. Pride can lead to punishment and exclusion.

1. Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Numbers 12:16 And afterward the people removed from Hazeroth, and pitched in the wilderness of Paran.

This passage describes the Israelites journey from Hazeroth to the wilderness of Paran.

1. The Journey of Faith: Taking Steps of Obedience in Uncertainty

2. Following God s Lead: Learning to Listen and Obey

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Numbers 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 13:1-20 describes the sending of twelve spies into the land of Canaan. The chapter emphasizes that at God's command, Moses selects one representative from each tribe to explore the land and bring back a report. These spies are instructed to assess the fertility of the land, observe its inhabitants, and gather samples of its produce. They embark on their mission and spend forty days exploring the land.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 13:21-33, the chapter details the report brought back by the twelve spies. They confirm that Canaan is indeed a land flowing with milk and honey, abundant in resources. However, they also express fear and doubt due to the presence of strong fortified cities and formidable inhabitants described as giants (Nephilim). Only two spies Caleb from Judah and Joshua from Ephraim express faith in God's promise that they can conquer this land.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 13 concludes by highlighting how fear spreads among Israelites upon hearing the majority report filled with doubt and exaggeration about their ability to conquer Canaan. The people weep, complain against Moses and Aaron, expressing a desire to return to Egypt or choose a new leader who will lead them back there. This rebellion against God's promise angers Him greatly, resulting in consequences for their lack of faith.

In summary:

Numbers 13 presents:

Sending of twelve spies into Canaan;

Instructions to assess fertility, inhabitants, produce;

Forty-day exploration mission.

Report confirming abundance but expressing fear, doubt;

Presence of fortified cities, formidable inhabitants;

Faith expressed by Caleb, Joshua; belief in God's promise.

Fear spreading among Israelites; weeping, complaining, rebellion;

Desire to return to Egypt or choose new leader;

Consequences for lack of faith; angering God.

This chapter focuses on the sending of twelve spies into the land of Canaan, their report upon returning, and the subsequent fear and rebellion among the Israelites. Numbers 13 begins by describing how Moses selects one representative from each tribe to explore the land of Canaan as commanded by God. These spies are instructed to assess its fertility, observe its inhabitants, and gather samples of its produce. They embark on a forty-day exploration mission.

Furthermore, Numbers 13 details the report brought back by the twelve spies. They confirm that Canaan is indeed a land flowing with milk and honey, abundant in resources. However, they express fear and doubt due to the presence of strong fortified cities and formidable inhabitants described as giants (Nephilim). Only two spies Caleb from Judah and Joshua from Ephraim express faith in God's promise that they can conquer this land.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how fear spreads among the Israelites upon hearing the majority report filled with doubt and exaggeration about their ability to conquer Canaan. The people weep, complain against Moses and Aaron, expressing a desire to return to Egypt or choose a new leader who will lead them back there. This rebellion against God's promise angers Him greatly, resulting in consequences for their lack of faith.

Numbers 13:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God commands Moses to send men to explore the land of Canaan.

1. God entrusts us with important tasks even in difficult times.

2. Faithfulness in small tasks leads to greater opportunities.

1. Luke 16:10 - "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Numbers 13:2 Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.

God commands Moses to send out men to survey and explore the land of Canaan, which He gave to the Israelites.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises: trusting in God's promises despite what may seem to be impossible.

2. The importance of exploration and discovery: the courage to step out and explore the unknown.

1. Romans 4:17-21 As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations. He believed God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Numbers 13:3 And Moses by the commandment of the LORD sent them from the wilderness of Paran: all those men were heads of the children of Israel.

Moses sent a group of men from the wilderness of Paran to explore the land of Canaan.

1. God's plan requires us to step out in faith and explore the unknown.

2. Even in times of uncertainty, God provides us with the tools necessary to accomplish His will.

1. Deuteronomy 1:22-23 - "And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, We will send men before us, and they shall search us out the land, and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what cities we shall come. And the saying pleased me well: and I took twelve men of you, one of a tribe."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Numbers 13:4 And these were their names: of the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son of Zaccur.

The Israelites send twelve spies to explore the Promised Land. Among them was Shammua the son of Zaccur from the tribe of Reuben.

1. God calls us all to be daring and brave in our faith.

2. It is through obedience that we can enter the Promised Land of Heaven.

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Numbers 13:5 Of the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son of Hori.

This passage details the appointment of Shaphat the son of Hori as a representative from the tribe of Simeon.

1. God calls us to fulfill our purpose in life. (Proverbs 16:9)

2. God equips us with the gifts we need to complete our mission. (Ephesians 4:12)

1. Ephesians 4:12 - For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

Numbers 13:6 Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

Caleb, son of Jephunneh, was of the tribe of Judah.

1. The Faith of Caleb: Discovering the Strength of Our Convictions

2. A Call to Courage: Learning from the Example of Caleb

1. Joshua 14:6-14

2. Hebrews 11:8-12

Numbers 13:7 Of the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph.

The passage mentions Igal, the son of Joseph, from the tribe of Issachar.

1. The Power of God's Provision: How Joseph's Legacy Lives On

2. God's Faithfulness in Choosing His People: The Story of Igal

1. Genesis 49:22-26 - Joseph's blessing of his sons

2. Deuteronomy 33:18-19 - God's blessing of the tribe of Issachar

Numbers 13:8 Of the tribe of Ephraim, Oshea the son of Nun.

This passage from Numbers 13:8 mentions the name of Oshea, the son of Nun, from the tribe of Ephraim.

1. "Oshea: An Example of Faithfulness"

2. "God's Faithfulness Shown in the Tribe of Ephraim"

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Numbers 13:9 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu.

The Bible passage mentions Palti the son of Raphu from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. The Importance of Remembering Our Ancestors

2. The Role of Family in the Bible

1. Matthew 19:5 - But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female.

2. 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Numbers 13:10 Of the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi.

This passage mentions Gaddiel of the tribe of Zebulun as the son of Sodi.

1. The Power of Our Lineage: Discovering the Meaning of Our Ancestral Heritage

2. The Strength of Faith: Drawing Strength from the Stories of Our Ancestors

1. Deuteronomy 4:9 - Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children s children.

2. Psalm 103:17 - But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children.

Numbers 13:11 Of the tribe of Joseph, namely, of the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi.

This passage states that Gaddi was the son of Susi from the tribe of Manasseh, which was part of the tribe of Joseph.

1. The Value of Being Part of a Tribe: A lesson on the importance of belonging to a group.

2. The Legacy of Joseph: A on the legacy of Joseph's tribe and its impact on generations to come.

1. Acts 2:44-45 - All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up.

Numbers 13:12 Of the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli.

The passage mentions the tribe of Dan and the son of Gemalli, Ammiel.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Tribe: A Study of Numbers 13:12

2. The Strength of Family: How the Tribe of Dan Prospered

1. Genesis 49:16-18, Jacob s Blessing of Dan

2. Deuteronomy 33:22, God s Blessing of Dan

Numbers 13:13 Of the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael.

The passage mentions Sethur, the son of Michael, from the tribe of Asher.

1: God puts us in places of influence and leadership and guides us through our lives.

2: We can trust God to provide us with the ability to fulfill our divine calling.

1: Romans 11:29 For God s gifts and his call are irrevocable.

2: 1 Corinthians 4:2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

Numbers 13:14 Of the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi.

Nahbi the son of Vophsi was of the tribe of Naphtali.

1. We all have our place in the community.

2. God has given us all a unique purpose and destiny.

1. Galatians 6:5 - For each will have to bear his own load.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Numbers 13:15 Of the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi.

Geuel, from the tribe of Gad, is identified as the son of Machi.

1. God's Faithfulness in Uniting Families: Geuel's story of being part of the tribe of Gad and the son of Machi shows God's faithfulness in uniting families.

2. The Power of Belonging: Geuel's story of being part of the tribe of Gad and the son of Machi demonstrates the power of belonging to a community.

1. Deuteronomy 6:1-9 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Numbers 13:16 These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun Jehoshua.

Moses sent twelve men to spy out the land of Canaan, and one of them was called Oshea, who was later renamed Jehoshua.

1. God's Calling: Oshea to Jehoshua

2. Faithfulness in Spying Out the Land

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:11 - "Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come."

Numbers 13:17 And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain:

The Israelites were sent to spy out the land of Canaan.

1. The Lord s Call for Us to Explore - Exploring the Lord s call for us to explore the unknown and how it can transform our lives.

2. The Lord s Faithfulness in Our Trials - Examining how the Lord is faithful to us in times of difficulty and how his guidance helps us.

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2. Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Numbers 13:18 And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many;

The Israelites are instructed to observe the land and its inhabitants to determine if they are strong or weak.

1. God's call to courage: learning to trust in God's provisions.

2. Overcoming fear and doubt: embracing God's promises.

1. Deuteronomy 1:21-22 "Behold, the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Numbers 13:19 And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds;

The Israelites were sent to spy out the land of Canaan to determine if it was good or bad, and to report on the cities and whether they were in tents or strong holds.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His provision for the Israelites, even when they faced uncertainty.

2. The importance of trusting in God even when the future is unknown.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Numbers 13:20 And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.

The Israelites were instructed to explore the land of Canaan and determine what type of land it was, whether it had wood, and to bring back some of the fruit of the land. As it was the time for the first ripe grapes, they were encouraged to be of good courage and explore the land.

1. The Power of Courage: How to be Brave in the Face of Uncertainty

2. Exploring New Possibilities: Faith in the Unknown

1. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 27:14 Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Numbers 13:21 So they went up, and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, as men come to Hamath.

The Israelites explored the land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob.

1. Discovering New Territories: Exploring the Promise of God

2. Possessing the Promise: Claiming What Is Already Yours

1. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - "The Lord our God spoke to us in Horeb, saying, 'You have dwelt long enough at this mountain. Turn and take your journey, and go to the mountains of the Amorites, to all the neighboring places in the plain, in the mountains and in the lowland, in the South and on the seacoast, to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, as far as the great river, the River Euphrates.'

2. Joshua 1:3-4 - "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory."

Numbers 13:22 And they ascended by the south, and came unto Hebron; where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, the children of Anak, were. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)

The Israelites ascend the south and come to Hebron, where they encountered the children of Anak. Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.

1. Be Brave and Take Risks: Reflections on the Israelites Journey to Hebron

2. The Power of Prioritizing: A Lesson from the Timing of Hebron's Construction

1. Joshua 1:9: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Proverbs 16:3: Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

Numbers 13:23 And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.

Two Israelites cut down a branch with a cluster of grapes from the brook of Eshcol and carried it along with pomegranates and figs.

1. The Strength of Two: A Lesson from Numbers 13:23

2. The Power of Bearing the Burden Together: A Reflection on Numbers 13:23

1. Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

2. John 15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

Numbers 13:24 The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence.

The Israelites discovered a valley with a cluster of grapes and named it Eshcol.

1. God's provision is always abundant and can be found in unexpected places.

2. We should take courage and press on in the face of the unknown.

1. John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Numbers 13:25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

The Israelites explored the land of Canaan for 40 days and then returned.

1. God is faithful to fulfill His promises to His people.

2. We must trust in God's plan even when it seems daunting.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 37:5 - "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act."

Numbers 13:26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land.

The twelve spies sent by Moses to scout out the Promised Land returned with a report of the land's fruitfulness.

1. God's faithfulness in providing abundance; trusting that God will provide.

2. The importance of courage, obedience, and responding to God's call.

1. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - Moses reminding the Israelites of God's faithfulness in providing for them.

2. Joshua 1:6-9 - The Lord's encouragement to be strong and courageous.

Numbers 13:27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

The Israelites returned from exploring the land of Canaan and reported that it was flowing with milk and honey and had plenty of fruit.

1. God's Promise of Abundance: How God's Promise of Abundance Is Evident in Our Lives

2. Knowing God's Will: Learning to Discern What God Wants from Us

1. Psalm 81:16 - He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat; and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

2. Psalm 119:103 - How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Numbers 13:28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

The Israelites sent spies to the land of Canaan and reported back that while the land was good, the people living there were strong and the cities were walled and very great, including the children of Anak.

1. Our faith and trust in God can overcome any obstacles.

2. We can find strength in God to face any challenge.

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Numbers 13:29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

The Amalekites, Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites and Canaanites lived in different parts of the land of Israel.

1. God wants us to be accepting of different cultures and respect each other.

2. We must strive to live in harmony with those who are different from us.

1. Romans 12:18-19 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord."

2. Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God."

Numbers 13:30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

Caleb encouraged the Israelites to trust in God and courageously take possession of the Promised Land.

1. Trusting in God's Strength to Overcome Fear

2. Living Courageously in the Promised Land

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Numbers 13:31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

The men that went up to spy out the land of Canaan felt unable to face the people there because they were stronger.

1. We should look to God for strength when facing impossible odds.

2. We should not underestimate the power of faith and prayer.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Numbers 13:32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

The scouts who had been sent to spy out the land of Canaan reported back to the Israelites that the land was inhabited by giant-like men.

1. God is bigger than any obstacle

2. Do not be intimidated by fear

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Deuteronomy 1:21 - "See, the Lord your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Numbers 13:33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

We felt puny and insignificant compared to the giants of the land.

1: No matter how small you feel, you are never insignificant in God's eyes.

2: Don't be intimidated by the giants in your life, trust in God's strength to carry you through.

1: Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Numbers 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 14:1-10 describes the response of the Israelites to the negative report brought back by the majority of the spies. The chapter emphasizes that upon hearing their account filled with fear and doubt, the people weep, complain, and express a desire to return to Egypt. They even consider choosing a new leader to lead them back. Joshua and Caleb attempt to reassure them, urging them not to rebel against God's promise and emphasizing that He will give them victory over their enemies.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 14:11-25, God's anger is kindled against the Israelites for their lack of faith and rebellion. Moses intercedes on their behalf, pleading for God's forgiveness and reminding Him of His covenant promises. Despite Moses' intercession, God declares that none of the adults from that generation who doubted Him will enter into the promised land except for Caleb and Joshua.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 14 concludes by highlighting how God pronounces judgment on those who doubted Him. The chapter describes how they will wander in the wilderness for forty years one year for each day spent exploring Canaan until all of them perish except for Caleb and Joshua. Their children will be allowed to enter into Canaan instead. This serves as a consequence for their lack of faith, disobedience, and rebellion against God's promise.

In summary:

Numbers 14 presents:

Response of Israelites to negative spy report;

Weeping, complaining, desire to return to Egypt;

Consideration of choosing new leader; reassurance from Joshua, Caleb.

God's anger kindled; lack of faith, rebellion;

Moses' intercession; pleading for forgiveness, reminding covenant promises;

Judgment pronounced; wandering in wilderness until perishing except Caleb, Joshua.

Consequence for lack of faith, disobedience, rebellion;

Forty years of wandering in wilderness one year per day exploring Canaan;

Children allowed to enter into promised land instead.

This chapter focuses on the response of the Israelites to the negative report brought back by the majority of the spies, God's anger and judgment against them, and their subsequent consequences. Numbers 14 begins by describing how upon hearing the fear-filled report, the people weep, complain, and express a desire to return to Egypt. They even consider choosing a new leader to lead them back. Joshua and Caleb attempt to reassure them, urging them not to rebel against God's promise and emphasizing that He will give them victory over their enemies.

Furthermore, Numbers 14 details how God's anger is kindled against the Israelites for their lack of faith and rebellion. Moses intercedes on their behalf, pleading for God's forgiveness and reminding Him of His covenant promises. Despite Moses' intercession, God declares that none of the adults from that generation who doubted Him will enter into the promised land except for Caleb and Joshua.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how God pronounces judgment on those who doubted Him. The Israelites will wander in the wilderness for forty years one year for each day spent exploring Canaan until all of them perish except for Caleb and Joshua. Their children will be allowed to enter into Canaan instead. This serves as a consequence for their lack of faith, disobedience, and rebellion against God's promise.

Numbers 14:1 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

The congregation of Israelites expressed their disappointment at the report of the spies who explored the promised land by crying and weeping.

1. Don't Let Disappointment Keep You from Reaching Your Goals

2. Trust God Even When the Outcome Is Unfavorable

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Matthew 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Numbers 14:2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

The Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron for leading them out of Egypt, wishing they had died in either place.

1. Our Complaining and How It Hinders Us from Growing in Our Faith

2. The Provision of God and How We Should Appreciate It

1. James 5:9 - Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

2. Philippians 2:14 - Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.

Numbers 14:3 And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

The Israelites are questioning why they were brought to the land of Canaan to die, wondering if it would not be better to return to Egypt.

1. God is always with us, even in our darkest moments of despair.

2. We should never doubt the Lord s plans, for He knows what is best for us.

1. Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Isaiah 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD."

Numbers 14:4 And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

The people of Israel wanted to appoint a leader and return to Egypt.

1. Don't give in to fear and despair - God is with us

2. We can overcome the urge to return to our old ways

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Numbers 14:5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

Moses and Aaron humbly bowed before the assembly of the Israelites.

1. The importance of humility - Philippians 2:5-8

2. The power of leading by example - Matthew 5:16

1. Numbers 14:5-9

2. Deuteronomy 1:26-28

Numbers 14:6 And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

The people of Israel were discouraged and wanted to return to Egypt, but Joshua and Caleb encouraged them to keep going.

1. Don't let discouragement prevent you from bravely facing life's challenges.

2. Have faith and courage in the face of adversity.

1. Joshua 1:9, Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 14:7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

The people of Israel spoke to the entire company and declared that the land they explored was an excellent land.

1. The Blessing of a Good Land - Exploring the spiritual significance and joys of discovering a good place to call home.

2. Looking for a Good Land - Considering the importance of seeking out places of joy, rest, and blessing.

1. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

2. Joshua 24:13 - I gave you a land on which you had not labored and cities that you had not built, and you dwell in them. You eat the fruit of vineyards and olive orchards that you did not plant.

Numbers 14:8 If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

God is willing to provide for us if we turn to him in faith.

1. We are blessed when we trust in the Lord's plan for us.

2. Rejoice in the abundance of God's goodness and provisions.

1. Psalm 37:4-5 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

Numbers 14:9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

This passage reminds us that God is with us and we should not be afraid of those in the world who oppose us.

1. God's Presence: Living Courageously in a Fearful World

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 91:4-5 - "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day."

Numbers 14:10 But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

The people of Israel wanted to stone those who had spoken against Moses and the Lord, but the Lord's glory appeared in the tabernacle, preventing them from doing so.

1. Our Actions Speak Louder Than Words

2. God's Mercy is Infinite

1. Psalm 103:8-14

2. James 2:13-17

Numbers 14:11 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

The Lord is questioning how long His people will provoke Him despite the signs He has shown them.

1: Unbelief: Rejecting God's Truth Despite His Evidence

2: Trust in the Lord: Believing in the Lord's Love and Promises

1: Isaiah 7:9 - If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Numbers 14:12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

God promised Caleb a greater nation and mightier than the people of Israel who did not trust in God.

1: We must have faith that God is always with us and will provide us with greater blessings than we can imagine.

2: We must not doubt or question God's promises, as they are always fulfilled.

1: Romans 4:20-21 - "No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised."

2: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Numbers 14:13 And Moses said unto the LORD, Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)

Moses pleaded to the Lord not to carry out His plan of punishing the Israelites, for fear that the Egyptians would hear and mock them for their lack of faith in God.

1. God's Strength will not be Mocked - Numbers 14:13

2. The Power of Faith - Numbers 14:13

1. Psalm 37:39-40 - "The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them; he rescues them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Numbers 14:14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.

God is present and guiding His people.

1: We must trust in God's presence and guidance in our lives.

2: We must trust in God's protection and His plan for us.

1: Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

2: Isaiah 58:11 - And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Numbers 14:15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying,

The Lord was too strong for the Israelites, and he punished them by killing them all.

1. The Lord's Power and Righteousness: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Love and Justice: Learning from the Israelites' Mistakes

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Numbers 14:16 Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.

God's faithfulness remains even when people are unfaithful.

1. God's Unfailing Love Despite Our Unfaithfulness

2. An Unconditional Covenant: God's Faithfulness Despite Our Sin

1. Deuteronomy 7:8-9 - But because the Lord loves you, and because he keeps the oath which he sware unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2. Romans 3:20-22 - Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference.

Numbers 14:17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my LORD be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying,

The passage emphasizes the importance of relying on God's power.

1. Recognizing and Relying on God's Power

2. Appreciating and Utilizing the Strength of the Lord

1. Ephesians 3:20 - Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.

Numbers 14:18 The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.

God is patient and merciful, forgiving wrongdoings, but also punishing wrongdoers and their children for up to four generations.

1. God's Mercy and Patience: An Exploration of Numbers 14:18

2. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding Numbers 14:18

1. Psalm 103:8-12 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Exodus 20:5-6 - I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.

Numbers 14:19 Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

Moses entreats God to forgive the people of Israel for their iniquity, reminding Him of His mercy in forgiving them since their departure from Egypt.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Unpacking the Mercy of God

2. A Lesson in Repentance from Moses and the Israelites

1. Psalm 103:11-14 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

2. Isaiah 43:25 - I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Numbers 14:20 And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word:

God's mercy and forgiveness is always available.

1: God's Forgiveness in Action: A Study of Numbers 14:20

2: The Power of Faith: How God Honors Our Words in Numbers 14:20

1: Matthew 18:21-22 - Then Peter came up and said to him, Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times? Jesus said to him, I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Numbers 14:21 But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

God's glory will fill the entire earth.

1.God's glory is unstoppable

2.God's glory will be seen in everything

1. Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

2. Romans 8:19-22 "For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God."

Numbers 14:22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

The Israelites tested God's patience ten times by not listening to His commands, despite having seen His miracles in Egypt and the wilderness.

1. God's Patience is Limitless: Reflections on Numbers 14:22

2. Don't Take God's Mercy for Granted: Exploring the Meaning of Numbers 14:22

1. Romans 2:4 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

2. Ephesians 4:2 - with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

Numbers 14:23 Surely they shall not see the land which I sware unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

The Israelites will not see the Promised Land because of their disobedience.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Keeping God's Commands Leads to Fulfillment

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: How Sinning Against God Leads to Loss

1. Isaiah 1:19 - "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land"

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Numbers 14:24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

Caleb, having followed God faithfully, will be rewarded with land and blessings for his descendants.

1. The Blessing of Faithfulness

2. Rewards of Obedience

1. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

2. Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his deed.

Numbers 14:25 (Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwelt in the valley.) Tomorrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

The Israelites were instructed to turn and travel to the wilderness by the Red Sea, with the Amalekites and Canaanites inhabiting the valley.

1. God's Call to Leave Comfort and Follow His Path

2. Overcoming Fear and Anxiety Through Faith

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 For he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Exodus 13:17-22 - And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt: 18 But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.

Numbers 14:26 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

The passage speaks of the Lord instructing Moses and Aaron.

1. The Lord's Guidance: Obedience and Faith

2. Following the Lord's Direction: Faithful Submission

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, seek, and knock.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

Numbers 14:27 How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.

The Lord is frustrated with the murmuring of the Israelites and wants to know how long He will have to put up with their behavior.

1. "A People of Gratitude: How to Show Appreciation to the Lord"

2. "The Cost of Complaining: The Consequences of Murmuring Against the Lord"

1. Colossians 3:15-17 - "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

2. Psalm 106:24-25 - Then they despised the pleasant land, having no faith in his promise. They grumbled in their tents, and did not obey the voice of the LORD.

Numbers 14:28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:

God will keep His promises to His people.

1. God is Faithful and True

2. He Who Promises, Fulfills

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Numbers 14:29 Your carcases shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

God's punishment for those who grumble and disobey Him is swift and sure.

1: We must remember that God's standards are always higher than our own, and that His wrath is both swift and sure.

2: We must strive to remain obedient to God, understanding that He will punish those who fail to obey His will.

1: Proverbs 29:1 "He that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

2: Hebrews 3:7-11 - Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)"

Numbers 14:30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

The Israelites did not enter the land promised to them by God, except for Caleb and Joshua.

1. The Power of Faith: Lessons from Caleb and Joshua

2. The Perils of Unbelief: Why the Israelites Failed

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

2. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - "The Lord our God said to us at Horeb, 'You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Break camp and advance into the hill country of the Amorites; go to all the neighboring peoples in the Arabah, in the mountains, in the western foothills, in the Negev and along the coast, to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, as far as the great river, the Euphrates. See, I have given you this land.'"

Numbers 14:31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

God's faithfulness to His people even when they have failed Him.

1. The Power of Persistent Faith

2. The Grace of God in the Face of Doubt

1. Romans 5:1-5

2. Hebrews 11:1-3

Numbers 14:32 But as for you, your carcases, they shall fall in this wilderness.

The Israelites refused to enter the Promised Land, so God declared that they would never reach it and their bodies would fall in the wilderness.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness in Times of Unbelief

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

1. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

2. Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Numbers 14:33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcases be wasted in the wilderness.

God punishes the Israelites for their lack of faith in Him by having them wander in the wilderness and bear the consequences of their whoredoms for forty years.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning from the Israelites to Trust God in All Things

2. The Consequences of Unbelief: Understanding the Price of Disobedience

1. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Numbers 14:34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

After the Israelites searched the land of Canaan for 40 days, they were to bear their iniquities for 40 years as a punishment for their lack of faith in the Lord's promise to lead them to the Promised Land.

1. Learning to Trust in the Promises of God

2. God's Patience and Forgiveness Even in the Face of Unbelief

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Numbers 14:35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.

God's wrath against sin is certain and inevitable.

1: We must repent and accept God's mercy before it is too late.

2: God's judgment is sure and powerful - do not ignore it.

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

Numbers 14:36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land,

The men which Moses sent to search the land returned and caused the congregation to murmur against him due to a slander they brought up about the land.

1: Stay Faithful in Difficult Times - Even when we face challenges, we should remain faithful in our work and trust in God.

2: Put Your Trust in God - We should not rely on our own strength, but instead seek God and trust in His promises.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Numbers 14:37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD.

The Israelites who gave the false report of the Promised Land perished before the Lord.

1. The Danger of Giving False Reports

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Proverbs 18:21, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue,"

2. Psalm 5:9, There is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness.

Numbers 14:38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.

Two men, Joshua and Caleb, who took part in the expedition to explore the land of Canaan, were the only ones to survive.

1. God's Protection: How God Guides Us Through Life's Challenges

2. The Power of Faithfulness: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 14:39 And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly.

The people of Israel responded with great mourning after hearing Moses' words.

1. The Power of Words: How one man's words can affect an entire nation.

2. Mourning in the Midst of Joy: Finding hope in dark times.

1. Psalm 126:5-6 - "Those who sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep."

Numbers 14:40 And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, we be here, and will go up unto the place which the LORD hath promised: for we have sinned.

The Israelites rose early in the morning and traveled to the top of the mountain, expressing their intention to go to the place the Lord promised. They acknowledged their sins.

1. The Power of Early Rising: Learning from the Israelites

2. The Journey of Repentance: Understanding the Israelites Response to Sin

1. Proverbs 8:17 - I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

2. Psalm 32:5 - I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

Numbers 14:41 And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the LORD? but it shall not prosper.

Moses rebuked the people for their disobedience to God's command.

1: We cannot expect success if we disobey God.

2: God's commands must be obeyed to experience His blessing.

1: Proverbs 19:3 - "When a man's folly brings his way to ruin, his heart rages against the LORD."

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessing for obedience and curses for disobedience.

Numbers 14:42 Go not up, for the LORD is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies.

The LORD warns the Israelites not to go up against their enemies because He is not with them.

1. God is always with us, even when it doesn't seem like it.

2. When God is not with us, it is important to obey His warnings.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Numbers 14:43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.

The Israelites were warned by the Lord that they would fall by the sword if they chose to turn away from the Lord.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Learning the importance of faithfulness and obedience to the Lord.

2. The Warning of the Lord - Understanding the significance of God's warnings and how to heed them.

1. Deuteronomy 6:16 - "Do not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Numbers 14:44 But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp.

The people of Israel disobeyed God's command by trying to enter the Promised Land without trusting in Him, and as a result, the ark of the covenant stayed in the camp.

1. Learning to Trust in the Lord: The Story of Israel's Disobedience

2. Remembering the Covenant of God: The Ark of the Covenant

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 118:8 - It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

Numbers 14:45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.

The Israelites were discomfited by the Amalekites and Canaanites at Hormah.

1. God's Promises Come with Obedience - Joshua 14:9

2. God's Punishment Comes with Disobedience - Romans 6:23

1. Joshua 14:9 - And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Numbers 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 15:1-16 describes various laws and regulations concerning offerings and sacrifices. The chapter emphasizes that God instructs Moses to convey specific instructions to the Israelites regarding the types of offerings they are to bring when they enter the land of Canaan. These include burnt offerings, grain offerings, drink offerings, and offerings for unintentional sins. The chapter also addresses the inclusion of both native Israelites and foreigners in these regulations.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 15:17-29, the chapter details further instructions regarding the offering of firstfruits. God commands that when the Israelites settle in Canaan and reap their harvest, they are to offer a portion as a contribution to Him. The portion is described as a "cake" made from fine flour with oil and frankincense. These instructions emphasize obedience, consecration, and gratitude towards God for His provision.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 15 concludes by highlighting an incident involving a man who gathers sticks on the Sabbath day despite God's commandment to observe it as a day of rest. The people bring him before Moses and Aaron, seeking clarification on how to handle such cases. God responds by affirming that anyone who violates the Sabbath should be put to death by stoning as a severe consequence for their disobedience.

In summary:

Numbers 15 presents:

Laws, regulations concerning offerings, sacrifices;

Specific instructions for types of offerings;

Inclusion of native Israelites, foreigners in regulations.

Instructions regarding offering firstfruits;

Portion contributed from harvest; obedience, consecration, gratitude emphasized;

Description of "cake" made from fine flour, oil, frankincense.

Incident involving violation of Sabbath; gathering sticks on rest day;

Seeking clarification; severe consequence affirmed by God death by stoning.

This chapter focuses on laws and regulations concerning offerings and sacrifices, instructions regarding the offering of firstfruits, and an incident involving a violation of the Sabbath. Numbers 15 begins by describing how God instructs Moses to convey specific instructions to the Israelites regarding the types of offerings they are to bring when they enter the land of Canaan. These offerings include burnt offerings, grain offerings, drink offerings, and offerings for unintentional sins. The chapter also addresses the inclusion of both native Israelites and foreigners in these regulations.

Furthermore, Numbers 15 details further instructions regarding the offering of firstfruits. God commands that when the Israelites settle in Canaan and reap their harvest, they are to offer a portion as a contribution to Him. This portion is described as a "cake" made from fine flour with oil and frankincense. These instructions emphasize obedience, consecration, and gratitude towards God for His provision.

The chapter concludes by highlighting an incident involving a man who gathers sticks on the Sabbath day despite God's commandment to observe it as a day of rest. The people bring him before Moses and Aaron seeking clarification on how to handle such cases. In response, God affirms that anyone who violates the Sabbath should be put to death by stoning as a severe consequence for their disobedience.

Numbers 15:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and gave instructions.

1. God wants us to obey His commands.

2. There is blessing in following the Lord's instructions.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

2. Joshua 1:7-9 - Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

Numbers 15:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land of your habitations, which I give unto you,

1. We are blessed by God when we abide by His laws.

2. Appreciate the land that God has given you.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you this day for your good?

2. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Numbers 15:3 And will make an offering by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, or a sacrifice in performing a vow, or in a freewill offering, or in your solemn feasts, to make a sweet savour unto the LORD, of the herd, or of the flock:

This passage describes the offerings that were made to the Lord as part of religious observances.

Best :

1. We can draw closer to God through deliberate offerings of gratitude and worship.

2. Offerings to God are an expression of our commitment to Him.

Best

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

2. Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Numbers 15:4 Then shall he that offereth his offering unto the LORD bring a meat offering of a tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of oil.

This passage describes the offering of a tenth deal of flour mixed with the fourth part of an hin of oil as an offering to the Lord.

1. The importance of giving to the Lord - Luke 6:38

2. Sacrifice as an expression of faith and obedience - Hebrews 11:6

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Numbers 15:5 And the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering shalt thou prepare with the burnt offering or sacrifice, for one lamb.

This passage describes the sacrifice of a lamb and the addition of wine as a drink offering.

1. "Offering Sacrifices to God: The Power of Surrender"

2. "Honoring God with Our Offerings"

1. Philippians 4:18-19 - "I have received full payment, and more; I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. 1 Chronicles 16:29 - "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts."

Numbers 15:6 Or for a ram, thou shalt prepare for a meat offering two tenth deals of flour mingled with the third part of an hin of oil.

The Bible calls for a ram to be prepared as an offering with two tenth deals of flour and a third part of an hin of oil.

1. "The Meaning of Offerings: Sacrificing Our Finest"

2. "The Call to Obedience: Offering Our Best"

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Philippians 4:18 - "I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God."

Numbers 15:7 And for a drink offering thou shalt offer the third part of an hin of wine, for a sweet savour unto the LORD.

God commanded the Israelites to offer a portion of wine as a drink offering, as a sweet savour unto the Lord.

1. The Sweet Aroma of Obedience

2. A Drink Offering to the Lord

1. John 15:14 - You are my friends if you do what I command.

2. Philippians 4:18 - I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

Numbers 15:8 And when thou preparest a bullock for a burnt offering, or for a sacrifice in performing a vow, or peace offerings unto the LORD:

God commands the people of Israel to bring bulls as burnt offerings, sacrifices to fulfill a vow, or peace offerings to the LORD.

1. God's Sacrifice and Our Obedience

2. The Importance of Giving Thanks and Offerings to God

1. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

2. Psalm 50:14 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High.

Numbers 15:9 Then shall he bring with a bullock a meat offering of three tenth deals of flour mingled with half an hin of oil.

God commanded the Israelites to bring a bullock, three tenth deals of flour, and half an hin of oil for a meat offering.

1. Sacrifice and Obedience: The Meaning of God's Commands

2. Generosity in Worship: The Importance of Giving

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Numbers 15:10 And thou shalt bring for a drink offering half an hin of wine, for an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

God commanded that a half hin of wine be offered as a sweet smelling sacrifice.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Worship

2. Offering Our Best to God

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Philippians 4:18 - I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

Numbers 15:11 Thus shall it be done for one bullock, or for one ram, or for a lamb, or a kid.

This passage emphasizes the importance of following God's commands, for each type of offering, regardless of size.

1. God's commands are to be followed without exception.

2. Even the smallest of offerings should be done according to God's will.

1. Luke 16:17 - It is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one dot of the Law to become void.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Numbers 15:12 According to the number that ye shall prepare, so shall ye do to every one according to their number.

God calls us to serve Him and others with the same effort and dedication, regardless of the size of the task.

1. The Equality of Service: How God Sees Our Efforts

2. Giving Everything to God: Why We Should Serve Him with Our All

1. Galatians 6:2-5 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents, the importance of using God-given gifts.

Numbers 15:13 All that are born of the country shall do these things after this manner, in offering an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

All people born in the country must offer a sweet smelling offering to the Lord.

1. Gratitude in Worship: Expressing Our Appreciation to God

2. The Power of Offering: How We Receive God's Blessings

1. Philippians 4:18 - "But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Numbers 15:14 And if a stranger sojourn with you, or whosoever be among you in your generations, and will offer an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; as ye do, so he shall do.

God commands us to welcome strangers into our midst and treat them with the same respect and hospitality as we treat our own people.

1. Welcoming Strangers: Our Responsibility to God

2. Living Out God's Love: Our Duty to Others

1. Romans 12:13 - Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

2. 1 Peter 4:9 - Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

Numbers 15:15 One ordinance shall be both for you of the congregation, and also for the stranger that sojourneth with you, an ordinance for ever in your generations: as ye are, so shall the stranger be before the LORD.

This verse shows that God's ordinances for his people are also applicable to strangers who live among them.

1. God's Love is for All - Exploring the importance of inclusivity in God's kingdom.

2. Living as Strangers in a Strange Land - Examining how to live in God's grace as a foreigner in a new land.

1. Leviticus 19:34 - "The stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

2. Colossians 3:11 - "Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all."

Numbers 15:16 One law and one manner shall be for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you.

This passage emphasizes the importance of treating both native and foreign people equally and with the same standards.

1. "The Equality of All People"

2. "Love Your Neighbor: No Exceptions!"

1. Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

Numbers 15:17 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage from Numbers 15:17 is God speaking to Moses and giving him instructions.

1. Obedience to God Brings Blessing

2. The Importance of Listening to God

1. Joshua 1:7-8 - "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

Numbers 15:18 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land whither I bring you,

When entering the Promised Land, God commanded the Israelites to observe his commandments and laws.

1: We are commanded to obey God's laws and commandments as a sign of our faith and trust in Him.

2: To demonstrate our loyalty to God, we must follow His laws and obey His commandments.

1: Deuteronomy 4:2: "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you."

2: Luke 6:46: "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Numbers 15:19 Then it shall be, that, when ye eat of the bread of the land, ye shall offer up an heave offering unto the LORD.

The Lord commanded that when the Israelites ate the bread of the land, they should make a heave offering to the Lord.

1: The Lord is Worthy of our Offerings

2: Offerings as an Expression of Gratitude and Appreciation

1: Isaiah 43:7 - Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 15:20 Ye shall offer up a cake of the first of your dough for an heave offering: as ye do the heave offering of the threshingfloor, so shall ye heave it.

This passage instructs to offer up a cake of the first of the dough as a heave offering, as one would do with the heave offering of the threshing floor.

1. The Importance of Heave Offerings in the Bible

2. The Symbolism and Meaning of Grain Offerings in the Bible

1. Exodus 34:20 - "But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem him not, then shalt thou break his neck. All the firstborn of thy sons thou shalt redeem."

2. Leviticus 2:1-2 - "And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon: And he shall bring it to Aaron's sons the priests: and he shall take thereout his handful of the flour thereof, and of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof; and the priest shall burn the memorial of it upon the altar, to be an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD."

Numbers 15:21 Of the first of your dough ye shall give unto the LORD an heave offering in your generations.

This passage instructs us that the first of our dough should be given to the Lord as an offering.

1. Remember to be Generous: Making an offering to the Lord is more than just giving from our abundance, but giving from our first fruits.

2. Living in Gratitude: Being thankful to God for all that He has done for us, and responding with gratefulness through our offerings.

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Numbers 15:22 And if ye have erred, and not observed all these commandments, which the LORD hath spoken unto Moses,

The passage emphasizes the importance of obeying the Lord and His commands.

1. Obeying the Lord: A Path to Blessing

2. The Power of Godly Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's Blessings on Obedience

2. James 1:22-25 - The Necessity of Doing What is Right

Numbers 15:23 Even all that the LORD hath commanded you by the hand of Moses, from the day that the LORD commanded Moses, and henceforward among your generations;

The LORD commanded Moses to follow all of His commands, which were to be observed by all generations.

1. "The Everlasting Commandment: Obeying God's Will in Every Generation"

2. "The Legacy of Obedience: Passing on God's Word to the Next Generation"

1. Deuteronomy 4:9-10 - "Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;"

2. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Numbers 15:24 Then it shall be, if ought be committed by ignorance without the knowledge of the congregation, that all the congregation shall offer one young bullock for a burnt offering, for a sweet savour unto the LORD, with his meat offering, and his drink offering, according to the manner, and one kid of the goats for a sin offering.

This passage explains that when something is done ignorantly without the knowledge of the congregation, a bullock and a goat must be offered as a burnt and sin offering respectively, along with a meat and drink offering.

1. The importance of being mindful and aware of our actions

2. The power of communal accountability and responsibility

1. James 3:2 - For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

2. Galatians 6:1-5 - Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load.

Numbers 15:25 And the priest shall make an atonement for all the congregation of the children of Israel, and it shall be forgiven them; for it is ignorance: and they shall bring their offering, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD, and their sin offering before the LORD, for their ignorance:

The priest must make atonement for the whole congregation of Israel because it was done in ignorance. They must then offer a sacrifice to the LORD and a sin offering to atone for their ignorance.

1. The Need for Atonement: Understanding the Role of the Priest in Sacrificial Offering

2. The Power of Forgiveness: How Ignorance Can Lead to Atonement

1. Leviticus 16:30 - "For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the LORD."

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

Numbers 15:26 And it shall be forgiven all the congregation of the children of Israel, and the stranger that sojourneth among them; seeing all the people were in ignorance.

The Lord forgives all the Israelites and strangers in their midst, even though they were unaware of their actions.

1: God is always forgiving and gracious, no matter the ignorance of our actions.

2: Recognize God's great mercy and grace, no matter our mistakes.

1: Luke 23:34 - Jesus said, Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

2: Isaiah 43:25 - I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Numbers 15:27 And if any soul sin through ignorance, then he shall bring a she goat of the first year for a sin offering.

This passage explains that if someone sins out of ignorance, they must bring a she-goat of the first year as a sin offering.

1. The Forgiveness of Ignorance: How God's Grace Extends to Our Weaknesses

2. Repentance and Restoration: How We Can Receive God's Grace and Mercy

1. Isaiah 1:18-19 Come now, and let us reason together, Says the Lord, Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

2. 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Numbers 15:28 And the priest shall make an atonement for the soul that sinneth ignorantly, when he sinneth by ignorance before the LORD, to make an atonement for him; and it shall be forgiven him.

This verse in the Bible states that when a person sins ignorantly before the Lord, the priest can make an atonement for them and it shall be forgiven.

1. God's Forgiveness for our Ignorant Sins

2. Atonement and Forgiveness from the Priest

1. Romans 5:20-21 - "But where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

2. John 8:10-11 - "Jesus stood up and said to her, Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you? She said, No one, Lord. And Jesus said, Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.

Numbers 15:29 Ye shall have one law for him that sinneth through ignorance, both for him that is born among the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them.

God's law applies to all, regardless of origin.

1: "God's Law Is For All"

2: "No One Is Exempt From God's Law"

1: Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2: Colossians 3:11 - "Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all."

Numbers 15:30 But the soul that doeth ought presumptuously, whether he be born in the land, or a stranger, the same reproacheth the LORD; and that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

The soul that sins presumptuously dishonors the Lord and will be cut off from their people.

1: Have Faith and Obey God - Hebrews 10:38-39

2: Reject Presumption - James 4:13-16

1: Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

2: 1 John 2:16 - For all that is in the world the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life is not from the Father but is from the world.

Numbers 15:31 Because he hath despised the word of the LORD, and hath broken his commandment, that soul shall utterly be cut off; his iniquity shall be upon him.

This passage reflects the consequences of disobeying the Lord's commands - those who do so will be cut off from the Lord and bear the consequences of their sin.

1. The Lord's Commands Are Not to Be Taken Lightly

2. Be Mindful of the Consequences of Disobeying the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's Blessings and Curses for Obedience and Disobedience

2. Romans 6:23 - The Wages of Sin Is Death

Numbers 15:32 And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day.

The Israelites found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day.

1. Making Everyday a Sabbath Day: Celebrating God's Gift of Rest

2. The Importance of Keeping the Sabbath Holy

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you turn away your foot from the sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shall honour him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words.

Numbers 15:33 And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation.

A man was found gathering sticks and was brought to Moses, Aaron, and the whole congregation.

1. What are we gathering?

2. The importance of gathering with the community.

1. Matthew 12:30 - "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"

Numbers 15:34 And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him.

A person was placed in confinement because the right course of action was not known.

1. God knows the right course of action even when we don't.

2. We must trust in God's wisdom and wait for His direction.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Numbers 15:35 And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

The LORD commanded Moses to put the man to death by stoning outside the camp.

1: We must submit to God's authority and obey Him even when it is difficult and does not make sense to us.

2: Following God's laws comes with consequences and we must be prepared to accept them.

1: John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commandments.

2: Deuteronomy 17:7 - The hands of the witnesses shall be the first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So you shall put away the evil from among you.

Numbers 15:36 And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses.

An Israelite man was found breaking the Law, so he was taken outside the camp and stoned to death as a punishment, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

1. The Importance of Obeying God s Law

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God s Law

1. Deuteronomy 17:5 - Then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has committed this evil deed, and you shall stone to death that man or woman with stones.

2. James 2:10-12 - For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.

Numbers 15:37 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord commanded Moses to make tassels for the people of Israel.

1: God's commands are a source of blessing and should be followed obediently.

2: We must trust in God's timing, even if we don't understand His commands.

1: James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word not hearers only.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Numbers 15:38 Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue:

God instructs the Israelites to make tassels on the edge of their garments and attach a blue ribbon to them.

1. Practicing Obedience: God's Call to the Israelites

2. God's Mercy: Fulfilling the Covenant Through Tassels

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5-9 - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Numbers 15:39 And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring:

This verse reminds the people to remember and obey the Lord s commandments, and not to go after their own desires.

1. The Lord s Commandments: Obey Them and Not Your Own Desires

2. Rejecting Idolatry: Choosing to Follow God s Law Rather Than Your Own Wishes

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2. Psalm 119:1-2 - Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.

Numbers 15:40 That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God.

God commands the Israelites to remember and obey all His commandments and to be holy before Him.

1. Obedience to the Lord's Commands: What it Means to be Holy

2. Remembering the Lord's Commands: The Heart of True Holiness

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Micah 6:8 "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Numbers 15:41 I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD your God.

God is the Lord of Israel and the one who brought them out of Egypt to be their God.

1. Our God is a Deliverer: Trusting in God's Strength in Difficult Times

2. The Lord is our God: Understanding and Appreciating the Covenant Relationship

1. Exodus 20:2 - I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

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

Numbers 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 16:1-11 describes the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and a group of two hundred fifty Israelite leaders against Moses and Aaron's leadership. The chapter emphasizes that they challenge Moses' authority, accusing him of exalting himself above the congregation. Moses responds by proposing a test to determine who truly has God's favor. He instructs Korah and his followers to bring censers with incense before the Lord the next day.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 16:12-35, the chapter details how God intervenes to judge the rebellion. Moses warns the congregation to separate themselves from Korah and his followers before God executes His judgment upon them. The ground beneath them splits open, swallowing them along with their households and possessions. Fire also consumes the two hundred fifty men who offered incense.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 16 concludes by highlighting how God further demonstrates His choice of Aaron as High Priest by causing Aaron's staff to sprout buds, blossom flowers, and yield almonds overnight. This serves as a sign to reaffirm Aaron's position and silence any further challenges against his authority. The people witness this miraculous sign and are filled with awe at God's power.

In summary:

Numbers 16 presents:

Rebellion of Korah, Dathan, Abiram, two hundred fifty leaders;

Challenging Moses, Aaron's authority; accusations against exaltation;

Moses proposing test; instruction for bringing censers before Lord.

God intervening to judge rebellion; warning for separation;

Ground splitting open, swallowing rebels, households, possessions;

Fire consuming two hundred fifty men offering incense.

God demonstrating choice of Aaron as High Priest;

Sprouting, blossoming, yielding almonds on Aaron's staff overnight;

Sign to reaffirm Aaron's position; awe of God's power.

This chapter focuses on the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and a group of two hundred fifty Israelite leaders against the leadership of Moses and Aaron. Numbers 16 begins by describing how they challenge Moses' authority, accusing him of exalting himself above the congregation. In response, Moses proposes a test to determine who truly has God's favor and instructs Korah and his followers to bring censers with incense before the Lord.

Furthermore, Numbers 16 details how God intervenes to judge the rebellion. Moses warns the congregation to separate themselves from Korah and his followers before God executes His judgment upon them. The ground beneath them splits open, swallowing them along with their households and possessions. Additionally, fire consumes the two hundred fifty men who offered incense.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how God further demonstrates His choice of Aaron as High Priest by causing Aaron's staff to sprout buds, blossom flowers, and yield almonds overnight. This miraculous sign serves as a reaffirmation of Aaron's position and silences any further challenges against his authority. The people witness this display of God's power and are filled with awe.

Numbers 16:1 Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men:

Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and On, all descendants of Levi and Reuben, took men to oppose Moses and Aaron.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: A Study on Korah's Rebellion

2. The Importance of Obedience: A Study on Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and On

1. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

2. Exodus 18:13-16 - "Now choose able men from all the people, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens."

Numbers 16:2 And they rose up before Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown:

Two hundred and fifty princes of the children of Israel rose up before Moses, being famous and well-known in the congregation.

1. True Greatness: What it Means to be a Prince of God

2. How to Become Renowned in the Congregation

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

2. Proverbs 18:16 - A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Numbers 16:3 And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?

The people of Israel gathered against Moses and Aaron, accusing them of exalting themselves above the LORD and the congregation.

1. The Danger of Pride - How pride can lead to destruction, and the importance of humility.

2. Standing with God - How we can stand with God in the face of opposition.

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves. 4 Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

2. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Numbers 16:4 And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face:

Moses humbled himself before God in response to the challenge to his leadership.

1: Pride Goeth Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2: Humble Yourself Before the Lord - James 4:10

1: Psalm 34:18 - "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2: Isaiah 57:15 - "For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Numbers 16:5 And he spake unto Korah and unto all his company, saying, Even to morrow the LORD will shew who are his, and who is holy; and will cause him to come near unto him: even him whom he hath chosen will he cause to come near unto him.

In Numbers 16:5, God declares that He will make known who is His and who is holy the following day, and allow the chosen one to approach Him.

1. The Privilege of Being Chosen by God

2. Growing Closer to God Through Holiness

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. John 15:16 - You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

Numbers 16:6 This do; Take you censers, Korah, and all his company;

Korah and his company were commanded to take censers.

1. Obey God's Commands - Numbers 16:6

2. Put God at the Center of Your Life - Numbers 16:6

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments"

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

Numbers 16:7 And put fire therein, and put incense in them before the LORD to morrow: and it shall be that the man whom the LORD doth choose, he shall be holy: ye take too much upon you, ye sons of Levi.

The LORD will choose a man to be holy, and the sons of Levi are taking too much authority upon themselves.

1. God has the ultimate authority and chooses who is holy.

2. We must not take too much authority upon ourselves.

1. Daniel 4:35 - "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"

2. Psalm 115:3 - "But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased."

Numbers 16:8 And Moses said unto Korah, Hear, I pray you, ye sons of Levi:

Korah and the sons of Levi are rebuked by Moses for their rebellion against God's authority.

1. God's Authority Must Be Respected

2. Submission to God Brings Blessing

1. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."

2. 1 Peter 2:13-14 - "Submit yourselves for the Lord s sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right."

Numbers 16:9 Seemeth it but a small thing unto you, that the God of Israel hath separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to himself to do the service of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to minister unto them?

God has chosen the Levites to do the service of the tabernacle of the Lord and to stand before the congregation to minister to them.

1. God's Calling - The privilege of ministering to God's people

2. A Heart of Gratitude - Responding to God's gift of service

1. Matthew 20:26 - "But whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Numbers 16:10 And he hath brought thee near to him, and all thy brethren the sons of Levi with thee: and seek ye the priesthood also?

Korah and his followers challenge Moses' authority and suggest that the priesthood be shared among all the Levites.

1. Obeying God's Authority: The Story of Korah and His Followers

2. The Call to Service: A Study of the Levite Priesthood

1. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Submission to God's Authority

2. Exodus 28:1-4 - Appointing the Levite Priesthood

Numbers 16:11 For which cause both thou and all thy company are gathered together against the LORD: and what is Aaron, that ye murmur against him?

Korah and his followers challenged Moses and Aaron's authority, questioning what Aaron had to offer them.

1. How to Follow Leaders God Has Placed in Authority

2. God's Sovereignty in Placing Leaders

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Acts 5:27-32

Numbers 16:12 And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab: which said, We will not come up:

Moses sent a message to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, but they refused to come.

1. We must remain humble and not be like Dathan and Abiram who refused to obey God's command.

2. We should always strive to do God's will, even when it is difficult.

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Numbers 16:13 Is it a small thing that thou hast brought us up out of a land that floweth with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, except thou make thyself altogether a prince over us?

Korah and his followers accuse Moses and Aaron of trying to exalt themselves over the people of Israel by leading them out of the land of milk and honey to their death in the wilderness.

1. God's Providence in our Trials: How God Uses Difficulties to Strengthen Our Faith

2. The Power of Humility: The Difference between Moses and Korah

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Numbers 16:14 Moreover thou hast not brought us into a land that floweth with milk and honey, or given us inheritance of fields and vineyards: wilt thou put out the eyes of these men? we will not come up.

The people of Israel question why they have been brought to a land that does not provide them with the promised milk and honey, and accuse Moses of wanting to put out their eyes.

1. God's promises are never empty - Isaiah 55:11

2. Trusting in God's plan - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Numbers 16:15 And Moses was very wroth, and said unto the LORD, Respect not thou their offering: I have not taken one ass from them, neither have I hurt one of them.

Moses was angered by the offering of the people and refused to accept it.

1. God is worthy of our best and the offering of our hearts.

2. We must be mindful of how we treat others even in moments of anger and frustration.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Numbers 16:16 And Moses said unto Korah, Be thou and all thy company before the LORD, thou, and they, and Aaron, to morrow:

Moses instructs Korah and his followers to present themselves before the LORD the next day.

1: We must heed God's call and present ourselves before Him.

2: We must obey God and trust in His word.

1: Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

2: Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Numbers 16:17 And take every man his censer, and put incense in them, and bring ye before the LORD every man his censer, two hundred and fifty censers; thou also, and Aaron, each of you his censer.

The Lord commanded each of the two-hundred and fifty men to bring their own censer and put incense in it to be presented before the Lord, as well as Aaron and Moses.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Necessity of Fulfilling Our Duty to God

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? He requires only that you fear the Lord your God, and live in a way that pleases him, and love him and serve him with all your heart and soul. And you must always obey the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13 - The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.

Numbers 16:18 And they took every man his censer, and put fire in them, and laid incense thereon, and stood in the door of the tabernacle of the congregation with Moses and Aaron.

Moses and Aaron stood at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation with the other men, who each had their own censer with fire and incense.

1. The Power of Community: How Unity and Fellowship Strengthen Us

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commands Even in Difficult Times

1. Hebrews 10:19-25, Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2. Acts 2:42-47, And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Numbers 16:19 And Korah gathered all the congregation against them unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the congregation.

Korah gathered the whole congregation at the entrance of the tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them.

1. God's glory is revealed in times of difficulty

2. The power of coming together as a community

1. Exodus 33:17-23

2. Acts 2:1-13

Numbers 16:20 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron about a dispute between Korah and the Israelites.

1. God is always listening and ready to help with our disputes.

2. Trusting in God's wisdom and guidance can help us settle our disputes.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 55:22, Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

Numbers 16:21 Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.

God commands Moses to separate the congregation of Israelites in order to consume them in an instant.

1. The Power of God's Greatness

2. The Holiness of Obedience

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Numbers 16:22 And they fell upon their faces, and said, O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with all the congregation?

God will not punish the innocent for the actions of the guilty.

1: God is both merciful and just, and will not punish those who are innocent for the sins of others.

2: We must remember that God is the ultimate judge, not man, and that His judgement is always fair and equitable.

1: Ezekiel 18:20- The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

2: Deuteronomy 24:16- The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

Numbers 16:23 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving him a command.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Should be Followed

2. Obedience to the Lord is Essential

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

2. James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Numbers 16:24 Speak unto the congregation, saying, Get you up from about the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

The Lord commanded Moses to tell the congregation to move away from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

1. The Danger of Rebellion - How to Avoid Following the Wrong Path

2. The Lord's Faithfulness in Times of Trouble - Relying on the Lord for Protection.

1. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Numbers 16:25 And Moses rose up and went unto Dathan and Abiram; and the elders of Israel followed him.

Moses went to confront Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.

1. God is always with us, even when we feel we are facing insurmountable odds.

2. We are never alone in our struggles, and God will always provide us the strength to confront our deepest fears.

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Numbers 16:26 And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest ye be consumed in all their sins.

Moses instructs the people of Israel to stay away from the tents of the wicked men, so that they do not become guilty of their sins.

1. We must recognize and separate ourselves from those who practice wickedness.

2. We must be careful to avoid being consumed by the sins of others.

1. Ephesians 5:11 - And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Numbers 16:27 So they gat up from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children.

Dathan and Abiram stood in the door of their tents with their families.

1. The importance of family unity.

2. The power of faith in times of adversity.

1. Colossians 3:14-17 - And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Numbers 16:28 And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind.

Moses affirms that all the works he has done were sent by the Lord and not of his own accord.

1. God's calling and obedience to His will.

2. Knowing the source of our actions and motivations.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Numbers 16:29 If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me.

God is the only one who can send His true messengers to bring His will to His people.

1. God's Messengers: Living a Life of Obedience to His Will

2. The Power of God's Word: How It Transforms Lives

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me.

Numbers 16:30 But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD.

The people of Korah are warned that if they provoke the Lord, He will make a new thing and the earth will swallow them up.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience to the Lord's Commands

2. The Cost of Defying the Lord's Authority

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 16:31 And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them:

The ground opened miraculously in response to Moses' words.

1: God is all powerful and will answer when we call on Him.

2: Even in difficult times, God is in control and will provide a way.

1: Isaiah 65:24 - "Before they call, I will answer; while they are still speaking, I will hear."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Numbers 16:32 And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods.

The earth opened and swallowed Korah and his people, along with their houses and all their possessions.

1. God's judgment is swift and sure.

2. The consequences of rebellion will always be dire.

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2. Proverbs 1:24-27 - Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Numbers 16:33 They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

The people of Korah perished due to their rebellion against God.

1. God is a just God and will always punish rebellion against Him.

2. We must be humble and loyal to God to experience His blessings.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Numbers 16:34 And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also.

The Israelites were greatly afraid that the earth might swallow them up in response to the outcry of those rebelling against Moses and Aaron.

1. Fear not for God is with us - Isaiah 41:10

2. Have faith in God - Mark 11:22-24

1. Isaiah 26:20 - Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Numbers 16:35 And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.

A fire from the Lord consumed two hundred and fifty men that were offering incense.

1. The Power of God: A Lesson from Numbers 16:35

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: An Analysis of Numbers 16:35

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who trusted in God and were not consumed by the fire.

2. Hebrews 12:29 - For our God is a consuming fire.

Numbers 16:36 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is instructed by the Lord to speak to the congregation of Korah's people.

1. Obeying God's Instructions: The Example of Moses

2. The Danger of Rebellion and Pride: Lessons from the People of Korah

1. Psalm 105:17-22 - He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant: Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron: Until the time that his word came: the word of the LORD tried him. The king sent and loosed him; even the ruler of the people, and let him go free. He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his substance: To bind his princes at his pleasure; and teach his senators wisdom.

Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.

2. John 14:15-17 - If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Numbers 16:37 Speak unto Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, that he take up the censers out of the burning, and scatter thou the fire yonder; for they are hallowed.

Moses commands Eleazar the priest to take the censers out of the burning and scatter the fire, as the censers are now hallowed.

1. The Power of Holiness: Exploring What it Means to be Hallowed

2. The Priesthood: Honoring the Role and Responsibilities of Eleazar

1. Leviticus 10:1-3; Aaron's sons offer strange fire before the Lord

2. Matthew 5:48; Be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect

Numbers 16:38 The censers of these sinners against their own souls, let them make them broad plates for a covering of the altar: for they offered them before the LORD, therefore they are hallowed: and they shall be a sign unto the children of Israel.

Korah and his followers rebelled against Moses and Aaron and were punished by the Lord. Their censers were to be used as a covering for the altar as a reminder to the children of Israel of the consequences of rebelling against God.

1. Rebellion: Consequences of Disobeying God

2. Obedience: The Blessings of Following God

1. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."

2. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "Ye shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess."

Numbers 16:39 And Eleazar the priest took the brasen censers, wherewith they that were burnt had offered; and they were made broad plates for a covering of the altar:

Eleazar the priest took the brasen censers used for offerings and fashioned them into broad plates to cover the altar.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Our Offerings Can Be Reused and Reimagined

2. The Unifying Symbol of the Altar: How We Can Come Together In Worship

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Numbers 16:40 To be a memorial unto the children of Israel, that no stranger, which is not of the seed of Aaron, come near to offer incense before the LORD; that he be not as Korah, and as his company: as the LORD said to him by the hand of Moses.

Memorial to the children of Israel to prevent stranger with no Aaronic priesthood from offering incense before the Lord and to remember Korah's rebellion against Moses.

1: We must remain faithful and loyal to God and be diligent in following His commandments.

2: We must remember to be humble and accept authority given to us from God.

1: Philippians 2:3-5 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2: 1 Peter 5:5-6 - In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

Numbers 16:41 But on the morrow all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, Ye have killed the people of the LORD.

The people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron, accusing them of killing the people of the Lord.

1. God's Plan Is Always Perfect - How To Trust When You Don't Understand

2. God Is In Control - The Power Of His Sovereignty

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Numbers 16:42 And it came to pass, when the congregation was gathered against Moses and against Aaron, that they looked toward the tabernacle of the congregation: and, behold, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared.

When the congregation gathered against Moses and Aaron, they looked towards the tabernacle and saw the cloud covering it and the glory of the Lord appeared.

1. God is always there to protect and guide his people.

2. In times of hardship and difficulty, turn to the Lord for help and guidance.

1. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 16:43 And Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of the congregation.

Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of the congregation as described in Numbers 16:43.

1: We can learn to come before God with humility and reverence.

2: Even the great leaders of our faith, such as Moses and Aaron, humbled themselves before God and His tabernacle.

1: James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2: Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

Numbers 16:44 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord speaks to Moses about an unknown matter.

1. Obey God's Commandments: The Story of Numbers 16:44

2. Trust in the Lord's Guidance: A Study of Numbers 16:44

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

Numbers 16:45 Get you up from among this congregation, that I may consume them as in a moment. And they fell upon their faces.

The congregation fell to their faces in awe as they heard God's warning that He would consume them in an instant.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Our Response to His Call Can Bring Blessing or Judgment

2. Don't Take God's Mercy for Granted: A Lesson from the Israelites in the Wilderness

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Numbers 16:46 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a censer, and put fire therein from off the altar, and put on incense, and go quickly unto the congregation, and make an atonement for them: for there is wrath gone out from the LORD; the plague is begun.

Moses instructs Aaron to take a censer, place fire from the altar on it, add incense, and go to the congregation to make atonement for them because the LORD's wrath has gone out and the plague has begun.

1. "Atoning for Others: The Power of Intercession"

2. "Living in the Midst of God's Wrath: How to Respond"

1. Hebrews 7:25 - "Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them."

2. Isaiah 26:20-21 - "Go, my people, enter your rooms, and shut the doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while until the fury has passed by. For behold, the Lord is coming out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity..."

Numbers 16:47 And Aaron took as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the congregation; and, behold, the plague was begun among the people: and he put on incense, and made an atonement for the people.

Aaron followed Moses' command and ran into the midst of the congregation, where the plague had broken out. He then offered incense and made an atonement for the people.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Aaron's example

2. The Meaning of Atonement: Taking Responsibility for Our Actions

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 10:22 - let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Numbers 16:48 And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed.

Moses interceded on behalf of the Israelites and the plague that was afflicting them stopped.

1. The Power of Intercession: How Moses Saved His People

2. Faith in Action: How Moses Showed His Devotion to God

1. James 5:16 (NIV): Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Hebrews 11:6 (NIV): And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Numbers 16:49 Now they that died in the plague were fourteen thousand and seven hundred, beside them that died about the matter of Korah.

The plague killed 14,700 people, in addition to those who died in the Korah incident.

1. God's Judgment: How We Should Respond In The Face Of Tragedy

2. The Power of Disobedience: The Consequences of Defying God

1. Numbers 16:23-35

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-6

Numbers 16:50 And Aaron returned unto Moses unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and the plague was stayed.

The plague stopped after Aaron returned to Moses at the entrance to the tabernacle.

1. The Power of Redemption: How Reconciliation Leads to Healing

2. The Priority of Obedience: Listening to God's Commands Brings Blessings

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

Numbers 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 17:1-7 describes the selection of Aaron's staff as a sign to end the dispute regarding the priesthood. The chapter emphasizes that God commands Moses to gather staffs from each tribe, including Aaron's staff representing the tribe of Levi. These staffs are placed in the Tent of Meeting overnight. The next day, Aaron's staff blossoms, sprouts buds, and yields almonds a miraculous sign affirming his role as High Priest.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 17:8-13, the chapter details how Moses presents Aaron's blossoming staff before the Israelites as evidence of God's choice. This display serves to silence any further complaints or challenges against Aaron's authority and solidifies his position as High Priest. Moses places Aaron's staff back in front of the Ark of the Covenant as a reminder for future generations.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 17 concludes by highlighting how God instructs Moses to keep Aaron's blossoming staff as a memorial within the Tent of Meeting. This is done to put an end to any future grumblings among the Israelites regarding priesthood authority and prevent further rebellion against God-appointed leaders. The people witness this miraculous sign and acknowledge that they must not rebel against God or risk facing severe consequences.

In summary:

Numbers 17 presents:

Selection of Aaron's staff as sign ending priesthood dispute;

Gathering, staff placement in Tent of Meeting overnight;

Blossoming, sprouting, yielding almonds miraculous affirmation.

Presentation, displaying blossoming staff before Israelites;

Silencing complaints, challenges; solidifying Aaron's authority;

Placing back before Ark; reminder for future generations.

Instruction to keep blossoming staff as memorial within Tent;

Prevention, rebellion against God-appointed leaders;

Acknowledgment, avoidance of severe consequences.

This chapter focuses on the selection of Aaron's staff as a sign to end the dispute regarding the priesthood, its presentation before the Israelites, and its preservation as a memorial. Numbers 17 begins by describing how God commands Moses to gather staffs from each tribe, including Aaron's staff representing the tribe of Levi. These staffs are placed in the Tent of Meeting overnight. The next day, Aaron's staff blossoms, sprouts buds, and yields almonds a miraculous sign affirming his role as High Priest.

Furthermore, Numbers 17 details how Moses presents Aaron's blossoming staff before the Israelites as evidence of God's choice. This display serves to silence any further complaints or challenges against Aaron's authority and solidifies his position as High Priest. Moses places Aaron's staff back in front of the Ark of the Covenant as a reminder for future generations.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how God instructs Moses to keep Aaron's blossoming staff as a memorial within the Tent of Meeting. This is done to put an end to any future grumblings among the Israelites regarding priesthood authority and prevent further rebellion against God-appointed leaders. The people witness this miraculous sign and acknowledge that they must not rebel against God or risk facing severe consequences.

Numbers 17:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord commanded Moses to speak to the Israelites to bring a rod from each of the twelve tribes of Israel.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. The Importance of Unity: Working Together to Honor God

1. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Numbers 17:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and take of every one of them a rod according to the house of their fathers, of all their princes according to the house of their fathers twelve rods: write thou every man's name upon his rod.

God instructed Moses to take 12 rods from each of the 12 tribes of Israel, and to write each man's name on his rod.

1. The Significance of Names: How God Knows and Cares for Each of Us

2. The Importance of Representing Our Tribe: Why We Need to Stand Up for Our Community

1. Isaiah 43:1 - But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

Numbers 17:3 And thou shalt write Aaron's name upon the rod of Levi: for one rod shall be for the head of the house of their fathers.

God commanded Moses to write Aaron's name on the rod of the tribe of Levi, thus signifying Aaron as the leader of his tribe.

1. God is the ultimate authority in assigning leadership positions.

2. We must be willing to accept God's chosen leaders, even if we do not understand His decisions.

1. Romans 13:1-2 "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

2. 1 Samuel 15:23 "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."

Numbers 17:4 And thou shalt lay them up in the tabernacle of the congregation before the testimony, where I will meet with you.

God instructed Moses to place Aaron's rod in the tabernacle of the congregation, which is where God would meet with Moses.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Lessons from Moses' Encounter with God"

2. "The Tabernacle of Faith: Meeting with God in His Sanctuary"

1. James 4:7, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Psalm 27:4-6, "One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock."

Numbers 17:5 And it shall come to pass, that the man's rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom: and I will make to cease from me the murmurings of the children of Israel, whereby they murmur against you.

God's chosen leader will flourish and bring prosperity to the people.

1. God's Chosen Leader: Prosperity through Obedience

2. Miracles of God's Grace: Choosing the Right Path

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 1:1-3 - Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither whatever they do prospers.

Numbers 17:6 And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, and every one of their princes gave him a rod apiece, for each prince one, according to their fathers' houses, even twelve rods: and the rod of Aaron was among their rods.

The twelve princes of each tribe of Israel each gave Moses a rod, and Aaron's rod was among them.

1. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Achieve a Common Goal

2. The Importance of Leadership: Understanding the Role of Authority Within a Community

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 - "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

Numbers 17:7 And Moses laid up the rods before the LORD in the tabernacle of witness.

Moses laid up the rods in the tabernacle of witness as a sign of faithfulness to God.

1. The Power of Faithfulness in Our Lives

2. Keeping Our Focus on God's Presence

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Numbers 17:8 And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds.

On the following day, Moses entered the tabernacle of witness and discovered that the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi had sprouted, blossomed, and produced almonds.

1. The Miraculous Nature of God's Power

2. How Faith Renewed the Lineage of Aaron

1. Romans 1:20 - For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Numbers 17:9 And Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD unto all the children of Israel: and they looked, and took every man his rod.

Moses brought all of the rods from before the Lord to the children of Israel, and each of them took their own rod.

1. The Lord Provides - God gives us the tools and resources we need to succeed.

2. Working Together - The power of collaboration in making the impossible, possible.

1. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Numbers 17:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.

God commanded Moses to take Aaron's rod and place it in the Tabernacle as a sign of His authority to the people, in order to prevent them from further grumbling against Him and thus avert death.

1. God's Power and Authority: Understanding God's Sovereignty Through the Symbols He Gives Us

2. The Dangers of Complaining and Murmuring: Learning from the People of Israel's Example

1. Psalm 29:10, "The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD is enthroned as King forever."

2. Revelation 4:8, "And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!'"

Numbers 17:11 And Moses did so: as the LORD commanded him, so did he.

Moses obeyed the Lord's command.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing

2. Faithful Obedience is Rewarded

1. James 2:17-18 "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works."

2. John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Numbers 17:12 And the children of Israel spake unto Moses, saying, Behold, we die, we perish, we all perish.

The children of Israel expressed their fear of death to Moses.

1. Relying on God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times

2. Trusting in God's Promises of Protection

1. Romans 8:31-39 - "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me."

Numbers 17:13 Whosoever cometh any thing near unto the tabernacle of the LORD shall die: shall we be consumed with dying?

The Lord warned that anyone who would come near the tabernacle would be put to death, asking if they were to be consumed with dying.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Numbers 17:13

2. The Power of a Holy Place: God's Presence and Authority in the Tabernacle

1. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Numbers 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 18:1-7 describes the responsibilities and privileges given to Aaron and his sons, the Levitical priests. The chapter emphasizes that God appoints them to be responsible for the sanctuary and the altar. They are to serve as a barrier between the Israelites and the holy objects, ensuring that no unauthorized person approaches them. The Levites are given specific duties related to the tabernacle, while Aaron and his sons are designated as priests.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 18:8-19, the chapter details how God assigns various offerings and tithes to support Aaron and his family. The Israelites are commanded to bring their offerings of grain, wine, oil, and firstfruits to be given exclusively to Aaron, his sons, and their households. Additionally, a tithe of all produce is set apart for the Levites as their inheritance in return for their service.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 18 concludes by highlighting how God reminds Aaron that he will not receive any land inheritance among the other tribes of Israel. Instead, God Himself is declared as Aaron's portion and inheritance among His people. This provision serves as a reminder of Aaron's unique role as High Priest and highlights the sacredness of his position within Israelite society.

In summary:

Numbers 18 presents:

Responsibilities, privileges given to Aaron, sons Levitical priests;

Appointment for sanctuary, altar; serving as barrier;

Specific duties assigned; distinction between Levites, priests.

Assigning offerings, tithes for support of Aaron, family;

Bringing grain, wine, oil, firstfruits exclusively for them;

Setting apart tithe for Levites' inheritance in return for service.

Reminding Aaron no land inheritance among tribes;

God declared as portion, inheritance among His people;

Highlighting unique role as High Priest; sacredness of position.

This chapter focuses on the responsibilities and privileges given to Aaron and his sons, the Levitical priests, the assignments of offerings and tithes, and God's reminder regarding Aaron's inheritance. Numbers 18 begins by describing how God appoints Aaron and his sons to be responsible for the sanctuary and the altar. They are designated as a barrier between the Israelites and the holy objects, ensuring that no unauthorized person approaches them. The Levites are assigned specific duties related to the tabernacle, while Aaron and his sons are designated as priests.

Furthermore, Numbers 18 details how God assigns various offerings of grain, wine, oil, and firstfruits to support Aaron, his sons, and their households exclusively. The Israelites are commanded to bring these offerings for their benefit. Additionally, a tithe of all produce is set apart for the Levites as their inheritance in return for their service.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how God reminds Aaron that he will not receive any land inheritance among the other tribes of Israel. Instead, God Himself is declared as Aaron's portion and inheritance among His people. This provision serves as a reminder of Aaron's unique role as High Priest within Israelite society and emphasizes the sacredness associated with his position.

Numbers 18:1 And the LORD said unto Aaron, Thou and thy sons and thy father's house with thee shall bear the iniquity of the sanctuary: and thou and thy sons with thee shall bear the iniquity of your priesthood.

The Lord speaks to Aaron and tells him that he and his sons must bear the iniquity of the sanctuary and their priesthood.

1. The Responsibility of Priesthood - How the Priesthood of Aaron Carried a Heavy Burden

2. Bearing the Burden of Iniquity - Learning from Aaron's Example

1. Exodus 28:1 - Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests - Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

2. Hebrews 7:26-27 - For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

Numbers 18:2 And thy brethren also of the tribe of Levi, the tribe of thy father, bring thou with thee, that they may be joined unto thee, and minister unto thee: but thou and thy sons with thee shall minister before the tabernacle of witness.

God instructs Aaron to be joined with his brothers of the tribe of Levi and to minister in front of the tabernacle of witness alongside his sons.

1. The Spiritual Significance of Ministering Before the Tabernacle of Witness

2. The Power of Working Together As Brothers

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Numbers 18:3 And they shall keep thy charge, and the charge of all the tabernacle: only they shall not come nigh the vessels of the sanctuary and the altar, that neither they, nor ye also, die.

God instructs the Levites to keep the charge of the tabernacle, but not to enter the vessels of the sanctuary and the altar, so that they will not die.

1. Serving God with Fear and Reverence

2. Obedience to God Brings Protection

1. Hebrews 12:28-29 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

2. Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Numbers 18:4 And they shall be joined unto thee, and keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, for all the service of the tabernacle: and a stranger shall not come nigh unto you.

The Lord commands the Levites to join themselves to Aaron and his sons, and to be responsible for the service of the tabernacle, with no strangers allowed to come near them.

1. The Call to Serve: How We Are Called to Serve the Lord in His House

2. The Sacred Space: The Importance of Keeping the Lord's House Holy

1. Exodus 28:43 - And they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him.

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Numbers 18:5 And ye shall keep the charge of the sanctuary, and the charge of the altar: that there be no wrath any more upon the children of Israel.

God's charge to take care of the sanctuary and the altar so that no more wrath comes upon the Israelites.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

2. Receiving God's Protection Through Faithful Service

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth."

Numbers 18:6 And I, behold, I have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel: to you they are given as a gift for the LORD, to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

God has appointed the Levites to serve in the Tabernacle of the Congregation as a gift for Him.

1. The Power of Serving God: A Study of Numbers 18:6

2. Living a Life of Gratitude: How to Honor God's Gift in Numbers 18:6

1. Ephesians 2:8-10 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Numbers 18:7 Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for everything of the altar, and within the vail; and ye shall serve: I have given your priest's office unto you as a service of gift: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

The Lord commanded Aaron and his sons to keep the priest's office and serve Him within the veil, and warned that any stranger who came near would be put to death.

1: In Numbers 18:7, God gives Aaron and his sons a command to serve Him in the priest's office, and to protect His holiness by warning that any stranger who comes near will be put to death.

2: In Numbers 18:7, the Lord calls us to serve Him faithfully in the priest's office and to defend the holiness of His presence by reminding us that any stranger who approaches will be put to death.

1: Exodus 28:35-36 - "And it shall be upon Aaron to minister: and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy place before the LORD, and when he cometh out, that he die not. And he shall be clothed with a linen garment, and with fine linen breeches shall he be girded about his loins, and a linen mitre shall he have upon his head: these are holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and so put them on."

2: Leviticus 10:1-7 - "And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. Then Moses said unto Aaron, This is it that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron held his peace. And Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said unto them, Come near, carry your brethren from before the sanctuary out of the camp. So they went near, and carried them in their coats out of the camp; as Moses had said. And Moses spake unto Aaron, and unto Eleazar and unto Ithamar, his sons that were left, Take the meat offering that remaineth of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and eat it without leaven beside the altar: for it is most holy."

Numbers 18:8 And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Behold, I also have given thee the charge of mine heave offerings of all the hallowed things of the children of Israel; unto thee have I given them by reason of the anointing, and to thy sons, by an ordinance for ever.

The Lord speaks to Aaron and gives him the responsibility of caring for all the holy offerings of the Israelites, and passes this responsibility on to his sons as a permanent ordinance.

1. The Power of a Lasting Legacy: Passing on Our Faith to Future Generations

2. The Blessing of a Charge: The Responsibility of Carrying Out God's Work

1. 2 Timothy 1:5 - "I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

2. Ephesians 6:4 - "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

Numbers 18:9 This shall be thine of the most holy things, reserved from the fire: every oblation of theirs, every meat offering of theirs, and every sin offering of theirs, and every trespass offering of theirs which they shall render unto me, shall be most holy for thee and for thy sons.

This passage discusses the offering of sacrifices to God and how the most holy things should be reserved from the fire.

1. The Importance of Making Holy Offerings to God

2. The Power of Sacrificing for the Lord

1. Leviticus 7:37 - This is the law of the burnt offering, of the grain offering, and of the sin offering, and of the trespass offering, and of the consecrations, and of the sacrifice of the peace offerings;

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Numbers 18:10 In the most holy place shalt thou eat it; every male shall eat it: it shall be holy unto thee.

God commands that the most holy place shall be eaten by every male.

1. Seeing the Holiness of God: How We can Live a Life of Holiness

2. The Power of Eating: How Eating Together Can Unite us in God's Love

1. Leviticus 22:1-10 - God's instructions on how to treat the holy things

2. Matthew 5:38-48 - Jesus s teaching on living with love and mercy.

Numbers 18:11 And this is thine; the heave offering of their gift, with all the wave offerings of the children of Israel: I have given them unto thee, and to thy sons and to thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: every one that is clean in thy house shall eat of it.

God commanded that the priests should have the heave offering of the children of Israel as their portion forever, and everyone among them that was clean should eat of it.

1. God's provision for the priests: Numbers 18:11

2. God's faithfulness to His promises: Numbers 18:11

1. Exodus 29:27-28 - On the same day He shall take a bull from the herd, with which the sin offering shall be made; he shall take it from the herd of the children of Israel, that it may be a wave offering before the LORD. The priest who makes atonement with it shall have it.

2. Leviticus 6:14-18 - And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the LORD. If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried.

Numbers 18:12 All the best of the oil, and all the best of the wine, and of the wheat, the firstfruits of them which they shall offer unto the LORD, them have I given thee.

God commanded Aaron to take the best of the oil, wine, and wheat from the offerings of the Israelites and keep it for himself.

1. The Blessings of Giving to God

2. The Importance of Offering Our Best to God

1. Deuteronomy 26:2 - "That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name there."

2. Philippians 4:18 - "But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."

Numbers 18:13 And whatsoever is first ripe in the land, which they shall bring unto the LORD, shall be thine; every one that is clean in thine house shall eat of it.

The Lord commands that the first-ripened fruits of the land shall be given to the priests, and all who are clean in the house of the priest shall eat of it.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How God Rewards Obedience to His Commandments

2. The Importance of Cleanliness: How to Live a Life Worthy of God's Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 26:1-11

2. Leviticus 22:17-33

Numbers 18:14 Every thing devoted in Israel shall be thine.

This passage speaks of how God has given all of Israel's devoted possessions to the Levites.

1. God is faithful to provide for his chosen people.

2. We must be devoted to God in order to receive his blessings.

1. Deuteronomy 10:9 - Therefore Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers; the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God promised him.

2. Deuteronomy 18:1-2 - The Levitical priests indeed, the whole tribe of Levi shall have no allotment or inheritance with Israel. They shall eat the Lord s food offerings as their inheritance. They shall have no inheritance among their brothers; the Lord is their inheritance, as he promised them.

Numbers 18:15 Every thing that openeth the matrix in all flesh, which they bring unto the LORD, whether it be of men or beasts, shall be thine: nevertheless the firstborn of man shalt thou surely redeem, and the firstling of unclean beasts shalt thou redeem.

This passage explains that all offerings brought to the Lord of both man and beast belong to the priests, but the firstborn of a man and the firstborn of unclean beasts must be redeemed.

1. The Lord's Offerings: What We Give to God

2. Redemption: A Gift of Love from the Lord

1. Psalm 50:14-15 - "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

2. Hebrews 10:4-10 - "For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book. When he said above, You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings (these are offered according to the law), then he added, Behold, I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Numbers 18:16 And those that are to be redeemed from a month old shalt thou redeem, according to thine estimation, for the money of five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs.

This passage in Numbers 18:16 describes the redemption of a month old infant, which must be done according to the estimation of money of five shekels of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs.

1. The Value of Life: Examining Redemption in Numbers 18:16

2. The Cost of Redemption: Exploring the Significance of Five Shekels in Numbers 18:16

1. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2. Isaiah 43:4 - Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Numbers 18:17 But the firstling of a cow, or the firstling of a sheep, or the firstling of a goat, thou shalt not redeem; they are holy: thou shalt sprinkle their blood upon the altar, and shalt burn their fat for an offering made by fire, for a sweet savour unto the LORD.

God requires that the firstborn of cows, sheep, and goats must be sacrificed to Him.

1. "Sacrifice Your Best to God"

2. "The Importance of Obedience to God"

1. Deuteronomy 12:27 - "And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of the LORD thy God: and the blood of thy sacrifices shall be poured out upon the altar of the LORD thy God, and thou shalt eat the flesh."

2. Hebrews 10:5-7 - "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God."

Numbers 18:18 And the flesh of them shall be thine, as the wave breast and as the right shoulder are thine.

Numbers 18:18 states that the priests are to receive the flesh of offerings as their portion.

1. The Power of Giving: How sacrificial offerings can bring blessings to our lives.

2. Living the Priestly Life: How we can honor God through our service and giving.

1. Leviticus 7:30-34 - And the priest shall offer the shoulder that is raised and the wave breast, to wave them for a wave offering before the LORD; and it shall be the priest's part.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Numbers 18:19 All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer unto the LORD, have I given thee, and thy sons and thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: it is a covenant of salt for ever before the LORD unto thee and to thy seed with thee.

God has given the priests of Israel the responsibility to receive and keep the holy offerings of the Israelites, and this responsibility is a covenant of salt forever.

1. Living Out Eternal Covenants: The Blessing of Salt

2. God's Covenant of Salt: The Responsibility of Priests

1. Leviticus 2:13 - And every oblation of thy meat offering shalt thou season with salt; neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat offering: with all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt.

2. Matthew 5:13 - Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

Numbers 18:20 And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel.

The LORD tells Aaron that he has no inheritance among the other tribes in Israel, but instead his part and inheritance is among the children of Israel.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Inheritance - A about learning to trust in the Lord's unique and special inheritance for each of us.

2. Understanding Our Place in God's Plan - A about understanding our individual roles in God's plan for the world.

1. Psalm 16:5-6 - The LORD is my inheritance, my cup of blessing. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

2. Ephesians 1:11-12 - In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

Numbers 18:21 And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

God gave the Levites the tithe of the Israelites in exchange for their service in the Tabernacle.

1. God's Generosity: Celebrate His Provision in the Tithe

2. Serving with Joy: The Levites and Our Example of Faithful Service

1. Malachi 3:10-12 - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Numbers 18:22 Neither must the children of Israel henceforth come nigh the tabernacle of the congregation, lest they bear sin, and die.

God instructs the children of Israel to stay away from the tabernacle of the congregation, or they will be held accountable for their sin and will suffer the consequences.

1. God's Instructions: Obeying God's Word for Our Protection

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-20 - Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the Lord thy God hath forbidden thee.

16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,

17 The likeness of any beast that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air,

18 The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth:

19 And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the Lord thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

20 But the Lord hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Numbers 18:23 But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance.

The Levites are responsible for the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they must bear their own iniquity as a statute for all generations of Israel, and they are not to receive any inheritance in Israel.

1. The Duties of the Levites - Numbers 18:23

2. The Importance of Generational Obedience - Numbers 18:23

1. Deuteronomy 10:9 - "Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him."

2. Joshua 13:14 - "Only unto the tribe of Levi he gave none inheritance; the sacrifices of the LORD God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance, as he said unto them."

Numbers 18:24 But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering unto the LORD, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.

God has given the tithes of the children of Israel to the Levites, and the Levites will have no inheritance among the children of Israel.

1. The Power of Generosity: God's Promises of Provision

2. Reaping the Blessings of Faithfulness to God

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-29 Instructions to the Israelites to Tithe

2. Malachi 3:8-10 God s Promise of Blessing for Tithing

Numbers 18:25 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord commanded Moses to set aside the Levites from the Israelites so that they could serve in the tabernacle.

1. God's plan is perfect - trusting God's commands brings blessing.

2. The importance of service - putting others before ourselves.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:20 - "We are therefore Christ s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ s behalf: Be reconciled to God."

Numbers 18:26 Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for the LORD, even a tenth part of the tithe.

God commanded the Levites to offer up a tenth part of the tithes they received from the Israelites as an offering to the Lord.

1. God's generosity is a call to generosity in us.

2. The tithe is an expression of faith and trust in God's provision.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Numbers 18:27 And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor, and as the fulness of the winepress.

This passage emphasizes the importance of tithing and offering a portion of what one has to support the work of the Lord.

1. "The Abundance of Giving" - A about how giving back to the Lord is an act of faith and obedience that will bring abundance in return.

2. "The Power of Tithes" - A about the power of tithing and how it brings God's blessing and provision to our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-29 - The passage speaks about the importance of tithing and how it should be done faithfully as an act of worship.

2. Malachi 3:10 - The passage speaks about God's promise of blessing and prosperity to those who faithfully tithe.

Numbers 18:28 Thus ye also shall offer an heave offering unto the LORD of all your tithes, which ye receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof the LORD's heave offering to Aaron the priest.

This verse instructs the Israelites to give a portion of their tithes to the Lord and to give the Lord's heave offering to the priest, Aaron.

1. The Spiritual Sacrifice of Tithing

2. Obedience in Generosity: Giving Tithes to God

1. Hebrews 7:8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.

2. Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Numbers 18:29 Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of the LORD, of all the best thereof, even the hallowed part thereof out of it.

The Lord should be offered the best of all gifts.

1: We should always strive to give God our best.

2: Our offerings to God should be made with love and reverence.

1: 2 Corinthians 8:12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

2: Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Numbers 18:30 Therefore thou shalt say unto them, When ye have heaved the best thereof from it, then it shall be counted unto the Levites as the increase of the threshingfloor, and as the increase of the winepress.

God instructs the people to give some of their produce to the Levites as a form of tithe.

1. Giving God's Way: Tithing and How to Honor God with Our Resources

2. The Blessing of Generosity: Why We Should Give Generously

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-29

2. Proverbs 3:9-10

Numbers 18:31 And ye shall eat it in every place, ye and your households: for it is your reward for your service in the tabernacle of the congregation.

God promised the priests a portion of the Israelites' offerings as a reward for their service in the tabernacle.

1. The Power of a Thankful Heart: Giving Thanks to God for His Provision

2. Serving the Lord with a Whole Heart: The Priesthood and Our Call to Worship

1. Deuteronomy 8:18, But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

2. Hebrews 13:16, But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Numbers 18:32 And ye shall bear no sin by reason of it, when ye have heaved from it the best of it: neither shall ye pollute the holy things of the children of Israel, lest ye die.

God tells the Israelites that they must give the best of their offerings to the priests and not to pollute the holy things, or else they will die.

1. The Consequences of Profaning the Lord's Offerings

2. Living a Life Worthy of the Lord's Blessings

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Leviticus 19:1-2 - The Lord said to Moses, Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.

Numbers 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 19:1-10 describes the ritual of the red heifer, which is used to purify those who have become ceremonially unclean due to contact with a dead body. The chapter emphasizes that God commands Moses and Aaron to obtain a red heifer without any blemish or defect. The heifer is slaughtered outside the camp, and its blood is sprinkled seven times toward the front of the tabernacle. The entire animal, including its skin, flesh, blood, and dung, is burned.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 19:11-16, the chapter details how those who have been defiled by contact with a dead body must undergo purification through water mixed with ashes from the burnt red heifer. This water is used for cleansing on the third day and seventh day after contact with a corpse. It serves as a means of purification to remove their uncleanness.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 19 concludes by highlighting that anyone who fails to undergo this purification process remains unclean and is cut off from the community of Israel. The chapter emphasizes that this ritual serves as an important requirement for maintaining ceremonial purity within the Israelite community. It also underscores how contact with death brings about defilement and necessitates specific rituals for restoration.

In summary:

Numbers 19 presents:

Ritual of red heifer for purification from contact with dead bodies;

Command to obtain unblemished red heifer;

Slaughtering outside camp; blood sprinkling toward tabernacle; burning whole animal.

Purification through water mixed with ashes;

Cleansing on third, seventh day after contact;

Means of removing uncleanness caused by death.

Failure to undergo purification leads to remaining unclean, cut off;

Importance of ritual for maintaining ceremonial purity;

Contact with death brings defilement; need for restoration.

This chapter focuses on the ritual of the red heifer and its significance in purifying those who have become ceremonially unclean due to contact with a dead body. Numbers 19 begins by describing how God commands Moses and Aaron to obtain a red heifer without any blemish or defect. The heifer is slaughtered outside the camp, and its blood is sprinkled seven times toward the front of the tabernacle. The entire animal, including its skin, flesh, blood, and dung, is burned.

Furthermore, Numbers 19 details how individuals who have been defiled by contact with a dead body must undergo purification through water mixed with ashes from the burnt red heifer. This water is used for cleansing on the third day and seventh day after coming into contact with a corpse. It serves as a means of removing their uncleanness caused by such contact.

The chapter concludes by highlighting that anyone who fails to undergo this purification process remains unclean and is cut off from the community of Israel. This emphasizes the importance of adhering to this ritual for maintaining ceremonial purity within the Israelite community. It also underscores how contact with death brings about defilement and necessitates specific rituals for restoration.

Numbers 19:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

This passage describes God speaking to Moses and Aaron.

1. The Power of God's Voice

2. The Importance of Following God's Instructions

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. James 1:22 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Numbers 19:2 This is the ordinance of the law which the LORD hath commanded, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring thee a red heifer without spot, wherein is no blemish, and upon which never came yoke:

God commanded the Israelites to bring a red heifer without blemish to be offered as a sacrifice.

1. The Significance of Obedience: Examining the Red Heifer in Numbers 19

2. The Power of Faithful Sacrifice: How the Red Heifer Foreshadows the Messiah

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 9:11-14 - When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

Numbers 19:3 And ye shall give her unto Eleazar the priest, that he may bring her forth without the camp, and one shall slay her before his face:

The Israelites are commanded to give a red heifer to Eleazar the priest, who will take it outside the camp and slay it.

1. The Holiness of Sacrifice: A Study of Numbers 19:3

2. The Necessity of Obedience: Learning from the Israelites in Numbers 19:3

1. Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

2. Hebrews 9:13-14 - For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Numbers 19:4 And Eleazar the priest shall take of her blood with his finger, and sprinkle of her blood directly before the tabernacle of the congregation seven times:

This passage describes how Eleazar the priest was to sprinkle the blood of a red heifer in front of the tabernacle seven times.

1. The Power of Repentance: Looking Deeply into the Significance of the Red Heifer Sacrifice

2. The Covenant of God: The Meaning Behind Obedience to the Old Testament Laws

1. Hebrews 9:13-14 - For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. Exodus 24:4-8 - And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.

Numbers 19:5 And one shall burn the heifer in his sight; her skin, and her flesh, and her blood, with her dung, shall he burn:

This passage describes the process of burning a heifer as an offering to God.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of Burning a Heifer

2. Taking Hold of God's Promises Through Obedience

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow"

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Numbers 19:6 And the priest shall take cedar wood, and hyssop, and scarlet, and cast it into the midst of the burning of the heifer.

The priest is instructed to take cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet and throw it into the burning of the heifer.

1. The Symbolic Significance of Cedarwood, Hyssop, and Scarlet in Numbers 19

2. The Spiritual Significance of the Burning of the Heifer in Numbers 19

1. Isaiah 55:12-13 - For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

2. John 15:1-3 - I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

Numbers 19:7 Then the priest shall wash his clothes, and he shall bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp, and the priest shall be unclean until the even.

The priest must wash and bathe in water before entering the camp and will remain unclean until the evening.

1. The Importance of Cleansing and Purifying Ourselves Before Serving God

2. The Power of God's Holiness in Our Lives

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Numbers 19:8 And he that burneth her shall wash his clothes in water, and bathe his flesh in water, and shall be unclean until the even.

This passage speaks of the ritual of purification which a person who burns a dead body must undergo.

1. The importance of ritual purification in spiritual life.

2. The importance of respecting the rituals of purification.

1. Leviticus 19:2, "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy."

2. Matthew 5:48, "You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Numbers 19:9 And a man that is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up without the camp in a clean place, and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin.

A clean man is to gather the ashes of a heifer and store them in a clean place outside of the camp of Israel to be used as water of separation for purification from sin.

1. Purification through the Ashes of the Heifer

2. Cleanliness and Cleansing through Separation

1. John 3:5 - "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Numbers 19:10 And he that gathereth the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: and it shall be unto the children of Israel, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among them, for a statute for ever.

This passage describes God's commandment to have an Israelite wash their clothes after gathering the ashes of a heifer, and it applies to all Israelites and foreigners living among them.

1. The importance of following God's commandments.

2. The significance of God's commands for both Israelites and foreigners.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Numbers 19:11 He that toucheth the dead body of any man shall be unclean seven days.

This passage emphasizes the need to be clean and separated from death.

1: Living For Life - Choosing to keep ourselves from death and living lives that are full of life.

2: Holiness and Cleanliness - Embracing a lifestyle that is set apart from the world and its ways.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2: Colossians 3:1-3 - If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Numbers 19:12 He shall purify himself with it on the third day, and on the seventh day he shall be clean: but if he purify not himself the third day, then the seventh day he shall not be clean.

This passage talks about the cleansing process of purifying oneself on the third and seventh day.

1. "A Renewed Spirit: A Closer Look at the Cleansing Process"

2. "Purification: A Key Element of Holiness"

1. John 15:3 - "Now you are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

2. James 4:8 - "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you."

Numbers 19:13 Whosoever toucheth the dead body of any man that is dead, and purifieth not himself, defileth the tabernacle of the LORD; and that soul shall be cut off from Israel: because the water of separation was not sprinkled upon him, he shall be unclean; his uncleanness is yet upon him.

Anyone touching a dead body without purifying themselves will defile the tabernacle of the Lord and will be cut off from Israel, as they have not been sprinkled with the water of separation.

1. The Power of Purification: How to Cleanse Ourselves to Draw Near to God

2. Separation from the Dead: How to Avoid Defiling the House of God

1. Leviticus 11:44, For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.

2. Psalm 24:3-4, Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

Numbers 19:14 This is the law, when a man dieth in a tent: all that come into the tent, and all that is in the tent, shall be unclean seven days.

The law in Numbers 19:14 states that anyone or anything that enters a tent where a person has died is considered unclean for seven days.

1. The Power of Life and Death: How Our Actions Affect Others

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Consequences of Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 1:15 - Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Numbers 19:15 And every open vessel, which hath no covering bound upon it, is unclean.

This passage reveals that any open vessel without a covering is considered unclean.

1: God wants us to be mindful of the things we keep in our lives and to be intentional about the way we use them.

2: We can be sure that God will guide us to live a life that is clean and upright.

1: Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2: Psalm 119:9 How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.

Numbers 19:16 And whosoever toucheth one that is slain with a sword in the open fields, or a dead body, or a bone of a man, or a grave, shall be unclean seven days.

This verse from the book of Numbers describes how someone who touches a dead body or a grave will be considered unclean for seven days.

1. The Holiness of God: A Look at Uncleanliness in the Bible

2. The Power of Death: Looking at the Consequences of Touching a Dead Body

1. Leviticus 17:15 - And every soul that eateth that which died of itself, or that which was torn with beasts, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger, he shall both wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

2. Deuteronomy 21:23 - His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

Numbers 19:17 And for an unclean person they shall take of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and running water shall be put thereto in a vessel:

This passage talks about how unclean persons must take the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin and use running water in a vessel.

1. The Power of Purification: How the Ashes of the Burnt Heifer Can Cleanse Us of Our Sins

2. Understanding Our Unworthiness: The Need for Purification and Repentance

1. Ezekiel 36:25-27 - I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Numbers 19:18 And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it upon the tent, and upon all the vessels, and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave:

This passage from Numbers 19:18 outlines the ritual of sprinkling hyssop in water on the tent, vessels, and people present if they had come into contact with a bone, a slain person, a dead body, or a grave.

1. The Power of Rituals: How ancient practices can bring us closer to God

2. An Unseen Enemy: How to protect ourselves and our loved ones from unseen dangers

1. Hebrews 9:19-21 - For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people

2. Leviticus 14:4-7 - Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop: And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water

Numbers 19:19 And the clean person shall sprinkle upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even.

On the third and seventh days, a clean person must sprinkle water on an unclean person and purify themselves with a bath and washing of clothes.

1. The Power of Purification: How God's Redemptive Love Cleanses our Sin

2. The Significance of the Third and Seventh Day: Finding Renewal in Cycles of Time

1. Ezekiel 36:25-27 - Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

2. John 13:4-5 - He then poured water into the basin, and began to wash his disciples feet and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded. So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, Lord, do You wash my feet?

Numbers 19:20 But the man that shall be unclean, and shall not purify himself, that soul shall be cut off from among the congregation, because he hath defiled the sanctuary of the LORD: the water of separation hath not been sprinkled upon him; he is unclean.

Anyone who is unclean and does not purify themselves will be cut off from the congregation, because they have defiled the sanctuary of the LORD.

1. Choose to be Sanctified: The importance of purifying oneself before the Lord

2. Separating Sin: The consequences of not purifying from sin.

1. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. Hebrews 12:14 - "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord."

Numbers 19:21 And it shall be a perpetual statute unto them, that he that sprinkleth the water of separation shall wash his clothes; and he that toucheth the water of separation shall be unclean until even.

A perpetual statute is given in Numbers 19:21, that those who sprinkle the water of separation must wash their clothes and those who touch the water of separation will remain unclean until the evening.

1. The Holiness of God: A Study on the Significance of Separation

2. The Power of Purity: Understanding Consecration and the Greatness of God

1. Leviticus 11:47-48 To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten.

2. 2 Corinthians 6:17-18 Therefore Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.

Numbers 19:22 And whatsoever the unclean person toucheth shall be unclean; and the soul that toucheth it shall be unclean until even.

The unclean will make whatever they touch unclean and the person who touches it will remain unclean until evening.

1. Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: A Study on Numbers 19:22

2. Becoming Clean: Understanding the Spiritual and Physical Requirements from Numbers 19:22

1. Isaiah 1:16-20 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Numbers 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 20:1-5 describes the events that occur at the beginning of the chapter. The Israelites, now in the wilderness of Zin, complain to Moses and Aaron about the lack of water. They express their dissatisfaction and frustration, even going as far as questioning why they were brought out of Egypt to die in the desert. Moses and Aaron seek guidance from God, who instructs them to gather the congregation and speak to a rock, which will bring forth water.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 20:6-13, the chapter details how Moses and Aaron gather the assembly before the rock. However, instead of speaking to it as commanded by God, Moses strikes it twice with his staff out of anger and frustration towards the people's complaints. Water does come forth abundantly from the rock for all to drink but due to his disobedience, God declares that Moses will not lead Israel into Canaan.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 20 concludes by highlighting further events that take place after this incident. The Edomites refuse passage through their land when approached by Moses with a request for safe passage for Israel. Instead of engaging in conflict with Edom, Israel takes an alternative route around their territory. Additionally, Aaron dies on Mount Hor according to God's command because he was not allowed to enter Canaan due to his involvement in striking the rock.

In summary:

Numbers 20 presents:

Israelite complaints about lack of water; questioning leadership;

Instruction from God gather assembly, speak to a rock for water.

Moses striking rock twice instead; disobedience towards God's command;

Water coming forth abundantly; consequence Moses not entering Canaan.

Refusal from Edomites for safe passage through their land;

Taking alternative route around Edom;

Death of Aaron on Mount Hor due to involvement in striking the rock.

This chapter focuses on the events surrounding the lack of water and Moses' disobedience at Meribah. Numbers 20 begins with the Israelites complaining about the lack of water in the wilderness of Zin and expressing their frustration towards Moses and Aaron. In response, God instructs Moses to gather the congregation and speak to a rock, which will bring forth water.

Furthermore, Numbers 20 details how Moses and Aaron gather the assembly before the rock. However, instead of speaking to it as commanded by God, Moses strikes it twice with his staff out of anger and frustration towards the people's complaints. Water does come forth abundantly from the rock for all to drink. However, due to his disobedience, God declares that Moses will not be allowed to lead Israel into Canaan.

The chapter concludes by highlighting additional events that occur after this incident. When approached by Moses for safe passage through their land, Edom refuses permission, leading Israel to take an alternative route around Edom's territory. Additionally, Aaron dies on Mount Hor according to God's command because he was not allowed to enter Canaan due to his involvement in striking the rock.

Numbers 20:1 Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

The Israelites traveled to Kadesh and Miriam died and was buried there.

1: Never take life for granted, as we can be taken away from us at any time.

2: Even in difficult times, we must find solace in the Lord and continue to trust Him.

1: James 4:14-15 - Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

2: Psalm 39:4-5 - Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is: that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity.

Numbers 20:2 And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

The congregation was in need of water, and they gathered together to confront Moses and Aaron.

1. God can provide us with all our needs even in times of distress.

2. Even when we are in difficult situations, we need to trust in the Lord and have faith in Him.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 20:3 And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD!

The people of Israel complained to Moses and wished they had died with their brethren.

1: When we are faced with hard times, we must remember to trust in God and not give into despair.

2: Even in moments of pain and suffering, we must rely on God for strength and guidance.

1: James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Numbers 20:4 And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?

The people of Israel question why they were led into the wilderness where they and their animals would die.

1. Trusting God in Times of Difficulty

2. Finding Faith in the Wilderness

1. Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Numbers 20:5 And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? it is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither is there any water to drink.

The Israelites complained to Moses and asked why they came out of Egypt if they would be brought to a place with no food or water.

1. Trusting God Even When The Path Seems Unclear

2. Learning To Appreciate The Small Blessings In Life

1. Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - "And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live."

Numbers 20:6 And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.

Moses and Aaron went to the tabernacle of the congregation in the presence of the assembly, and upon falling to their faces, the glory of the LORD appeared to them.

1: We can humbly enter the presence of God and seek His favor and grace in all our endeavors.

2: We can come before the LORD in prayer and petition, trusting that He will answer us and show us His glory.

1: Psalm 145:18-20 - The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them. The LORD preserves all who love Him, but all the wicked He will destroy.

2: 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon Him; for He cares for you.

Numbers 20:7 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is commanded to speak to the rock and water will come out of it to provide for the Israelites.

1: Obey God's Commands and Experience His Provision

2: Speaking to the Rock of Faith Brings Forth Miracles

1: Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Numbers 20:8 Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.

Moses and Aaron were instructed to take a rod and gather the assembly together in order to speak to the rock and produce water for the congregation and their beasts.

1. God can provide us with every need we have.

2. God wants us to trust in Him for our needs.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 34:9 - Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

Numbers 20:9 And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

Moses obeyed the LORD and took the rod from before Him.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. Trusting God and His Plans

1. Isaiah 55:9 - For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Numbers 20:10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?

Moses and Aaron gathered the people of Israel and spoke to them, asking if they needed water from the rock.

1. The Power of a Rebellious Heart

2. Trusting in God's Provision

1. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

Numbers 20:11 And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.

Moses smote the rock twice and water came out abundantly, providing for the congregation.

1. God will provide for us in times of need.

2. We must trust in Him and have faith in His promises.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Numbers 20:12 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.

Moses and Aaron were denied entry into the Promised Land because they failed to sanctify the Lord in the eyes of the Israelites.

1. Living a Sanctified Life in the Eyes of Others

2. The Consequences of Not Trusting God

1. Isaiah 8:13 - Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

2. James 4:7-8 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Numbers 20:13 This is the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the LORD, and he was sanctified in them.

The children of Israel strove with the Lord and were sanctified as a result.

1. Sanctification through striving with the Lord.

2. Learning to trust in the Lord through difficult times.

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Numbers 20:14 And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy brother Israel, Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us:

Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom to inform him of the hardships the Israelites had experienced.

1. When we experience difficult times, we should remember who our brother is and reach out for support.

2. God will provide us with strength and courage to face our troubles.

1. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Numbers 20:15 How our fathers went down into Egypt, and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians vexed us, and our fathers:

The Israelites recounted their time in Egypt and how the Egyptians had caused them distress.

1: God delivered the Israelites from their distress in Egypt and He will deliver us from ours too.

2: We should remember our past struggles and how God brought us through, trusting that He will do the same for us in the present.

1: Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Numbers 20:16 And when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border:

The Israelites cried out to the Lord and he heard their voice and sent an angel to lead them out of Egypt. They are now in Kadesh, a city on the edge of the land they were promised.

1. God is faithful and will always hear us when we cry out to Him.

2. God is always with us in our times of need and will provide deliverance.

1. Psalm 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Numbers 20:17 Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king's high way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders.

Moses requests that the Israelites be allowed to pass through Edom's territory without taking anything from them, and they agree to stay on the king's high way and not deviate from it.

1. Dependence on God - The journey through Edom could have been difficult, yet the Israelites trusted in God to protect them.

2. Obey God - The Israelites agreed to stay on the king's highway and not deviate from it, showing their obedience to God's commands.

1. Isaiah 2:3 - "And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem."

2. Proverbs 16:17 - "The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul."

Numbers 20:18 And Edom said unto him, Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword.

Edom warned Moses and the Israelites that they could not pass through their land, threatening to fight them with a sword if they tried.

1. God's faithfulness will protect us even when we are threatened.

2. We must remain faithful to God, even in the face of danger.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 20:19 And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without doing anything else, go through on my feet.

The Israelites asked permission from the Edomites to pass through their land on the highway and promised to pay for any water their cattle drank.

1. God is a God of mercy and grace and He provides us with opportunities to grow even in the most difficult of times.

2. The power of humility and service can be seen in the willingness of the Israelites to pay for their passage through Edom.

1. Matthew 11:29 - Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.

2. Philippians 2:5-8 - Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Numbers 20:20 And he said, Thou shalt not go through. And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand.

Edom refused to let the Israelites pass through their land, and they came against them with a large army.

1. God Provides Strength in Times of Hardship

2. God Calls Us to Stand Firm Against Opposition

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Ephesians 6:10-13 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."

Numbers 20:21 Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border: wherefore Israel turned away from him.

Edom refused to allow Israel to pass through their border, so Israel had to turn away.

1. The Power of Saying No: Learning to Respect Boundaries

2. The Consequences of Refusal: When Saying No Has Negative Outcomes

1. James 4:17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2. Isaiah 58:12 And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in.

Numbers 20:22 And the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, journeyed from Kadesh, and came unto mount Hor.

The children of Israel journeyed from Kadesh to Mount Hor.

1. The Journey of Faith - Learning to trust God even when the path is hard.

2. Overcoming Obstacles - How God equips us to face and overcome challenges.

1. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.

Numbers 20:23 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in mount Hor, by the coast of the land of Edom, saying,

Moses and Aaron were commanded to speak to the rock in mount Hor in order to bring forth water.

1: Obedience to God's commands brings forth a blessing.

2: Even when we don't understand, faithfulness to the Lord leads to provision.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 " For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: James 1:2-4 "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Numbers 20:24 Aaron shall be gathered unto his people: for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because ye rebelled against my word at the water of Meribah.

Aaron has passed away, and will not enter the promised land because of the Israelites' rebellion.

1. God s faithfulness is greater than our unfaithfulness.

2. We must not take God s grace for granted.

1. Psalm 103:8-10 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

2. Romans 3:23-24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Numbers 20:25 Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up unto mount Hor:

This passage describes the command of God to Moses to take Aaron and Eleazar his son up to Mount Hor.

1: We can learn from this passage how to obey God's commands with faith and trust.

2: We can also see from this passage the importance of honoring and respecting our parents.

1: Hebrews 11:8-12 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise

Numbers 20:26 And strip Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son: and Aaron shall be gathered unto his people, and shall die there.

Aaron, the High Priest of Israel, dies and his garments are passed on to his son Eleazar.

1. The legacy of faithful service: How Aaron's commitment to God's mission continued through his death and the passing of his garments to Eleazar.

2. Living a life of obedience: Appreciating the example of Aaron, who remained obedient to God even in death.

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation."

2. Romans 5:3-5 - "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Numbers 20:27 And Moses did as the LORD commanded: and they went up into mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation.

Moses obeyed God's command and led the congregation to Mount Hor.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. How our faith can help us to trust in God's plan.

1. Ephesians 6:5-6 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

2. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Numbers 20:28 And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there in the top of the mount: and Moses and Eleazar came down from the mount.

Moses removed Aaron's garments and placed them on his son Eleazar, and Aaron died on the top of the mountain. Moses and Eleazar then descended from the mountain.

1. The importance of legacy and passing on wisdom to younger generations - Proverbs 4:1-4

2. The importance of faith and obedience in difficult times - Hebrews 11:8-10

1. Proverbs 4:1-4 - Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight, for I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching. When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, he taught me and said to me, Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Numbers 20:29 And when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel.

The death of Aaron was mourned for thirty days by the whole house of Israel.

1: The importance of mourning for the loss of a dear one.

2: The value of honoring a loved one even in death.

1: John 14:1-3, Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

2: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Numbers 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 21:1-9 describes the Israelites' journey through the wilderness and their encounter with fiery serpents. The chapter emphasizes that the people spoke against God and Moses, expressing their discontent with the manna provided to them. As a result, God sends venomous snakes among them, causing many to be bitten and die. The Israelites repent and ask Moses to intercede on their behalf. In response, God instructs Moses to make a bronze serpent and set it on a pole so that whoever looks at it will live.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 21:10-20, the chapter details various stops along the journey of the Israelites towards Canaan. They travel from Oboth to Iye Abarim, from the wilderness of Moab to Beer, and from Mattanah to Nahaliel. These locations are mentioned as significant landmarks during their desert wanderings.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 21 concludes by highlighting specific victories achieved by Israel against neighboring nations during this period. They defeat Sihon king of the Amorites and Og king of Bashan, capturing their cities and occupying their territories. The chapter also mentions an ancient song known as "The Book of Wars of the Lord," which recounts these military triumphs.

In summary:

Numbers 21 presents:

Israelite discontent with manna; speaking against God, Moses;

Venomous snakes sent; repentance, intercession sought.

Making bronze serpent on pole for healing;

Looking at it ensures life amid snakebites.

Journey through various locations Oboth, Iye Abarim, wilderness of Moab, Beer, Mattanah, Nahaliel during desert wanderings.

Victories over Sihon king of Amorites, Og king of Bashan;

Capturing cities, occupying territories;

Mention of "The Book of Wars of the Lord" recounting military triumphs.

This chapter focuses on the Israelites' journey through the wilderness, their encounter with fiery serpents, and various victories achieved against neighboring nations. Numbers 21 begins with the Israelites expressing their discontent with the manna provided to them and speaking against God and Moses. In response, God sends venomous snakes among them, causing many to be bitten and die. The people repent and ask Moses to intercede on their behalf. In response to Moses' intercession, God instructs him to make a bronze serpent and set it on a pole so that whoever looks at it will be healed from snakebites.

Furthermore, Numbers 21 details various stops along the journey of the Israelites towards Canaan. These include Oboth, Iye Abarim, the wilderness of Moab, Beer, Mattanah, and Nahaliel. These locations serve as significant landmarks during their desert wanderings.

The chapter concludes by highlighting specific victories achieved by Israel against neighboring nations during this period. They defeat Sihon king of the Amorites and Og king of Bashan, capturing their cities and occupying their territories. Additionally mentioned is an ancient song known as "The Book of Wars of the Lord," which recounts these military triumphs.

Numbers 21:1 And when king Arad the Canaanite, which dwelt in the south, heard tell that Israel came by the way of the spies; then he fought against Israel, and took some of them prisoners.

King Arad, a Canaanite ruler in the south, heard that the Israelites were coming and attacked them, taking some of them prisoner.

1. Trust in God, even in the midst of struggle.

2. The importance of perseverance and courage in the face of adversity.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Numbers 21:2 And Israel vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou wilt indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.

Israel vowed to God that if He delivered the people into their hands, they would destroy their cities.

1. The Power of a Vow: Exploring the Implications of Making Promises to God

2. The Consequences of Breaking Promises to God

1. Deuteronomy 7:2: And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them.

2. Psalm 15:4: In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

Numbers 21:3 And the LORD hearkened to the voice of Israel, and delivered up the Canaanites; and they utterly destroyed them and their cities: and he called the name of the place Hormah.

God listened to the Israelites and destroyed the Canaanites and their cities, and named the place Hormah.

1. God listens when we as his people cry out to him in our time of need.

2. God's judgment is sure and his promises are faithful.

1. Psalm 6:9, "The LORD has heard my cry for mercy; the LORD accepts my prayer."

2. Joshua 24:12, "And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow."

Numbers 21:4 And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

The people's journey from Mount Hor was difficult and disheartening.

1: When life seems difficult and discouraging, look to God for strength and courage.

2: Have faith and trust in God even in the most challenging of times.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Numbers 21:5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

The people of Israel complained to God and Moses, asking why they were brought out of Egypt to the wilderness to die for lack of food and water.

1. God's Provision in the Wilderness: When Life Seems Unbearable

2. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times: Learning to Trust

1. Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

2. Exodus 16:11-15 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the Lord your God. And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat.

Numbers 21:6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

The LORD sent serpents to punish the people of Israel, resulting in many deaths.

1: God's justice is perfect and He will bring punishment for wrongdoing.

2: We must always remember to place our trust in the Lord and obey His commands.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Numbers 21:7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

The people of Israel had sinned and asked Moses to pray to the LORD to remove the serpents from them.

1. The consequences of sin and the power of prayer

2. Relying on God in times of trouble

1. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Psalm 50:15 - and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

Numbers 21:8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

God commanded Moses to make a bronze serpent and set it on a pole, so that anyone who looked at it would be saved from a deadly snakebite.

1. The Power of Faith and Obedience: Learning from the Story of the Fiery Serpent

2. Looking to Christ: Finding Hope and Healing through the Cross

1. John 3:14-15 - "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

2. Hebrews 9:24-28 - "For Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Numbers 21:9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Moses crafted a brass serpent and put it on a pole so that anyone who had been bitten by a serpent could look at the brass serpent and be healed.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Heals Through Belief

2. The Serpent on the Pole: A Symbol of Redemption

1. 1 Peter 2:24 - "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."

2. James 5:15 - "The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven."

Numbers 21:10 And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in Oboth.

The Israelites journeyed and camped in Oboth.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in His protection and provision for His people, even in the midst of times of distress.

2: God is able to lead us on a path of hope and faith, even when it may seem impossible.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Exodus 13:21-22 And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

Numbers 21:11 And they journeyed from Oboth, and pitched at Ijeabarim, in the wilderness which is before Moab, toward the sunrising.

The Israelites journeyed from Oboth and camped at Ijeabarim in the wilderness near Moab, facing east.

1. The Journey of Faith: Trusting God to Lead Us

2. Overcoming Wilderness Challenges in Life

1. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

Numbers 21:12 From thence they removed, and pitched in the valley of Zared.

The Israelites moved on from a place and pitched their tents in the valley of Zared.

1. Our faith journey is marked by the places we go and the decisions we make.

2. Even when life is difficult, God is with us and helps us make progress.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Hebrews 11:10-12 - For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

Numbers 21:13 From thence they removed, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, which is in the wilderness that cometh out of the coasts of the Amorites: for Arnon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.

Israel crossed the Arnon River, signifying a new stage of their journey.

1: We can take courage in the Lord to face new stages in our lives, trusting Him to guide us.

2: We can have faith that the Lord will protect us and provide for us in our journeys.

1: Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2: Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Numbers 21:14 Wherefore it is said in the book of the wars of the LORD, What he did in the Red sea, and in the brooks of Arnon,

The book of Numbers records a song about God's mighty acts in the Red Sea and the Brook of Arnon.

1. God's Mighty Acts: Reflecting on the Miracles of God

2. Overcoming Struggles with Faith: The Example of God's People

1. Exodus 14:13-15; Psalm 106:7-9

2. Isaiah 43:15-17; Joshua 2:9-11

Numbers 21:15 And at the stream of the brooks that goeth down to the dwelling of Ar, and lieth upon the border of Moab.

The Israelites passed through the brook, located at the border of Moab, on their way to the dwelling of Ar.

1. God Guides Us Through Unexpected Places

2. Overcoming Difficulties in Our Journey

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Numbers 21:16 And from thence they went to Beer: that is the well whereof the LORD spake unto Moses, Gather the people together, and I will give them water.

The Israelites traveled from the wilderness to Beer, where the Lord promised to provide them with water.

1. Putting Our Trust in God - We should put our trust in God to provide us with what we need, even if it's something as basic as water.

2. The Journey of Faith - Following God can be a journey of many twists and turns, but He will always provide for us in the end.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

Numbers 21:17 Then Israel sang this song, Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it:

The Israelites sang a song of joy and celebration in thanksgiving for the springing up of a well.

1. The Power of Song: How Worship and Thanksgiving Can Bring Joy and Abundance

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Relying on God for Our Needs

1. Psalm 33:1-3 Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

2. John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

Numbers 21:18 The princes digged the well, the nobles of the people digged it, by the direction of the lawgiver, with their staves. And from the wilderness they went to Mattanah:

This passage describes how the Israelites, under the guidance of their lawgiver, dug a well in the wilderness and then traveled to Mattanah.

1. Trusting in God's Guidance: Learning to Follow Directions

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How the Israelites Received a Gift of Refreshment

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

2. John 14:15-17 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you."

Numbers 21:19 And from Mattanah to Nahaliel: and from Nahaliel to Bamoth:

The passage describes a journey from Mattanah to Bamoth.

1: The journey of faith - We can look to Numbers 21:19 to see how God was with the Israelites on their journey, and how He will be with us too as we journey through life.

2: The importance of the destination - Numbers 21:19 reminds us that the destination is just as important as the journey, as God ultimately led the Israelites to Bamoth.

1: Exodus 13:21 - "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night."

2: Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Numbers 21:20 And from Bamoth in the valley, that is in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah, which looketh toward Jeshimon.

God's people followed his guidance to the promised land.

1. God will always lead us to our destiny if we trust and obey him.

2. No matter what valley of difficulty we find ourselves in, God will be with us every step of the way.

1. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 The Lord our God said to us in Horeb, You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Turn and take your journey, and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, in the hill country and in the lowland and in the Negeb and by the seacoast, the land of the Canaanites, and Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates.

2. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Numbers 21:21 And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, saying,

Israel requested Sihon, the Amorite king, to let them pass through his land.

1. The importance of being humble and open-minded when dealing with others.

2. The importance of respect and understanding when engaging with those of different backgrounds.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Ephesians 4:2 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Numbers 21:22 Let me pass through thy land: we will not turn into the fields, or into the vineyards; we will not drink of the waters of the well: but we will go along by the king's high way, until we be past thy borders.

Passage The people of Israel ask permission from the king of Edom to pass through their land and promise not to disturb the land or its water sources by staying on the main road until leaving the borders.

1. The importance of respecting boundaries and honoring promises.

2. Learning to trust God's plan and guidance even when it seems difficult.

1. Matthew 7:12 - So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Numbers 21:23 And Sihon would not suffer Israel to pass through his border: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and went out against Israel into the wilderness: and he came to Jahaz, and fought against Israel.

Sihon refused to let Israel pass through his border, so he gathered his people and went out against Israel into the wilderness. He met them at Jahaz and fought against them.

1. God's protection is always sufficient, no matter the opposition.

2. We must be willing to fight for what is right.

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord.

2. 1 Chronicles 22:13 - "Then you will have success if you are careful to observe the decrees and laws that the Lord gave Moses for Israel. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged."

Numbers 21:24 And Israel smote him with the edge of the sword, and possessed his land from Arnon unto Jabbok, even unto the children of Ammon: for the border of the children of Ammon was strong.

Israel smote the king of the Amorites and gained possession of his land.

1: The Lord will provide victory for those who obey His commands.

2: We must remain strong in our faith even when facing difficult circumstances.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Numbers 21:25 And Israel took all these cities: and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon, and in all the villages thereof.

Israel conquered all the cities of the Amorites, including Heshbon and its surrounding villages, and began to inhabit them.

1. God Gives Victory: The Story of Israel's Conquest of the Amorites

2. Embracing the Promises of God: Taking Possession of the Land

1. Exodus 6:8 - And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it to you for an inheritance: I am the Lord.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Numbers 21:26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and taken all his land out of his hand, even unto Arnon.

Sihon, the king of the Amorites, fought against the former king of Moab and took all of his land, including Arnon.

1. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away.

2. Be vigilant and courageous in the face of adversity.

1. Job 1:21 - "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 21:27 Wherefore they that speak in proverbs say, Come into Heshbon, let the city of Sihon be built and prepared:

This passage reflects the importance of Heshbon in the Biblical narrative.

1. God's Faithfulness in Establishing His People in Promised Land

2. The Power of a City to Reflect God's Glory

1. Joshua 21:43-45 - The importance of Heshbon in the fulfillment of God's promise

2. Romans 9:17 - God's sovereign hand in shaping history and establishing his people

Numbers 21:28 For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it hath consumed Ar of Moab, and the lords of the high places of Arnon.

A fire has consumed the city of Ar and its lords.

1: God is powerful and can use fire to bring about justice.

2: The consequences for ignoring God's laws can be severe.

1: Isaiah 26:11 - Lord, when thy hand is lifted up, they will not see: but they shall see, and be ashamed for their envy at the people; yea, the fire of thine enemies shall devour them.

2: Jeremiah 21:14 - I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, saith the Lord: and I will kindle a fire in the forest thereof, and it shall devour all things round about it.

Numbers 21:29 Woe to thee, Moab! thou art undone, O people of Chemosh: he hath given his sons that escaped, and his daughters, into captivity unto Sihon king of the Amorites.

Moab is doomed for worshipping false gods.

1: Don't let false gods steal your identity and control your life.

2: Put your trust in the one true God.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2: Jeremiah 10:10 But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation.

Numbers 21:30 We have shot at them; Heshbon is perished even unto Dibon, and we have laid them waste even unto Nophah, which reacheth unto Medeba.

God's people are victorious in battle against the Amorites, destroying their cities in the process.

1: In times of adversity, God will be with us and deliver us from all evil.

2: We should be thankful for the protection and blessings God provides in our lives.

1: Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 21:31 Thus Israel dwelt in the land of the Amorites.

Israel settled in the land of the Amorites.

1. God is always faithful to His promises.

2. God is always with us in our journey.

1. Deuteronomy 1:20-21 - "And I said to you, You have come to the mountains of the Amorites, which the Lord our God is giving us. Look, the Lord your God has set the land before you; go up and possess it, as the Lord God of your fathers has spoken to you; do not fear or be discouraged. "

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may boldly say: The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Numbers 21:32 And Moses sent to spy out Jaazer, and they took the villages thereof, and drove out the Amorites that were there.

Moses sent spies to Jaazer, who captured the villages and drove out the Amorites.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times: How Moses Navigated a Difficult Situation

2. Relying on God's Promises: How God Helped Moses Succeed

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Numbers 21:33 And they turned and went up by the way of Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he, and all his people, to the battle at Edrei.

Israel fought a battle against Og, the king of Bashan, at Edrei.

1. The Battle of Edrei: A Lesson in Faith and Strength

2. God's Guidance: Overcoming Challenges with the Lord's Help

1. Joshua 1:9: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 44:3: "It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them."

Numbers 21:34 And the LORD said unto Moses, Fear him not: for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.

God tells Moses not to be afraid and that He has given him the Amorite king of Heshbon and his people into his hands.

1. God is always with us and will give us strength in times of need.

2. We can trust in God's promises and rely on His power to guide us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "This is what the LORD says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's.'"

Numbers 21:35 So they smote him, and his sons, and all his people, until there was none left him alive: and they possessed his land.

God s justice is swift and sure towards those who oppose Him.

1: The Lord is a righteous judge and will punish those who oppose Him.

2: God is loving and just, and He will bring justice to all who go against Him.

1: Revelation 20:12-15 - And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

2: Psalm 9:7-8 - But the Lord shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

Numbers 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 22:1-14 introduces the story of Balaam, a diviner from Pethor. Balak, the king of Moab, becomes fearful of the Israelites and their victories over neighboring nations. He sends messengers to Balaam, offering him rewards to curse the Israelites and prevent their progress. Balaam seeks God's guidance on this matter and is initially told not to go with Balak's messengers or curse the Israelites.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 22:15-35, the chapter details how Balak sends more prestigious messengers to Balaam, promising greater rewards. Despite God's initial instruction, Balaam asks again for permission to go with them. God permits him but warns him only to speak what He commands. Along his journey, an angel of the Lord appears before Balaam's donkey, causing it to veer off course and frustrate Balaam. After beating his donkey three times, God opens its mouth so that it speaks to rebuke Balaam.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 22 concludes by highlighting how Balaam finally arrives at Balak's location in Moab. The king takes him up to high places where he can overlook the Israelite camp and instructs him to curse them from there. However, instead of cursing them as requested by Balak, God puts words of blessing into Balaam's mouth each time he attempts a curse. This frustrates Balak who expected curses but receives blessings instead.

In summary:

Numbers 22 presents:

Balak's fear of Israelite victories; sending messengers;

Balaam offered rewards for cursing Israelites; seeking God's guidance.

Initial instruction do not go or curse;

Balak sending more prestigious messengers; greater rewards;

Permission granted but only to speak what God commands.

Angel of the Lord appearing before Balaam's donkey;

Donkey speaking to rebuke Balaam.

Arrival at Balak's location; overlooking Israelite camp;

Attempts to curse turned into blessings by God's intervention;

Frustration of Balak who expected curses but received blessings instead.

This chapter focuses on the story of Balaam and his encounter with Balak, the king of Moab. Numbers 22 begins with Balak becoming fearful of the Israelites and their victories over neighboring nations. He sends messengers to Balaam, a diviner from Pethor, offering him rewards to curse the Israelites and hinder their progress. Balaam seeks God's guidance on this matter and is initially instructed not to go with Balak's messengers or curse the Israelites.

Furthermore, Numbers 22 details how Balak sends more prestigious messengers to Balaam, promising even greater rewards. Despite God's initial instruction, Balaam asks again for permission to go with them. God permits him but warns him only to speak what He commands. Along his journey, an angel of the Lord appears before Balaam's donkey, causing it to veer off course and frustrate Balaam. After beating his donkey three times in frustration, God opens its mouth so that it speaks and rebukes Balaam.

The chapter concludes by highlighting how Balaam finally arrives at Balak's location in Moab. The king takes him up high places where he can overlook the Israelite camp and instructs him to curse them from there. However, instead of cursing them as requested by Balak, each time Balaam attempts a curse, God puts words of blessing into his mouth. This frustrates Balak who expected curses but receives blessings instead.

Numbers 22:1 And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in the plains of Moab on this side Jordan by Jericho.

The Israelites traveled and camped in the plains of Moab.

1: God provides for His people, even in difficult circumstances.

2: We should trust in the Lord and His ability to provide for us.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Philippians 4:19 - "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Numbers 22:2 And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites.

Balak saw the victories of Israel over the Amorites.

1: We can learn from the example of Israel's faith in God and courage to fight for what is right.

2: Our faith should guide our decisions and give us strength to persevere.

1: Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14, Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

Numbers 22:3 And Moab was sore afraid of the people, because they were many: and Moab was distressed because of the children of Israel.

Moab was fearful of the many Israelites.

1. Don't be afraid of what you can't control; trust the Lord instead.

2. Fear can be a response to a situation, but don't let it take control.

1. Matthew 10:26-31 - "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known."

2. Psalm 56:3-4 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid."

Numbers 22:4 And Moab said unto the elders of Midian, Now shall this company lick up all that are round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time.

Moab was worried that the Israelites would take over all their surrounding territory, so they asked the elders of Midian for help. Balak was the king of the Moabites at the time.

1. The Power of Fear: How Fear Causes Us to Make Poor Decisions

2. The Value of Unity: How Coming Together Can Bring Success

1. Psalm 118:8-9 - It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

2. Matthew 6:25-27 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Numbers 22:5 He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me:

God sends messengers to Balaam, asking him to come and help him confront the people of Egypt who have taken over the land.

1. Trust in God in Times of Need

2. Obedience Brings Blessing

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Numbers 22:6 Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me: peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land: for I wot that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed.

Balak, the king of Moab, requested that Balaam, a prophet, curse the people of Israel, because they were too powerful for him to defeat. He believed that Balaam's blessing or cursing had the power to affect the people's fortunes.

1. The Power of Blessing and Cursing - Exploring the implications of Numbers 22:6 and how it relates to our lives today.

2. The Blessing of Obedience - Drawing from the story of Balak and Balaam to illustrate God's favor on those who obey His commands.

1. Proverbs 26:2 - "Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight."

2. James 3:10 - "Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so."

Numbers 22:7 And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the rewards of divination in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spake unto him the words of Balak.

The elders of Moab and Midian went to Balaam with offerings to ask him to speak a blessing on Balak.

1. God's blessings can come in unexpected ways.

2. Using divination for selfish gain never results in blessings.

1. Jeremiah 14:14 - "Then the Lord said to me, The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I have not sent them or appointed them or spoken to them. They are prophesying to you false visions, divinations, idolatries and the delusions of their own minds."

2. Proverbs 16:25 - "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

Numbers 22:8 And he said unto them, Lodge here this night, and I will bring you word again, as the LORD shall speak unto me: and the princes of Moab abode with Balaam.

Balaam was instructed by the Lord to tell the princes of Moab to stay the night and he will return with an answer.

1. The Power of Patience: How Waiting for God's Answer Can Bring Blessings

2. God's Timing is Perfect: Learning to Trust in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

Numbers 22:9 And God came unto Balaam, and said, What men are these with thee?

Balaam was asked by God who the men with him were.

1. Knowing Who We Are With: Reflecting on the importance of companionship and the power of God's presence.

2. Taking Time to Listen: Understanding the value of listening to God and reflecting on our relationships.

1. Proverbs 13:20 - Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

2. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Numbers 22:10 And Balaam said unto God, Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, hath sent unto me, saying,

Balaam is asked by Balak, the king of Moab, to come and curse Israel.

1. We should never be tempted to do something contrary to God's will.

2. We should always seek God's guidance before taking action.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

Numbers 22:11 Behold, there is a people come out of Egypt, which covereth the face of the earth: come now, curse me them; peradventure I shall be able to overcome them, and drive them out.

Balak, King of Moab, asked Balaam to curse the people of Israel who had recently come out of Egypt and were now covering the face of the earth.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Overcoming Fear in the Face of Challenges

1. Ephesians 6:11-12 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Numbers 22:12 And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed.

God forbids Balaam from cursing the people of Israel, because they are blessed by God.

1. The Blessing of Obedience - God shows us that when we obey Him, we are blessed.

2. The Curse of Disobedience - Disobeying God can lead to a curse instead of a blessing.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

2. Proverbs 28:9 - If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable.

Numbers 22:13 And Balaam rose up in the morning, and said unto the princes of Balak, Get you into your land: for the LORD refuseth to give me leave to go with you.

Balaam is instructed by God to refuse Balak's request to accompany him to his land.

1. God's Word Is Clear - Even When It Is Uncomfortable

2. Walking by Faith - Following God's Will No Matter the Cost

1. John 14:15, "If you love me, keep my commands."

2. James 4:7, "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Numbers 22:14 And the princes of Moab rose up, and they went unto Balak, and said, Balaam refuseth to come with us.

The princes of Moab went to Balak to inform him that Balaam refused to come with them.

1. Recognizing God's Will: Knowing When to Obey and When to Refuse

2. Trusting God's Plans: The Journey to Finding True Contentment

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Isaiah 30:21 "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Numbers 22:15 And Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they.

Balak sent more and more honorable princes to speak to Balaam in an attempt to change his mind about going with them.

1. When faced with adversity, seek more honorable solutions.

2. The importance of discernment in decision-making.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

2. James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Numbers 22:16 And they came to Balaam, and said to him, Thus saith Balak the son of Zippor, Let nothing, I pray thee, hinder thee from coming unto me:

Balaam is asked to come to Balak.

1. Taking the right steps and following God's will in all situations.

2. Don't let anything stand in the way of doing God's will.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Numbers 22:17 For I will promote thee unto very great honour, and I will do whatsoever thou sayest unto me: come therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people.

God commanded Balaam to use his powers of prophecy to bless the people of Israel, rather than curse them as Balak had wanted.

1. God gives us the power to bless, not to curse.

2. God honors those who honor Him.

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2. James 3:9-10 - With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Numbers 22:18 And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more.

Balaam refuses to go against the word of God, even if promised a house full of silver and gold.

1. The power of faith and the importance of living by God's word.

2. The blessings of obedience to God's will.

1. Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. Joshua 24:15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Numbers 22:19 Now therefore, I pray you, tarry ye also here this night, that I may know what the LORD will say unto me more.

God wants us to seek out his guidance, so that we can make decisions that bring glory to him.

1: Seek God's Guidance - Proverbs 3:5-6

2: Listening to God's Voice - 1 Kings 19:11-12

1: James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not;

2: Jeremiah 33:3 - Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Numbers 22:20 And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do.

God commands Balaam to obey the men who call him, and to follow the word of God.

1. Obeying God in Uncomfortable Situations

2. The Power of God s Word

1. Matthew 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you

2. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Numbers 22:21 And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab.

Balaam rises in the morning and sets off with the princes of Moab.

1. Making Haste: The Importance of Actively Pursuing Our Goals

2. Patience is a Virtue: The Need to Persevere

1. Psalm 46:10: "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. James 1:4: "Let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

Numbers 22:22 And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him.

Balaam was riding his donkey when he was stopped by an angel of the Lord, who acted as an adversary against him.

1. Learning To Recognize Divine Intervention In Our Lives

2. Overcoming Obstacles In Our Journey Of Faith

1. Isaiah 30:21, "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left."

2. Hebrews 12:1-2, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Numbers 22:23 And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way.

Balaam was travelling on an ass when the angel of the Lord appeared in the way, blocking their path. The ass turned aside to avoid the angel, but Balaam smote the ass in an attempt to turn her back.

1. The Power of Obedience - How God works through our obedience to Him

2. A Heart of Discernment - Learning to recognize the presence of God in our lives

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

Numbers 22:24 But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side.

The angel of the Lord blocked Balaam's path with walls on either side.

1. God is always watching us and protecting us from danger.

2. We should always seek God's guidance in the decisions we make.

1. Psalm 91:11-12 - "For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

Numbers 22:25 And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again.

Balaam's disobedience results in his punishment.

1: God will not be mocked - Galatians 6:7

2: We must be obedient to the Lord - 1 Samuel 15:22

1: Proverbs 17:3 - The fining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the Lord trieth the hearts.

2: Isaiah 55:8 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

Numbers 22:26 And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left.

The Angel of the Lord stood in a narrow place with no way of escape.

1. When we face difficulties, God is with us to show the way.

2. We must trust in God's guidance even when we are in a tight spot.

1. Psalm 32:8, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

2. Isaiah 26:3, "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."

Numbers 22:27 And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff.

Balaam's arrogance and lack of humility led to his punishment.

1. Pride goes before a fall: the story of Balaam.

2. The importance of humility: learning from Balaam's mistake.

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Numbers 22:28 And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?

Balaam smote his ass three times and the LORD opened the ass's mouth and she asked Balaam why he had done so.

1. "The Lord Hears the Cries of the Meek"

2. "God's Unusual Interventions"

1. Psalm 34:18: "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Matthew 5:5: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Numbers 22:29 And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee.

Balaam was angered by the ass speaking to him and wished for a sword to kill it.

1. The Power of Speech: The Danger of Misusing Words

2. Learning Patience from Balaam: Being Slow to Anger

1. James 1:19-20: "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 15:1: "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Numbers 22:30 And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay.

Balaam's donkey speaks to him, asking why it has been treated differently than before. Balaam responds that it has not.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Balaam and His Donkey

2. The Power of Love: How Balaam's Donkey Intervened to Save Him

1. Proverbs 15:33 - "The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility."

2. 1 John 4:7-8 - "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

Numbers 22:31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

The Lord opened Balaam's eyes, allowing him to see the angel of the Lord standing in the way with a drawn sword.

1. God's presence is revealed in unexpected ways.

2. God's power should lead us to humility.

1. Isaiah 6:1-5 Seeing the Lord in his glory leads us to humility.

2. Genesis 32:24-28 God reveals himself to those who seek him.

Numbers 22:32 And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me:

The angel of the Lord asks Balaam why he has beaten his donkey three times, as the Lord had gone out to confront him because his way was perverse.

1. God is in control of our lives, even when we don't realize it.

2. God cares for us and looks out for us even when we don't recognize it.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

Numbers 22:33 And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive.

The ass recognized God's presence and protected Balaam from harm.

1. The Power of God in Unexpected Places

2. Recognizing God's Voice in Our Lives

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Numbers 22:34 And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again.

The Angel of the Lord had stood in the way against Balaam, but Balaam had not known and had thus sinned.

1. God's presence should be the first priority in our lives.

2. Recognizing God's will is an important part of being a faithful follower.

1. Psalm 16:8 - I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

Numbers 22:35 And the angel of the LORD said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

Balaam is instructed by an angel of the LORD to accompany the princes of Balak and to speak only the words that the angel speaks to him.

1. God speaks to us and expects us to obey.

2. We should always follow the word of the Lord.

1. Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. James 1:22-25, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Numbers 22:36 And when Balak heard that Balaam was come, he went out to meet him unto a city of Moab, which is in the border of Arnon, which is in the utmost coast.

Balak heard that Balaam had arrived and went to meet him in a city of Moab near the Arnon river.

1. The Power of Welcome: How Our Actions Speak Louder Than Words

2. The Power of Presence: Understanding How Our Presence Affects Others

1. Romans 12:13: Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2. Hebrews 13:2: Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Numbers 22:37 And Balak said unto Balaam, Did I not earnestly send unto thee to call thee? wherefore camest thou not unto me? am I not able indeed to promote thee to honour?

Balak asked Balaam why he did not come to him, insisting that he had the power to elevate him to a place of honor.

1) The Power of God's Call to Serve 2) Responding to God's Invitation

1) Ephesians 3:20-21 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. 2) Romans 8:28-29 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Numbers 22:38 And Balaam said unto Balak, Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the word that God putteth in my mouth, that shall I speak.

Balaam humbly acknowledges that he had no power to say anything apart from what God put in his mouth.

1. The power of humility and obedience to God's will.

2. The importance of acknowledging God's sovereignty over our lives.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

Numbers 22:39 And Balaam went with Balak, and they came unto Kirjathhuzoth.

Balaam and Balak traveled to Kirjathhuzoth.

1. The Power of Traveling Together: The Strength of Unity.

2. Following the Path of God: The Blessings of Obedience.

1. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Numbers 22:40 And Balak offered oxen and sheep, and sent to Balaam, and to the princes that were with him.

Balak and Balaam make a sacrifice to God.

1. The power of sacrifice in our relationship with God

2. The significance of offering up our best to God

1. Philippians 4:18 "But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."

2. Leviticus 7:12-15 "If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried. Besides the cakes, he shall offer for his offering leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings. And of it he shall offer one out of the whole oblation for an heave offering unto the LORD, and it shall be the priest's that sprinkleth the blood of the peace offerings. And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning."

Numbers 22:41 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Balak took Balaam, and brought him up into the high places of Baal, that thence he might see the utmost part of the people.

Balak brought Balaam to the high places of Baal so that he could see the entire people.

1. The Power of a Visual: How God Reveals Himself through What We See

2. The Journey to True Faith: Surrendering Our Hearts to God

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Numbers 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 23:1-12 introduces the first attempt of Balaam to curse the Israelites. Balak takes Balaam to a high place where they build seven altars and offer sacrifices. Balaam seeks God's guidance and receives a message from Him. Instead of cursing the Israelites, Balaam delivers words of blessing three times, emphasizing that he can only speak what God puts in his mouth.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 23:13-26, the chapter details the second attempt by Balak and Balaam to curse the Israelites. They move to another location where altars are built and sacrifices are offered once again. Balaam seeks God's guidance once more and receives another message from Him. Similar to the first attempt, instead of cursing, Balaam speaks words of blessing upon Israel.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 23 concludes by highlighting how Balak becomes frustrated with Balaam's inability to curse the Israelites despite multiple attempts. He insists that they try one more time at a different location, hoping for a different outcome. However, before proceeding with this third attempt, Balaam makes it clear that he can only speak what God commands him to say.

In summary:

Numbers 23 presents:

First attempt building altars, offering sacrifices;

Seeking God's guidance; delivering words of blessing instead of curses.

Second attempt repeating process at another location;

Seeking God's guidance again; speaking words of blessing upon Israel.

Frustration of Balak with inability to obtain desired curses;

Insistence on trying one more time at a different location;

Balaam reiterating his commitment to speaking only what God commands.

This chapter focuses on two attempts made by Balak and Balaam to curse the Israelites, as well as Balaam's commitment to speaking only what God commands. Numbers 23 begins with Balak taking Balaam to a high place where they build seven altars and offer sacrifices. Balaam seeks God's guidance and instead of cursing the Israelites, he delivers words of blessing three times, emphasizing that he can only speak what God puts in his mouth.

Furthermore, Numbers 23 details the second attempt made by Balak and Balaam to curse the Israelites. They move to another location where altars are built and sacrifices are offered once again. Balaam seeks God's guidance once more and receives another message from Him. Similar to the first attempt, instead of cursing, Balaam speaks words of blessing upon Israel.

The chapter concludes by highlighting Balak's frustration with Balaam's inability to obtain the desired curses on the Israelites despite multiple attempts. Balak insists on trying one more time at a different location, hoping for a different outcome. However, before proceeding with this third attempt, Balaam makes it clear that he can only speak what God commands him to say.

Numbers 23:1 And Balaam said unto Balak, Build me here seven altars, and prepare me here seven oxen and seven rams.

Balaam instructs Balak to build seven altars and prepare seven oxen and seven rams.

1. The importance of following God's instructions.

2. The power of seven in the Bible.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

2. Exodus 34:17 "You shall make an altar of earth for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you."

Numbers 23:2 And Balak did as Balaam had spoken; and Balak and Balaam offered on every altar a bullock and a ram.

Balaam and Balak offered sacrifices on every altar to demonstrate their reverence and faith in God.

1. The importance of demonstrating reverence for God in our actions.

2. The power of a faithful and devoted heart to bring us closer to God.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Numbers 23:3 And Balaam said unto Balak, Stand by thy burnt offering, and I will go: peradventure the LORD will come to meet me: and whatsoever he sheweth me I will tell thee. And he went to an high place.

Balaam sought the Lord's counsel in his journey.

1. The importance of seeking God s guidance in our life's journey.

2. Our need to be patient and trusting in the Lord s timing.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 30:21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Numbers 23:4 And God met Balaam: and he said unto him, I have prepared seven altars, and I have offered upon every altar a bullock and a ram.

Balaam's demonstration of faith in God by offering seven altars was rewarded by God's presence.

1. Demonstrating faith in God is the surest way to receive blessings.

2. We must show our trust in God through tangible action.

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, seek, and knock and God will answer.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give and it will be given unto you.

Numbers 23:5 And the LORD put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus thou shalt speak.

Balaam was commanded by God to speak a specific word to Balak.

1. The Power of God's Word: Understanding the importance of God's will in our lives.

2. The Power of Obedience: Learning to trust God and follow His commands.

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

2. John 12:47-50 - "If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.

Numbers 23:6 And he returned unto him, and, lo, he stood by his burnt sacrifice, he, and all the princes of Moab.

The princes of Moab stood by Balak's burnt sacrifice.

1. The power of faith and the strength of loyalty.

2. Standing firm in the face of adversity.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. James 2:14-17 - What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, Depart in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Numbers 23:7 And he took up his parable, and said, Balak the king of Moab hath brought me from Aram, out of the mountains of the east, saying, Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy Israel.

Balak, the king of Moab, asked Balaam to curse Jacob and defy Israel.

1. The Power of Blessing: Making the Most of Our Words

2. Sanctifying Our Speech: Making Every Word Count

1. James 3:10 - "Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so."

2. Psalm 19:14 - "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer."

Numbers 23:8 How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, whom the LORD hath not defied?

Balaam is unable to curse the Israelites because God has not cursed them, and he is unable to defy them because the Lord has not defied them.

1. God's love and protection for His people.

2. The power of obedience and faithfulness.

1. Romans 8:31-39 - God's love for His people and His protection from evil.

2. Psalm 119:1-8 - The power of obedience and faithfulness.

Numbers 23:9 For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.

God's people will remain separate from the rest of the world and remain distinct in their faith.

1: "The Blessing of Remaining Separate"

2: "The Power of Distinct Faith"

1: Deuteronomy 7:6, "For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth."

2: Galatians 6:16, "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Numbers 23:10 Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!

This passage speaks of the desire of the speaker to live a righteous life and to have an end like that of the righteous.

1. The Power of a Righteous Life: How to Live a Life of Virtue and Integrity

2. The Blessing of a Righteous End: Seeking God's Mercy in the Final Moments

1. Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

2. James 4:8 "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Numbers 23:11 And Balak said unto Balaam, What hast thou done unto me? I took thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast blessed them altogether.

Balak is disappointed in Balaam for blessing his enemies instead of cursing them.

1. God's plans for us are often different than our own.

2. We must be careful to seek God's will in our lives.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Numbers 23:12 And he answered and said, Must I not take heed to speak that which the LORD hath put in my mouth?

Balak asked Balaam to curse the Israelites, but Balaam refused to do so because he was aware of the importance of speaking what God had put in his mouth.

1. God gives us the power to choose what is right and wrong.

2. Do not speak what is not of God, no matter the temptation.

1. Deuteronomy 6:17 - "Thou shalt diligently keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and his testimonies, and his statutes, which he hath commanded thee."

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Numbers 23:13 And Balak said unto him, Come, I pray thee, with me unto another place, from whence thou mayest see them: thou shalt see but the utmost part of them, and shalt not see them all: and curse me them from thence.

Balak asked Balaam to accompany him to another place where Balaam could see the Israelites, but could only see part of them.

1. The Power of God's People: Recognizing the Strength of God's Chosen People

2. Pursuing God's Plan: Following God's Directions in our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Numbers 23:14 And he brought him into the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah, and built seven altars, and offered a bullock and a ram on every altar.

Balak brought Balaam to the top of Pisgah and constructed seven altars, upon which he sacrificed a bullock and a ram.

1. The power of sacrifice: A study of Numbers 23:14

2. The significance of seven: Exploring the spiritual symbolism of Numbers 23:14

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Numbers 23:15 And he said unto Balak, Stand here by thy burnt offering, while I meet the LORD yonder.

Balak seeks to gain an understanding of the future by consulting the prophet Balaam. Balaam instructs Balak to stand by his burnt offering while he meets with the Lord.

1. The Power of Prayer: Seeking God's Guidance in Difficult Times

2. Faithful Obedience: Following God's Directions Even When Unclear

1. James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Numbers 23:16 And the LORD met Balaam, and put a word in his mouth, and said, Go again unto Balak, and say thus.

Balaam's experience shows God's power and willingness to speak to His people.

1. God's Voice in Our Lives: How to Listen and Respond

2. Hearing God's Word: Learning the Discipline of Discernment

1. John 10:27 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

2. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Numbers 23:17 And when he came to him, behold, he stood by his burnt offering, and the princes of Moab with him. And Balak said unto him, What hath the LORD spoken?

Balak asked the prophet Balaam to inquire of the LORD about what he had spoken.

1. The Power of God's Word - How God's Word can transform our lives

2. Seeking God's Guidance - The importance of seeking God's direction in our lives

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

Numbers 23:18 And he took up his parable, and said, Rise up, Balak, and hear; hearken unto me, thou son of Zippor:

God's Word is unchanging and reliable.

1: God's Word is Truth and Unchanging

2: The Power of God's Word

1: Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2: Psalm 119:89 Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

God is reliable and will keep His word.

1. God is a faithful and trustworthy companion.

2. We can trust in God's promises.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Titus 1:2 - In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Numbers 23:20 Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it.

God has commanded His blessing and it cannot be taken away.

1. A Blessing That Cannot Be Undone

2. The Unchangeable Nature of God's Blessing

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Numbers 23:21 He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them.

God is faithful and always with His people; no sin or evil can impede His presence.

1: God is Always with Us - Despite Our Failings

2: The Shout of a King - God's Presence is a Blessing

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Numbers 23:22 God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn.

God rescued Israel from Egypt and demonstrated His immense strength.

1. Living in Faith - God is with us in our times of need, trusting in Him and His power.

2. God's Strength - Through God's strength, all things are possible.

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Numbers 23:23 Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought!

God is doing great things for the people of Israel, and they should be thankful for His blessings.

1: We can trust in God s goodness and know that He is working on our behalf.

2: We must be grateful for the blessings that God gives us and trust in His plan.

1: Deuteronomy 8:17-18 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

2: Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Numbers 23:24 Behold, the people shall rise up as a great lion, and lift up himself as a young lion: he shall not lie down until he eat of the prey, and drink the blood of the slain.

God promises that His people will be strong and courageous, conquering their enemies and celebrating their victories.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: How God Gives Us Strength and Courage

2. The Importance of Believing in God's Promises: Relying on God for Victory

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Numbers 23:25 And Balak said unto Balaam, Neither curse them at all, nor bless them at all.

Balak asked Balaam not to either curse or bless the Israelites.

1. The Power of Neutrality: How to Remain Balanced in Difficult Situations

2. The Wisdom of Moderation: How to Find Balance in Life

1. Proverbs 16:32 - Better to be slow to anger than to be a mighty warrior, and one who controls his temper is better than one who captures a city

2. Proverbs 19:11 - Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense

Numbers 23:26 But Balaam answered and said unto Balak, Told not I thee, saying, All that the LORD speaketh, that I must do?

Balaam refuses to disobey the Lord and responds to Balak that he has to do whatever the Lord commands.

1. Following God's Commandments: The Story of Balaam

2. Obeying the Lord: An Example from Balaam

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - What does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Numbers 23:27 And Balak said unto Balaam, Come, I pray thee, I will bring thee unto another place; peradventure it will please God that thou mayest curse me them from thence.

Balak asked Balaam to curse his enemies from another place, hoping that God would be pleased.

1. Learning to Lean on God for Strength and Guidance

2. Staying Committed to Praying and Seeking God s Will

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. James 4:2-3 - You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

Numbers 23:28 And Balak brought Balaam unto the top of Peor, that looketh toward Jeshimon.

This passage recounts Balak bringing Balaam to the top of Peor, a location in Moab which looked towards Jeshimon.

1. The Power of God's Provisions: Examining Balaam's Journey

2. The Significance of Location in the Biblical Narrative

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Psalm 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

Numbers 23:29 And Balaam said unto Balak, Build me here seven altars, and prepare me here seven bullocks and seven rams.

Balaam orders Balak to build seven altars and prepare seven bullocks and rams as a sacrificial offering.

1: We should offer our whole selves to God in worship.

2: We should be generous in our offerings to God.

1: Romans 12:1-2 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2: Hebrews 13:15-16 "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Numbers 23:30 And Balak did as Balaam had said, and offered a bullock and a ram on every altar.

Balak followed Balaam's instructions and offered sacrifices to the Lord.

1. Sacrifices to God are an act of obedience and reverence.

2. We must always remain faithful to the Lord's instructions.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Psalm 50:14-15 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

Numbers 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 24:1-9 describes the third attempt of Balaam to curse the Israelites. Balaam sees that it pleases God to bless Israel, so he sets his face toward the wilderness and utters a prophetic message. Through divine inspiration, Balaam speaks words of blessing and praises upon Israel, highlighting their strength and prosperity. He acknowledges that God is with them and predicts their triumph over their enemies.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 24:10-19, the chapter details Balaam's prophecy concerning future events related to various nations. He foretells the rise of a powerful ruler from Jacob's descendants who will conquer Moab and Edom. Balaam also speaks about the destruction of other neighboring nations at the hands of this victorious leader.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 24 concludes by highlighting how Balak becomes angry with Balaam for consistently delivering blessings instead of curses upon Israel. Balak dismisses him without receiving any desired curses or prophecies against Israel. Before departing, however, Balaam delivers a final oracle regarding future events concerning different nations and their fate.

In summary:

Numbers 24 presents:

Third attempt Balaam setting his face toward wilderness;

Uttering prophetic message; words of blessing, praise for Israel.

Prophecy concerning rise of powerful ruler from Jacob's descendants;

Conquest of Moab, Edom; destruction of neighboring nations.

Anger of Balak towards consistent blessings instead of curses;

Dismissal without desired curses, prophecies against Israel;

Final oracle regarding future events concerning different nations.

This chapter focuses on the third attempt made by Balaam to curse the Israelites, his prophetic messages, and Balak's frustration with his inability to obtain desired curses. Numbers 24 begins with Balaam seeing that it pleases God to bless Israel, so he sets his face toward the wilderness and delivers a prophetic message. Through divine inspiration, Balaam speaks words of blessing and praises upon Israel, acknowledging their strength and prosperity.

Furthermore, Numbers 24 details Balaam's prophecy regarding future events related to various nations. He foretells the rise of a powerful ruler from Jacob's descendants who will conquer Moab and Edom. Balaam also speaks about the destruction of other neighboring nations at the hands of this victorious leader.

The chapter concludes by highlighting Balak's anger towards Balaam for consistently delivering blessings instead of curses upon Israel. Balak dismisses him without receiving any desired curses or prophecies against Israel. However, before departing, Balaam delivers a final oracle concerning future events related to different nations and their fate.

Numbers 24:1 And when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he went not, as at other times, to seek for enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness.

Balaam sees that the Lord is pleased to bless Israel, so he stops seeking enchantments and sets his face towards the wilderness.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God Can Bring Blessings

2. The Blessing of God: How His Grace Shines Down on His People

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The Blessings of Obedience

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - God's Gracious Offer of Salvation to All People

Numbers 24:2 And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel abiding in his tents according to their tribes; and the spirit of God came upon him.

Balaam saw and was inspired by the organized and faithful tribes of Israel.

1. God's spirit of inspiration can come upon us when we have faith and are organized.

2. Organizing our lives around faith can bring the spirit of God into our lives.

1. Luke 1:45 "And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord."

2. Romans 8:26 "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

Numbers 24:3 And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said:

Balaam the son of Beor spoke a parable and declared his insight.

1. Seeing the Truth: Understanding the Wisdom of Balaam

2. The Power of Prophecy: The Words of Balaam

1. Numbers 24:3 - "And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said:"

2. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Numbers 24:4 He hath said, which heard the words of God, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

This passage speaks of a man who heard and saw the words of God, falling into a trance but still having his eyes open.

1. The Power of Faith: Experiencing God in a Trance-like State

2. Seeing with the Eyes of Faith: Receiving God's Vision

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2. Matthew 13:13-15 - "Therefore I speak to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them."

Numbers 24:5 How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob, and thy tabernacles, O Israel!

This passage is praising the tents and tabernacles of Jacob and Israel.

1. The Beauty of God's People - How God's blessing and favor are seen in the beauty of his people and their dwellings.

2. Choosing Faithfulness - How faithfulness to God will bring blessing and beauty to our lives.

1. Psalm 84:1-2 - "How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God."

2. Isaiah 54:2-3 - "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities."

Numbers 24:6 As the valleys are they spread forth, as gardens by the river's side, as the trees of lign aloes which the LORD hath planted, and as cedar trees beside the waters.

This passage speaks of God's creation of beautiful and lush landscapes.

1: God's Creation of Beauty and Abundance

2: Finding Peace in Nature

1: Psalm 104:24-25 How manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

2: Isaiah 61:11 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Numbers 24:7 He shall pour the water out of his buckets, and his seed shall be in many waters, and his king shall be higher than Agag, and his kingdom shall be exalted.

Balaam proclaimed that the kingdom of Israel would be exalted and its king would be greater than Agag.

1: God elevates those who serve Him faithfully.

2: Those who honor God will be honored by Him.

1: 1 Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

2: Isaiah 61:6 - But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

Numbers 24:8 God brought him forth out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies, and shall break their bones, and pierce them through with his arrows.

God used his strength to protect and liberate Israel from Egypt.

1. God's Power to Protect and Deliver

2. The Strength of God in Action

1. Romans 8:31-39 (For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?)

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 (But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.)

Numbers 24:9 He couched, he lay down as a lion, and as a great lion: who shall stir him up? Blessed is he that blesseth thee, and cursed is he that curseth thee.

The promise of God's protection for those who bless Israel.

1: God promises to protect and bless those who bless His people.

2: We can find strength and courage when we trust in God's promise to protect us.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."

Numbers 24:10 And Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together: and Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times.

Balaam was called to curse Balak's enemies, but instead he blessed them.

1. We must always be willing to see the good in others, no matter how our preconceived notions may make us feel.

2. We must trust in God's plan, even when it is not the outcome we desire.

1. Romans 12:14-16 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Numbers 24:11 Therefore now flee thou to thy place: I thought to promote thee unto great honour; but, lo, the LORD hath kept thee back from honour.

Balaam was told by God to go back to his own place as God had intended to give Balaam great honor but instead kept him back from it.

1. God is ultimately in control and He will decide when and how to honor us.

2. We should not let our own ambitions or desires be our guiding force but seek to serve God's will.

1. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand".

2. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Numbers 24:12 And Balaam said unto Balak, Spake I not also to thy messengers which thou sentest unto me, saying,

Balaam declared God's message that Israel could not be cursed.

1: God's word will always prevail, and we can trust in its truth.

2: We must not be discouraged when God's will seems to be in contrast with our own.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Numbers 24:13 If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the LORD saith, that will I speak?

Balaam is determined to obey God's commandment and not go beyond it, despite Balak's attempt to bribe him.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Learning to Obey God Above All Else

2. The Power of Words: How Our Words Have the Power to Bless or Curse

1. Deuteronomy 30:10-14 - Choose life so that you and your descendants may live

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin

Numbers 24:14 And now, behold, I go unto my people: come therefore, and I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days.

Balaam is going to tell Balak what will happen to his people in the future.

1. Trusting in God's Plan: How Balaam's Prophecy Relates to Our Lives

2. Listening to God's Calling: Lessons from Balaam's Journey

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure

2. Matthew 10:27-28 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops

Numbers 24:15 And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said:

Balaam prophecies that a great ruler will rise up from the people of Israel.

1. The Power of Prophecy: How to Receive and Interpret God's Word

2. The Promise of a Great Ruler: Finding Strength and Hope in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 11:1-5 - The prophecy of a coming ruler from the house of Jesse.

2. 2 Peter 1:20-21 - How we know God's prophecies are true.

Numbers 24:16 He hath said, which heard the words of God, and knew the knowledge of the most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

Balaam, who had heard the words of God, knew the knowledge of the Most High, and saw a vision of the Almighty, fell into a trance but still had his eyes open.

1. A Vision from God: How to Respond with Faith

2. Seeking the Knowledge of the Most High: A Study of Balaam

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - Isaiah's vision of the Lord

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - Seeking the knowledge of the Lord

Numbers 24:17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

Balaam prophesied that a Star from Jacob and a Sceptre from Israel will destroy Moab and Sheth.

1. The power of faith - how faith in God can overcome any obstacle and bring forth a glorious victory.

2. The importance of prophecy - how God speaks through his prophets and reveals his will.

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

2. Isaiah 11:1-3 - There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

Numbers 24:18 And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly.

Edom and Seir will become possessions of Israel's enemies, but Israel will remain strong.

1. God will protect us in the midst of adversity.

2. We must remain strong and faithful in the face of opposition.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Numbers 24:19 Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city.

God will send a ruler from the family of Jacob who will have power and authority to destroy those who are left from the city.

1. The Power of God's Protection and Provision

2. God's Justice and Mercy in the World

1. Genesis 35:11-12 - "And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;

2. Isaiah 11:1-5 - "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord..."

Numbers 24:20 And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek was the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever.

Balaam prophesied that Amalek would be destroyed for their wickedness.

1. God is a righteous judge and will punish those who do wrong.

2. We must not follow in the footsteps of Amalek, and instead strive to do what is right.

1. Numbers 14:18 - "The Lord is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation."

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

Numbers 24:21 And he looked on the Kenites, and took up his parable, and said, Strong is thy dwellingplace, and thou puttest thy nest in a rock.

This passage speaks about the Kenites and their strong dwelling place which is nestled in a rock.

1. The Strength of Our Foundations: How Building Our Lives on the Rock of Jesus Secures Our Future

2. Finding Strength in Weakness: How to Find Security in the Lord's Presence

1. Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Numbers 24:22 Nevertheless the Kenite shall be wasted, until Asshur shall carry thee away captive.

The Kenite nation will be destroyed until the Assyrian empire takes them captive.

1. God's Sovereignty in History - How God Uses Nations to Accomplish His Purposes

2. The Inevitability of Change - How We Must Adapt to Our Circumstances

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my indignation. Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. But he does not so intend, and his heart does not so think; but it is in his heart to destroy, and to cut off nations not a few.

2. Daniel 2:21 - He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.

Numbers 24:23 And he took up his parable, and said, Alas, who shall live when God doeth this!

Balaam takes up a lament, wondering who can live when God acts.

1. God's Actions: Understanding the Power and Sovereignty of God

2. Living in the Midst of God's Action: Responding Biblically to Difficult Situations

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

Numbers 24:24 And ships shall come from the coast of Chittim, and shall afflict Asshur, and shall afflict Eber, and he also shall perish for ever.

God will use ships from Chittim to punish Asshur and Eber, causing them to perish forever.

1. God's judgement is eternal

2. No one is above God's judgement

1. Ezekiel 18:4 - Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

2. Deuteronomy 32:35 - Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.

Numbers 24:25 And Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place: and Balak also went his way.

Balaam and Balak both departed from their respective places.

1. We can learn from Balaam and Balak that even when we disagree, we can still part ways in peace.

2. The importance of maintaining peace, even in disagreement.

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. Philippians 4:5-7 - "Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Numbers 25 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 25:1-5 describes the Israelites' sinful behavior and idolatry at Baal-Peor. While camped in Shittim, the people begin to engage in sexual immorality with the Moabite women and participate in the worship of their gods. This angers God, who responds by commanding Moses to execute the leaders involved and hang them before Him. In addition, a plague breaks out among the people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 25:6-9, the chapter highlights how Phinehas, son of Eleazar and grandson of Aaron, takes action to stop the plague. Seeing an Israelite man bringing a Midianite woman into his tent, Phinehas zealously follows them inside and kills both with a spear. This act of zealousness for God's honor stops the plague that had killed thousands.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 25 concludes by emphasizing God's response to Phinehas' actions. God commends Phinehas for his zeal and makes a covenant of peace with him and his descendants, promising that they will always have a place before Him as priests. The chapter ends by stating that after these events, Israel was instructed to harass and wage war against Midian as retribution for their seduction of Israel into idolatry.

In summary:

Numbers 25 presents:

Israelites engaging in sexual immorality, idolatry at Baal-Peor;

God's anger; command to execute leaders, hanging them;

Outbreak of a plague among the people.

Phinehas taking action to stop the plague;

Killing an Israelite man, Midianite woman engaged in idolatrous act;

Plague halted due to Phinehas' zealousness.

God commending Phinehas for his zeal;

Making a covenant of peace with him and his descendants;

Instruction to harass, wage war against Midian as retribution.

This chapter focuses on the Israelites' sinful behavior and idolatry at Baal-Peor, Phinehas' zealous action to stop the plague, and God's response to Phinehas. Numbers 25 begins with the Israelites engaging in sexual immorality with Moabite women and participating in their idolatrous worship while camped in Shittim. This angers God, who commands Moses to execute the leaders involved and hang them before Him. Additionally, a plague breaks out among the people.

Furthermore, Numbers 25 highlights how Phinehas, son of Eleazar and grandson of Aaron, takes decisive action to stop the plague. Witnessing an Israelite man bringing a Midianite woman into his tent, Phinehas zealously follows them inside and kills both with a spear. This act of zealousness for God's honor stops the plague that had already killed thousands.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing God's response to Phinehas' actions. God commends Phinehas for his zeal in defending His honor and makes a covenant of peace with him and his descendants. He promises that they will always have a place before Him as priests. Additionally, after these events, Israel is instructed to harass and wage war against Midian as retribution for their seduction of Israel into idolatry at Baal-Peor.

Numbers 25:1 And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab.

Israel had strayed from God and was committing immoral acts.

1. The Danger of Sin and Its Consequences

2. Staying True to God's Word

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Numbers 25:2 And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.

The people of Israel were lured away from the worship of God and were persuaded to partake in the sacrificial ceremonies of other gods.

1. The Danger of False Worship: How to Recognize and Avoid It

2. The Power of Peer Pressure: How to Stand Strong in Your Faith

1. Psalm 115:4-8 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

2. Colossians 3:5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Numbers 25:3 And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.

The Israelites joined themselves to Baalpeor, and the Lord was angry with them.

1. God Hates Idolatry - The Danger of Disobedience

2. The Value of Obedience - The Blessings of Following God's Commands

1. Jeremiah 2:11-13 - "Has a nation changed its gods, which are yet no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. Be astonished, O heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid; be very desolate, saith the LORD. For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

2. Romans 1:18-25 - "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."

Numbers 25:4 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel.

God commanded Moses to hang up the heads of the people to appease his wrath towards Israel.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Power of His Anger

2. Mercy and Compassion: Learning from God's Response to Israel

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. James 1:20 - For the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Numbers 25:5 And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor.

Moses commanded the judges of Israel to execute those who had joined Baalpeor.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 13:6-10

2. Exodus 20:3-6

Numbers 25:6 And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

A man from Israel brought a Midianite woman in front of Moses and the entire congregation of the Israelites, who were gathered outside of the tabernacle to mourn.

1. How the presence of sin can affect our relationship with God.

2. The importance of maintaining holiness and purity in our lives.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 - For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Numbers 25:7 And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand;

The Israelites sinned by engaging in sexual immorality with the Moabites, and Phinehas took action by killing them with a javelin.

1. God calls us to be proactive in stamping out sin in our lives.

2. We should take action to protect our faith and our people.

1. Ephesians 5:11-13 - "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light."

2. Romans 12:9 - "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."

Numbers 25:8 And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.

Phinehas killed a man and a woman to stop a plague from spreading among the Israelites.

1. The importance of courage in the face of adversity.

2. God's justice and mercy demonstrated in Phinehas' actions.

1. Exodus 20:13, "Thou shalt not kill."

2. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Numbers 25:9 And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

24,000 people died in a plague described in Numbers 25:9.

1. God s Wrath and Mercy: How to Respond to Tragedy

2. Our Response to Difficult Times: Learning from Numbers 25:9

1. Deuteronomy 4:31 - For the Lord your God is a merciful God; He will not fail you nor destroy you nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Numbers 25:10 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Phinehas s courageous act of zeal for God s honor has been commended and rewarded.

1. God rewards those who are zealous for Him.

2. Do not be afraid to take a stand for what s right.

1. Galatians 6:9: And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

2. Ephesians 6:13: Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Numbers 25:11 Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy.

Phinehas' zeal for God's sake saved the children of Israel from God's wrath.

1. The Power of Righteousness in Overcoming Wrath

2. Zeal for the Lord: The Example of Phinehas

1. Psalm 85:3 - "Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine anger."

2. James 5:16 - "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Numbers 25:12 Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace:

God promised to make a covenant of peace with the Israelites and rewarded Phinehas for protecting them.

1. God rewards those who remain faithful and obedient in times of trouble.

2. We can find peace in the promises of God.

1. Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 34:14, "Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it."

Numbers 25:13 And he shall have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel.

Phinehas was made a priest for his zeal in atoning for the sins of the Israelites.

1. The power of zealous faith in God.

2. Why atonement is necessary for salvation.

1. Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2. Exodus 32:30-32 - On the next day Moses said to the people, You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin. So Moses returned to the Lord and said, Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. But now, if you will forgive their sin but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.

Numbers 25:14 Now the name of the Israelite that was slain, even that was slain with the Midianitish woman, was Zimri, the son of Salu, a prince of a chief house among the Simeonites.

Zimri, a prince of a chief house of the Simeonites, was slain by an Israelite for engaging in an illicit liaison with a Midianitish woman.

1. God's law against adultery must be taken seriously and obeyed.

2. Even those in a position of power and authority are held to the same standards of holiness and righteousness.

1. Hebrews 13:4 - "Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

Numbers 25:15 And the name of the Midianitish woman that was slain was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur; he was head over a people, and of a chief house in Midian.

The Midianitish woman Cozbi, daughter of Zur, was slain. Zur was the head of a people and a chief house in Midian.

1. The Importance of Righteous Living

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Psalm 37:27-29 - "Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore. For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Numbers 25:16 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Phinehas' zealous action in avenging God's honor by slaying an Israelite and a Midianite was rewarded with God's covenant of peace.

Phinehas was rewarded by God with a covenant of peace after he zealously acted to defend God's honor by killing an Israelite and a Midianite.

Best

1. God rewards those who zealously defend His honor.

2. God's covenant of peace is a reward for those who serve Him faithfully.

Best

1. Psalm 34:14 - "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."

2. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."

Numbers 25:17 Vex the Midianites, and smite them:

The Lord commanded the Israelites to take vengeance on the Midianites.

1: We must take action against evil in the world in order to stay true to the Lord's will.

2: We must not let those who seek to do us harm go unpunished, but rather take action against them.

1: Romans 12:19-20 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord. On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink."

2: Ezekiel 25:17 - "I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the Lord, when I lay my vengeance upon them."

Numbers 25:18 For they vex you with their wiles, wherewith they have beguiled you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister, which was slain in the day of the plague for Peor's sake.

God punishes the Israelites for their involvement with the Midianites, which included the slaying of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian.

1. God will always bring justice to those who transgress his commands.

2. The consequences of our sin can be far-reaching.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 - And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons: My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

Numbers 26 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 26:1-51 describes the second census of the Israelites, which takes place after their forty years of wandering in the wilderness. The chapter begins with God commanding Moses and Eleazar the priest to take a census of all the males who are twenty years old and above, from each tribe. The descendants of Reuben, Simeon, Gad, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Manasseh (Machir), Ephraim (Shuthelah), Benjamin, Dan (Shuham), Asher (Imnah), Naphtali (Jahzeel) are counted. The total number of men recorded is 601,730.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 26:52-62, the chapter highlights specific instructions given by God regarding land distribution among the tribes. Each tribe's inheritance is determined by their respective numbers and families. However, an exception is made for the Levites who are not given a portion of land but are assigned cities to live in instead.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 26 concludes by mentioning several significant individuals within certain tribes who played important roles during different events in Israel's history. For example, among those listed are Korah and his sons from Levi's family line who rebelled against Moses and Aaron during their time in the wilderness. The chapter also mentions that none of those counted in this census were among those originally counted at Mount Sinai because they had all died due to disobedience except for Caleb and Joshua.

In summary:

Numbers 26 presents:

Second census commanded by God;

Counting males aged twenty years old and above from each tribe;

Recording numbers from Reuben to Naphtali totaling to 601,730 men.

Instructions for land distribution among tribes;

Levites not given land but assigned cities to live in.

Mention of significant individuals e.g., Korah and his sons;

None of those counted were among those originally counted at Mount Sinai except for Caleb and Joshua.

This chapter focuses on the second census conducted among the Israelites after their forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Numbers 26 begins with God commanding Moses and Eleazar the priest to count all the males who are twenty years old and above from each tribe. The descendants of Reuben, Simeon, Gad, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Manasseh (Machir), Ephraim (Shuthelah), Benjamin, Dan (Shuham), Asher (Imnah), Naphtali (Jahzeel) are numbered. The total number of men recorded is 601,730.

Furthermore, Numbers 26 highlights specific instructions given by God regarding land distribution among the tribes based on their respective numbers and families. However, an exception is made for the Levites who are not allocated a portion of land but are assigned cities to live in instead.

The chapter concludes by mentioning several significant individuals within certain tribes who played important roles during different events in Israel's history. Among those listed are Korah and his sons from Levi's family line who rebelled against Moses and Aaron during their time in the wilderness. Additionally, it is noted that none of those counted in this census were among those originally counted at Mount Sinai because they had all died due to disobedience except for Caleb and Joshua.

Numbers 26:1 And it came to pass after the plague, that the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying,

After a plague, the Lord spoke to Moses and Eleazar the priest.

1. God is in Control - How God's Sovereignty Reassures Us in Times of Crisis

2. Obeying God's Commands - Why Following God's Instructions Brings Blessing

1. Numbers 26:1 And it came to pass after the plague, that the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying,

2. Psalm 91:1-3 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

Numbers 26:2 Take the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, from twenty years old and upward, throughout their fathers' house, all that are able to go to war in Israel.

God commanded Moses to take a census of all the men in Israel who were twenty years old or older and were able to fight in wars.

1. The Strength of God's People - Using Numbers 26:2 as a starting point, explore the power and importance of a unified community.

2. Being Prepared for Battle - How can believers stay prepared for spiritual warfare and be ready to face the battles that lie ahead?

1. Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Numbers 26:3 And Moses and Eleazar the priest spake with them in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho, saying,

The Lord commanded Moses and Eleazar, the priest, to speak to the people of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho.

1: God calls us to listen and obey His commands.

2: Be mindful of the Lord's words and follow His instructions.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2: James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Numbers 26:4 Take the sum of the people, from twenty years old and upward; as the LORD commanded Moses and the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt.

Moses commanded the Israelites to take a census of all the people who were twenty years old and older who left Egypt.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The power of a unified people.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Romans 12:12 "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Numbers 26:5 Reuben, the eldest son of Israel: the children of Reuben; Hanoch, of whom cometh the family of the Hanochites: of Pallu, the family of the Palluites:

Numbers 26:5 reveals that the eldest son of Israel, Reuben, had two sons named Hanoch and Pallu, from whom the Hanochites and Palluites were descended.

1. God's faithfulness in preserving the lineage of Israel.

2. The importance of remembering our family heritage.

1. Romans 9:1-5 - God's faithfulness to the Israelites.

2. Psalm 103:17 - Remember the Lord's works on behalf of our ancestors.

Numbers 26:6 Of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites: of Carmi, the family of the Carmites.

The passage lists two family lines of Hezron and Carmi.

1. The importance of knowing your family history and the legacy that is passed down through generations.

2. God's faithfulness to keep records of all his people and how he works through them.

1. Ruth 4:18-22

2. Psalm 139:1-4

Numbers 26:7 These are the families of the Reubenites: and they that were numbered of them were forty and three thousand and seven hundred and thirty.

This passage describes the families of the Reubenites and their population.

1. God values each and every one of us, regardless of our numbers.

2. We should strive to be united and strong as a community just as the Reubenites were.

1. Psalm 139:14 - I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

2. Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Numbers 26:8 And the sons of Pallu; Eliab.

The sons of Pallu were Eliab.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the generations of families.

2. The importance of remaining faithful to God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children.

Numbers 26:9 And the sons of Eliab; Nemuel, and Dathan, and Abiram. This is that Dathan and Abiram, which were famous in the congregation, who strove against Moses and against Aaron in the company of Korah, when they strove against the LORD:

This passage recounts the sons of Eliab, including Dathan and Abiram who were prominent in the congregation and opposed Moses and Aaron.

1. The Danger of Resisting Authority

2. God's Mercy in the Face of Rebellion

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Galatians 5:13 - For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Numbers 26:10 And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up together with Korah, when that company died, what time the fire devoured two hundred and fifty men: and they became a sign.

Korah and his company were swallowed up by the earth and killed by fire as a sign for all to see.

1. God's Mercy and Wrath - How we can learn from the story of Korah and his company.

2. Heeding the Warnings of God - The importance of obedience and humility.

1. Numbers 16:31-33 - "And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation."

2. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Numbers 26:11 Notwithstanding the children of Korah died not.

This passage highlights that, despite the punishment of death for the other members of the Korah family, the children were not punished and were spared.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion Always Prevails

2. The Unfailing Love of God for His People

1. Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

Numbers 26:12 The sons of Simeon after their families: of Nemuel, the family of the Nemuelites: of Jamin, the family of the Jaminites: of Jachin, the family of the Jachinites:

This passage describes the families of Simeon as being the Nemuelites, Jaminites, and Jachinites.

1. The Importance of Family: How God is Calling Us to Love and Care for One Another

2. The Power of Lineage: Understand Your Heritage and Connect to God's Plan

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Numbers 26:13 Of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites: of Shaul, the family of the Shaulites.

This passage from Numbers 26:13 mentions two families of the Zarhites and Shaulites.

1. The Power of Unity in the Church - Exploring the example of the Zarhites and Shaulites in Numbers 26:13

2. Keeping Our Focus on God - Learning from the experience of the Zarhites and Shaulites in Numbers 26:13

1. Ephesians 4:1-6 - Unity in the Church through humility, gentleness, patience and love.

2. Psalm 27:4 - Keeping our focus on God and His steadfast love.

Numbers 26:14 These are the families of the Simeonites, twenty and two thousand and two hundred.

This verse from Numbers 26:14 states that the family of Simeonites numbered 22,200.

1. The Strength of Unity: How God Blesses His People When They Come Together

2. Faithful Fulfillment: How God Rewards Those Who Are Faithful to Him

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Numbers 26:15 The children of Gad after their families: of Zephon, the family of the Zephonites: of Haggi, the family of the Haggites: of Shuni, the family of the Shunites:

Numbers 26:15 lists the families of the tribe of Gad - Zephonites, Haggites and Shunites.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises - Numbers 26:15

2. Trusting God's plan - Numbers 26:15

1. Joshua 13:24-28 - God fulfilling His promise to give the land of Canaan to the Israelites

2. Deuteronomy 3:12-20 - Moses' prayer for the Israelites to possess the land he was not allowed to enter

Numbers 26:16 Of Ozni, the family of the Oznites: of Eri, the family of the Erites:

The passage describes two families from the Tribe of Gad.

1. God's love is revealed in His faithfulness to His covenant with the Tribes of Israel.

2. God's faithfulness is seen in that He keeps His promises to His people.

1. Exodus 6:14-17 - God's promises to the Israelites and His faithfulness to keep His covenant with them.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessings promised to those who keep His commandments and His faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

Numbers 26:17 Of Arod, the family of the Arodites: of Areli, the family of the Arelites.

This verse from Numbers 26:17 recounts the families of the Arodites and Arelites.

1. We are all part of a larger family, and it is our responsibility to look out for and care for one another.

2. God has given us a purpose and a place in the world and it is up to us to make the most of it.

1. Ephesians 4:15-16 - Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

2. Galatians 6:10 - So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Numbers 26:18 These are the families of the children of Gad according to those that were numbered of them, forty thousand and five hundred.

This verse from Numbers 26:18 states that the number of the Gadite family was forty-five hundred.

1. "God Values Each and Every One of Us"

2. "The Power of Numbers in the Bible"

1. Psalm 139:13-16 - "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them."

2. Luke 12:6-7 - "Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Numbers 26:19 The sons of Judah were Er and Onan: and Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan.

Er and Onan, the sons of Judah, both died in the land of Canaan.

1. The importance of cherishing life and making the most of it.

2. The power of faith in times of adversity.

1. Psalm 23:4, Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

2. James 4:14, Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Numbers 26:20 And the sons of Judah after their families were; of Shelah, the family of the Shelanites: of Pharez, the family of the Pharzites: of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites.

This verse from the book of Numbers describes the families of Judah, listing the Shelanites, Pharzites, and Zarhites.

1. "The Importance of Knowing Your Family Lineage and Heritage"

2. "Unity in Fellowship with Our Brothers and Sisters"

1. Ephesians 4:1-6 - "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

2. Psalm 133 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Numbers 26:21 And the sons of Pharez were; of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites: of Hamul, the family of the Hamulites.

This passage is about the descendants of Pharez, including the Hezronites and the Hamulites.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises: The Story of Pharez and His Descendants

2. The Blessing of Being Part of God's Covenant People

1. Romans 4:13-17 - The Promise of Abraham and the Blessing of Faith

2. Deuteronomy 7:6-9 - God's Covenant Love and Faithfulness to His People

Numbers 26:22 These are the families of Judah according to those that were numbered of them, threescore and sixteen thousand and five hundred.

Numbers 26:22 states that the total number of families in Judah were sixty-six thousand and five hundred.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Attains Great Things

2. The Value of Every Person: How Everyone Contributes to a Greater Whole

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2. Galatians 6:2 - Carry each other s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Numbers 26:23 Of the sons of Issachar after their families: of Tola, the family of the Tolaites: of Pua, the family of the Punites:

This passage describes the sons of Issachar and their families.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises to His people, as seen in the fulfillment of His promise to Abraham to have a great number of descendants.

2. The importance of family and maintaining familial relationships.

1. Genesis 22:17 - "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore."

2. Proverbs 17:6 - Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.

Numbers 26:24 Of Jashub, the family of the Jashubites: of Shimron, the family of the Shimronites.

This passage mentions the families of Jashubites and Shimronites.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated through the preservation of the families of Jashubites and Shimronites.

2. We can trust in God's promises to provide for our families.

1. Psalm 136:1-2 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Numbers 26:25 These are the families of Issachar according to those that were numbered of them, threescore and four thousand and three hundred.

The family of Issachar was counted and totaled to 64,300 people.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the way he blesses and multiplies his people.

2. Our lives are valuable in the eyes of God and we should be thankful for the blessings he gives us.

1. Genesis 22:17 - "I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore."

2. Matthew 6:26 - "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

Numbers 26:26 Of the sons of Zebulun after their families: of Sered, the family of the Sardites: of Elon, the family of the Elonites: of Jahleel, the family of the Jahleelites.

This passage discusses the families of the sons of Zebulun.

1. God's Design for the Family: Appreciating the Value of Kinship

2. The Blessing of Unity: Experiencing the Fruit of Fellowship

1. Psalm 68:6 - God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Numbers 26:27 These are the families of the Zebulunites according to those that were numbered of them, threescore thousand and five hundred.

The tribe of Zebulun was numbered and totaled at sixty-five hundred.

1. A People Counted: God's Faithfulness to His People.

2. The Blessing of Belonging: Finding Our Place in God's Community.

1. Deuteronomy 10:22 - "Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name."

2. Romans 12:5 - "So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

Numbers 26:28 The sons of Joseph after their families were Manasseh and Ephraim.

The two sons of Joseph were Manasseh and Ephraim.

1. The Importance of Family: A Study of Joseph and His Sons

2. God's Faithfulness: Joseph and His Sons as an Example

1. Genesis 48:20: "And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh."

2. Deuteronomy 33:13-17: "And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath, And for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon, And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills, And for the precious things of the earth and fulness thereof, and for the good will of him that dwelt in the bush: let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him that was separated from his brethren. His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh."

Numbers 26:29 Of the sons of Manasseh: of Machir, the family of the Machirites: and Machir begat Gilead: of Gilead come the family of the Gileadites.

This passage describes the lineage of the tribe of Manasseh, identifying Machir and Gilead as key figures in the genealogy.

1. God is the ultimate source of our identity and purpose.

2. God has a special plan for each of us, no matter our lineage.

1. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. - Jeremiah 29:11

2. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. - Psalm 100:3

Numbers 26:30 These are the sons of Gilead: of Jeezer, the family of the Jeezerites: of Helek, the family of the Helekites:

This passage details the families descended from Gilead, including the Jeezerites and the Helekites.

1. God's Unfailing Faithfulness: How God's Promises to His People Are Fulfilled

2. The Power of Generational Faithfulness: How Our Faithfulness to God Will Be Rewarded

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Psalm 103:17 - But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children.

Numbers 26:31 And of Asriel, the family of the Asrielites: and of Shechem, the family of the Shechemites:

This passage discusses the two families of Asriel and Shechem.

1. The importance of honoring our family and tribal heritage.

2. The power of God in uniting families in the face of adversity.

1. Genesis 33:18-20 - Jacob reunites with his brother Esau after many years of discord.

2. Ruth 1:16-17 - Ruth's commitment to her mother-in-law, Naomi, despite the difficulties of the situation.

Numbers 26:32 And of Shemida, the family of the Shemidaites: and of Hepher, the family of the Hepherites.

This passage describes the family of Shemida and the family of Hepher.

1. God is the Creator of all families and has a special purpose for them.

2. We should always remember the importance of our family and the way it shapes us.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The Lord had said to Abram, Go from your country, your people and your father s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Numbers 26:33 And Zelophehad the son of Hepher had no sons, but daughters: and the names of the daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah, and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, had no sons but instead had five daughters named Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

1. God's Plans Are So Much Greater Than Our Own

2. Seeing the Beauty in Daughters

1. Proverbs 31:10-31

2. Matthew 15:21-28

Numbers 26:34 These are the families of Manasseh, and those that were numbered of them, fifty and two thousand and seven hundred.

Manasseh's family was numbered 52,700.

1. God is faithful to keep His promises, even when we are unfaithful.

2. God's numbering of us shows His faithfulness and care for us.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Psalm 147:4 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

Numbers 26:35 These are the sons of Ephraim after their families: of Shuthelah, the family of the Shuthalhites: of Becher, the family of the Bachrites: of Tahan, the family of the Tahanites.

This passage from Numbers 26 provides a list of the families in the tribe of Ephraim.

1. God's Plan for His People: Celebrating the Legacy of Ephraim

2. Building a Family of Faith: Lessons from the Tribe of Ephraim

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God.

Numbers 26:36 And these are the sons of Shuthelah: of Eran, the family of the Eranites.

This verse describes the sons of Shuthelah, which is the family of the Eranites.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His keeping track of every family, however small.

2. God's promises are extended to all generations, and we can trust in His faithfulness.

1. Acts 7:17-19 - "But as the time of the promise drew near, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt till another king arose, who knew not Joseph. The same dealt craftily with our kindred, and evil entreated our fathers, so that they cast out their young children, to the end they might not live. In which time Moses was born, and was well favoured of God: and he was nourished up in his father's house three months."

2. John 8:39 - "They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham."

Numbers 26:37 These are the families of the sons of Ephraim according to those that were numbered of them, thirty and two thousand and five hundred. These are the sons of Joseph after their families.

This passage records the number of people from the family of Ephraim, the son of Joseph, which totaled 32,500.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises to His People

2. The Power of Family Ties

1. Genesis 48:4 - "I will give you one portion more than to your brothers, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow."

2. Deuteronomy 33:13-17 - "And of Joseph he said, Blessed by the Lord be his land, with the choicest gifts of heaven above, and of the deep that crouches beneath, with the choicest fruits of the sun and the rich yield of the months, with the finest produce of the ancient mountains and the abundance of the everlasting hills, with the best gifts of the earth and its fullness and the favor of him who dwells in the bush. Let these rest on the head of Joseph, on the pate of him who is prince among his brothers."

Numbers 26:38 The sons of Benjamin after their families: of Bela, the family of the Belaites: of Ashbel, the family of the Ashbelites: of Ahiram, the family of the Ahiramites:

This passage describes the families of Benjamin, including the Belaites, the Ashbelites, and the Ahiramites.

1. The Meaning of Family: Exploring the Significance of Our Relationships

2. Taking Up Our Inheritance: Claiming the Promise of Our Ancestors

1. Psalm 68:6 - God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

2. Acts 2:38-39 - "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off for all whom the Lord our God will call.

Numbers 26:39 Of Shupham, the family of the Shuphamites: of Hupham, the family of the Huphamites.

Numbers 26:39 lists two families, the Shuphamites and the Huphamites.

1. God's plan for us is often revealed in unexpected ways.

2. God's family is diverse and united.

1. Galatians 3:26-29 - For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

2. Ephesians 2:11-22 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

Numbers 26:40 And the sons of Bela were Ard and Naaman: of Ard, the family of the Ardites: and of Naaman, the family of the Naamites.

This passage details the sons of Bela, which are Ard and Naaman, and their respective families.

1. God's Plan in the Details: Exploring the Purpose Behind the Names in the Bible

2. The Family Tree: Revealing God's Plan Through Genealogies

1. Genesis 5:1-32 - The importance of genealogies in tracing God's plan

2. Luke 3:23-38 - The lineage of Jesus Christ and its significance to God's plan

Numbers 26:41 These are the sons of Benjamin after their families: and they that were numbered of them were forty and five thousand and six hundred.

The sons of Benjamin had 45,600 people in their family.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the strength of the family.

2. The importance of maintaining unity within families.

1. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. Fathers, do not exassemble your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Numbers 26:42 These are the sons of Dan after their families: of Shuham, the family of the Shuhamites. These are the families of Dan after their families.

This verse provides a list of the families descended from Dan, one of the 12 tribes of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness to the descendants of Dan as shown by how their family line has been preserved.

2. The importance of recognizing our ancestors and celebrating their contributions to our lives.

1. Exodus 34:7 - Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty.

2. Romans 11:29 - For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Numbers 26:43 All the families of the Shuhamites, according to those that were numbered of them, were threescore and four thousand and four hundred.

This passage states that the families of the Shuhamites were numbered and totaled 64,400.

1: Numbers 26:43 reminds us that God knows us and counts us. He knows our numbers and our names.

2: Numbers 26:43 teaches us to trust in God and remember that He counts us among His people.

1: Psalm 147:4 He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

2: Matthew 10:30 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Numbers 26:44 Of the children of Asher after their families: of Jimna, the family of the Jimnites: of Jesui, the family of the Jesuites: of Beriah, the family of the Beriites.

This passage in Numbers 26:44 lists the various families of the tribe of Asher.

1: We can learn from the tribe of Asher that family is of utmost importance.

2: Through the families of Asher, we can recognize the importance of honoring our heritage.

1: Psalm 68:6 "God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land."

2: Deuteronomy 6:7 "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."

Numbers 26:45 Of the sons of Beriah: of Heber, the family of the Heberites: of Malchiel, the family of the Malchielites.

This passage lists the descendants of Beriah, including the Heberites and the Malchielites.

1. "The Power of Family: Connecting the Generations"

2. "The Blessing of Descent: God's Faithful Provision"

1. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children

2. Matthew 19:29 - And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

Numbers 26:46 And the name of the daughter of Asher was Sarah.

Asher had a daughter named Sarah.

1. The Strength of a Name: How Names Reflect Character and Identity

2. What is in a Name? Finding Your Purpose in Life

1. Luke 1:46-55 - Mary's Magnificat

2. Genesis 17:15-19 - God Renames Abram and Sarai

Numbers 26:47 These are the families of the sons of Asher according to those that were numbered of them; who were fifty and three thousand and four hundred.

The sons of Asher numbered 53,400 people.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the great number of His people.

2: God's blessings are seen in the many generations of His people.

1: Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; 8 but because the Lord loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2: Psalm 105:6-7 - "O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones! 7 He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth.

Numbers 26:48 Of the sons of Naphtali after their families: of Jahzeel, the family of the Jahzeelites: of Guni, the family of the Gunites:

This passage describes the families of the sons of Naphtali.

1: We must build our families and pass on our faith to our children.

2: We must honor our families and strive to honor God in all we do.

1: Genesis 2:24 - Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

2: Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Numbers 26:49 Of Jezer, the family of the Jezerites: of Shillem, the family of the Shillemites.

The families of Jezer and Shillem were mentioned in Numbers 26:49.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Family History

2. Celebrating Your Ancestors and Their Legacy

1. Deuteronomy 4:9 Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children.

2. Psalm 78:4 We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

Numbers 26:50 These are the families of Naphtali according to their families: and they that were numbered of them were forty and five thousand and four hundred.

Naphtali was numbered forty-five thousand and four hundred in the tribes of Israel.

1. Embracing the Blessings of Unity Among the Tribes of Israel

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises of Abundance

1. Ephesians 4:3-6, Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

2. Deuteronomy 7:13, He will love you, bless you, and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land your grain, new wine and olive oil the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you.

Numbers 26:51 These were the numbered of the children of Israel, six hundred thousand and a thousand seven hundred and thirty.

This passage lists the total number of individuals in the Israelite population as six hundred thousand and one thousand seven hundred and thirty.

1. We must remember that even in the midst of great numbers, God still recognizes and loves each individual.

2. We are blessed to be part of a community, and should use our collective strength to serve God.

1. Matthew 10:29-31 - "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

2. Genesis 1:27 - "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

Numbers 26:52 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses about the division of the land among the tribes of Israel.

1. The Blessing of Receiving God's Promises

2. The Significance of Obedience to God's Word

1. Joshua 14:1-5 - Caleb's faith in God's promise of land.

2. Matthew 6:33 - Seeking God's Kingdom first and trusting in Him.

Numbers 26:53 Unto these the land shall be divided for an inheritance according to the number of names.

The land will be divided among the people based on the number of people in their tribe.

1: God will always provide for His people and give them what is rightfully theirs.

2: We should always trust in God and His promises that He will provide.

1: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 26:54 To many thou shalt give the more inheritance, and to few thou shalt give the less inheritance: to every one shall his inheritance be given according to those that were numbered of him.

God shows us that every individual will receive an inheritance according to the number of people that were counted.

1. God desires to give each of us an inheritance according to our due.

2. We can trust that God will provide each of us with exactly what we need.

1. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

2. Proverbs 22:4 - "The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life."

Numbers 26:55 Notwithstanding the land shall be divided by lot: according to the names of the tribes of their fathers they shall inherit.

The land is to be divided among the tribes according to their fathers' names.

1: God's justice and mercy are seen in the way He divided the land among His people.

2: The Lord's provision for His people is seen in the way He divided the land among them.

1: Romans 12:8 - "If it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

2: Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Numbers 26:56 According to the lot shall the possession thereof be divided between many and few.

This passage from Numbers 26:56 explains that possessions will be allocated equitably, according to the lot, regardless of the difference between many and few.

1. "The Way of the Lord: Equity in Possession Allocation"

2. "The Blessing of Equality in Possession Allocation"

1. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

2. James 2:1-4 - "My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, You sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, You stand over there, or, Sit down at my feet, have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?"

Numbers 26:57 And these are they that were numbered of the Levites after their families: of Gershon, the family of the Gershonites: of Kohath, the family of the Kohathites: of Merari, the family of the Merarites.

This passage describes the families of the Levites according to the Gershonites, Kohathites, and Merarites.

1. God's Faithful Plan: How the Levites Fulfill God's Plan for His People

2. God's Covenant Fulfillment: The Significance of the Levites in Biblical Times

1. Hebrews 7:11-12 - Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

2. Exodus 29:9 - You shall also take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it, and consecrate it and all its furniture, so that it may become holy.

Numbers 26:58 These are the families of the Levites: the family of the Libnites, the family of the Hebronites, the family of the Mahlites, the family of the Mushites, the family of the Korathites. And Kohath begat Amram.

This passage from Numbers 26 details the five families of the Levites and also mentions that Kohath was the father of Amram.

1. The Importance of Unity among the Levites

2. The Legacy of Kohath

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Romans 12:3-5 - "For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

Numbers 26:59 And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bare to Levi in Egypt: and she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.

Amram, who was from the tribe of Levi, married Jochebed who was also from the tribe of Levi, and they had three children together: Aaron, Moses, and Miriam.

1. God's plan for redemption often comes through unlikely people and unexpected circumstances.

2. The importance of being part of a loving family, as seen through the example of Amram and Jochebed.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 68:6 - God setteth the solitary in families: he bringeth out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.

Numbers 26:60 And unto Aaron was born Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

Aaron and his wife had four sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promises

2. Raising Children to Serve the Lord

1. Numbers 6:24-26 - The Lord bless you and keep you;

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord.

Numbers 26:61 And Nadab and Abihu died, when they offered strange fire before the LORD.

Nadab and Abihu died when they offered an unauthorized fire offering to the Lord.

1. The importance of following God's commands.

2. The consequences of rebellion against Him.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 "But if you will not obey the LORD your God by diligently observing all his commandments and decrees, which I am commanding you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you."

2. Hebrews 10:31 "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Numbers 26:62 And those that were numbered of them were twenty and three thousand, all males from a month old and upward: for they were not numbered among the children of Israel, because there was no inheritance given them among the children of Israel.

This verse from Numbers 26 mentions 23,000 males who were not numbered among the Israelites due to the lack of an inheritance.

1. God's provision is enough for all - Psalm 23:1

2. The importance of honoring God's commands - Deuteronomy 6:17

1. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Deuteronomy 6:17 - You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you.

Numbers 26:63 These are they that were numbered by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who numbered the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho.

The children of Israel were numbered by Moses and the priest Eleazar in the plains of Moab near Jordan and Jericho.

1. God's faithfulness in numbering and leading His people

2. The importance of faithful stewardship in the service of God

1. Revelation 7:4 - And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

2. Matthew 18:12-14 - What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

Numbers 26:64 But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

Moses and Aaron conducted a census of the Israelites in the wilderness of Sinai, but none of the people present were among those counted.

1. God has a specific plan for each of us, even when we think we're too small to make a difference.

2. We should always be open to being counted in God's plans, even when we don't expect it.

1. Isaiah 43:4-5 - "Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

2. Psalm 139:13-16 - "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

Numbers 26:65 For the LORD had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness. And there was not left a man of them, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

The Lord had promised that the Israelites would die in the wilderness due to their disobedience, however Caleb and Joshua were the only two who were spared.

1. God's Promises - The importance of trusting and obeying God, even when it doesn't make sense.

2. The Faithfulness of God - How God is always faithful to His promises and His people, even when we are not.

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-5 - Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

3. Hebrews 11:6 - Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Numbers 27 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 27:1-11 introduces the case of the daughters of Zelophehad. The daughters Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah approach Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders, and the entire congregation at the entrance of the tent of meeting. They explain that their father died without leaving any sons to inherit his portion of land. They request that they be given possession of their father's inheritance among their paternal tribe. Moses brings their case before God for a decision.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 27:12-23, God responds to Moses regarding the case of Zelophehad's daughters. He affirms that they are right in their request and instructs Moses to give them possession of their father's inheritance within his tribe. God establishes a new law concerning inheritance where if a man dies without a son, his inheritance will pass to his daughter(s). However, if he has no daughter(s), it will go to his brothers or nearest relatives.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 27 concludes by highlighting how Moses appoints Joshua as his successor under God's guidance. At God's command, Moses publicly transfers authority and lays hands on Joshua before Eleazar and all Israel. This signifies Joshua's appointment as leader over Israel after Moses' death. The chapter ends by stating that under Joshua's leadership, Israel will continue its conquests and enter into possession of the Promised Land.

In summary:

Numbers 27 presents:

Case of Zelophehad's daughters requesting inheritance;

Approaching Moses, Eleazar, leaders, congregation;

God affirming their right; establishing new law for inheritance.

Moses appointing Joshua as his successor;

Public transfer of authority; laying hands on Joshua;

Joshua appointed leader over Israel after Moses' death.

Anticipation under Joshua's leadership;

Continuation of conquests; entering possession of Promised Land.

This chapter focuses on two main events the case brought forth by Zelophehad's daughters regarding inheritance rights and the appointment of Joshua as Moses' successor. Numbers 27 begins with Zelophehad's daughters Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah approaching Moses along with other leaders at the entrance to the tent of meeting. They explain that their father died without leaving any sons behind who could inherit his portion of land within their paternal tribe. They request that they be granted possession among their father s brothers in order to maintain an inheritance within their family line.

Furthermore, Numbers 27 highlights how God responds to this case brought before Him by affirming that Zelophehad s daughters are right in requesting an inheritance among their paternal tribe. He establishes a new law concerning inheritances where if a man dies without having any sons but has daughters instead, they shall inherit from him. If there are no daughters either but he has brothers or nearest relatives alive when he dies then they shall receive his possessions instead.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing how under God s guidance and commandment given through Moses, Joshua is appointed as successor to lead Israel after Moses death is imminent. This transition is marked by a public transfer ceremony where authority is passed from Moses to Joshua through laying hands upon him before Eleazar (the priest) and all Israelites present at this event.

Numbers 27:1 Then came the daughters of Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of Manasseh the son of Joseph: and these are the names of his daughters; Mahlah, Noah, and Hoglah, and Milcah, and Tirzah.

The daughters of Zelophehad, a descendant of Manasseh, are listed by name.

1: Women should be given equal rights and opportunities regardless of background or lineage.

2: We should honor those in our lives who have gone before us and learn from their legacies.

1: Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2: Proverbs 1:8-9 Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

Numbers 27:2 And they stood before Moses, and before Eleazar the priest, and before the princes and all the congregation, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, saying,

The daughters of Zelophehad seek justice to receive a portion of their father's inheritance.

1: God desires justice - He respects and honours each of us and will never forget us. We must remember that He is the ultimate judge and He is the one who will decide what is fair and just.

2: We must stand up for what is right and seek justice for ourselves and for others. We must remember that God is the source of justice and that He will provide us with what is just and fair.

1: James 2:1-4 - My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, Here s a good seat for you, but say to the poor man, You stand there or Sit on the floor by my feet, have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

2: Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Numbers 27:3 Our father died in the wilderness, and he was not in the company of them that gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah; but died in his own sin, and had no sons.

The passage discusses the death of a father in the wilderness who did not join the company of Korah in their rebellion against the LORD, but died in his own sin without any sons.

1. God's Faithfulness in Trials: A Study of Numbers 27:3

2. Overcoming Sin's Consequences: An Examination of Numbers 27:3

1. Deuteronomy 4:31 - "For the Lord your God is a merciful God; he will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers which he swore to them."

2. Psalm 103:8-10 - "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities."

Numbers 27:4 Why should the name of our father be done away from among his family, because he hath no son? Give unto us therefore a possession among the brethren of our father.

This passage discusses the need to preserve the name of a father who has no son by giving the family a possession among the brethren.

1. The Strength of an Unbroken Line: How to Preserve a Legacy Despite Adversity

2. The Promise of Inheritance: Recognizing and Upholding Our Responsibilities as Heirs

1. Ruth 4:9-10 - Boaz responding to the need to preserve the legacy of Naomi.

2. Psalm 16:5-6 - A promise of the LORD's goodness and provision for those who seek Him.

Numbers 27:5 And Moses brought their cause before the LORD.

Moses brought the people's disputes to the Lord for resolution.

1. "Trust in the Lord: Even in Times of Conflict"

2. "Honoring the Lord in Times of Dispute"

1. Matthew 18:15-17 - "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector."

2. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man s ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him."

Numbers 27:6 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is commanded by the LORD to carry out the will of the daughters of Zelophehad.

1. The importance of honoring the requests of the faithful.

2. The power of humility to bring justice.

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

2. Proverbs 31:8-9 - "Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Numbers 27:7 The daughters of Zelophehad speak right: thou shalt surely give them a possession of an inheritance among their father's brethren; and thou shalt cause the inheritance of their father to pass unto them.

God's justice is demonstrated in Numbers 27:7 by providing a possession of an inheritance to the daughters of Zelophehad.

1: We all are equal in the eyes of God and are deserving of the same inheritance, regardless of gender.

2: God rewards those who stand up for what is right and seek justice.

1: Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

2: Proverbs 31:8-9 - "Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy."

Numbers 27:8 And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a man die, and have no son, then ye shall cause his inheritance to pass unto his daughter.

Passage If a man dies without a son, his inheritance is to be given to his daughter.

1. The Unconditional Love of God: How God Provides for All, Regardless of Gender

2. The Value of Family: How We Honor Our Loved Ones Through Passing Down Our Inheritance

1. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Numbers 27:9 And if he have no daughter, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his brethren.

If a man dies without a daughter, his inheritance will be given to his brothers.

1. "God's Mercy and Equity: An Examination of Numbers 27:9"

2. "The Importance of Family in God's Plan: A Study of Numbers 27:9"

1. Deuteronomy 25:5-6, "If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her."

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Numbers 27:10 And if he have no brethren, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his father's brethren.

The inheritance of a person without any brothers is to be given to their father's brothers.

1. We must be ready to give what is due to those in need.

2. We must consider the needs of our relatives.

1. 1 John 3:17-18 But if anyone has the world s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

2. Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.

Numbers 27:11 And if his father have no brethren, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his kinsman that is next to him of his family, and he shall possess it: and it shall be unto the children of Israel a statute of judgment, as the LORD commanded Moses.

This passage describes a law from the Lord commanded to Moses to give the inheritance of a person with no brothers to their next of kin if they have any.

1: We must be willing to share what we have been given, just as the Lord commanded Moses.

2: We should be thankful for all of the blessings God has given us and use them to glorify Him.

1: Galatians 6:9-10 - Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

2: Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Numbers 27:12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel.

Moses was commanded by the LORD to ascend Mount Abarim and view the land that had been given to the Israelites.

1. A Vision of Possibility: The Promised Land in Numbers 27:12

2. The Power of Obedience: Following the Lord's Commands in Numbers 27:12

1. Deuteronomy 34:1-4 - Moses's view of the Promised Land

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trusting in the Lord and being blessed with a good inheritance

Numbers 27:13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered.

Moses is told that after he has seen the Promised Land, he will be gathered to his people like Aaron.

1. Learning to accept our mortal fate and find peace in the afterlife.

2. Believing that our loved ones will be waiting for us when our time on earth is done.

1. Philippians 1:21-23 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Numbers 27:14 For ye rebelled against my commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the congregation, to sanctify me at the water before their eyes: that is the water of Meribah in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.

This passage describes how the people of Israel rebelled against God's commandment in the desert of Zin and at the water of Meribah in Kadesh.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Blessings of Obedience

2. Disobeying God's Commands: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 "And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2. Romans 6:15-16 "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

Numbers 27:15 And Moses spake unto the LORD, saying,

Moses pleads with God on behalf of the people of Israel for a leader.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Moses Interceded for the People of Israel

2. God is the Ultimate Provider: Knowing Who to Turn to in Times of Need

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Numbers 27:16 Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation,

Moses is asking God to appoint a leader of the Israelites.

1. The Power of a Godly Leader

2. The Importance of Following Godly Leadership

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Numbers 27:17 Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd.

The Lord commands Moses to appoint leaders for the people so that they have guidance and not be like sheep without a shepherd.

1. The Importance of Guidance and Leadership

2. The Great Shepherd - God's Care for His People

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2. 1 Peter 5:4 - "And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

Numbers 27:18 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;

Moses appoints Joshua as his successor.

1. Embracing Change: Learning to Adapt and Adapting to Learn

2. Called to Lead: Understanding the Responsibilities of Leadership

1. John 13:13-17 - The importance of servant leadership

2. 1 Peter 5:1-4 - The call of humility in leadership.

Numbers 27:19 And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight.

Moses appoints Joshua to lead the Israelites and gives him a charge before Eleazar the priest and the congregation.

1. The Charge of Leadership: Lessons from Joshua

2. The Path of Obedience: A Study of Numbers 27:19

1. Joshua 1:6-9

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

Numbers 27:20 And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.

The Lord commands Moses to give some of his own honour to Joshua so that the people of Israel will obey him.

1. Dedicate yourself to serve God and those around you with humility and honour.

2. Live a life of obedience to the Lord and treat others with respect.

1. 1 Peter 5:5-6, Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

2. Romans 12:10, Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

Numbers 27:21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation.

This passage describes how the people of Israel should consult the LORD through Eleazar the priest for his judgment before making any decisions.

1. Seek God's counsel in all decisions

2. Obey God's commands out of reverence for Him

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Numbers 27:22 And Moses did as the LORD commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation:

Moses followed the Lord's instructions and appointed Joshua before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Strength of Leadership: How Godly Leaders Uphold the Community

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Numbers 27:23 And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

The Lord commanded Moses to lay his hands on Joshua and give him a charge.

1. A Charge to Lead: The Story of Joshua from Numbers 27:23

2. The Blessing of Obedience: A Study of Numbers 27:23

1. Deuteronomy 34:9 - And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.

2. Hebrews 5:4 - And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

Numbers 28 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 28:1-8 provides instructions for the daily offerings that are to be presented to God. The chapter begins by emphasizing that these offerings are to be carried out at their appointed times and consist of two male lambs in their first year, along with grain and drink offerings. Additionally, a continual burnt offering is to be offered each day consisting of one lamb in the morning and another lamb at twilight.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 28:9-15, the chapter outlines the Sabbath offerings. On each Sabbath day, two male lambs in their first year are to be offered as a burnt offering along with additional grain and drink offerings. These Sabbath offerings are considered holy and should not only take place on top of the regular daily burnt offering but also include a special additional offering of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 28 concludes by detailing the monthly offerings, which occur during the New Moon celebrations. Each month, at the beginning of the month, there are additional sacrifices to be made. These include two young bulls, one ram, seven male lambs in their first year all without blemish as well as appropriate grain and drink offerings. These monthly sacrifices serve as a pleasing aroma to God.

In summary:

Numbers 28 presents:

Instructions for daily offerings two male lambs, grain, drink;

Continual burnt offering morning, twilight.

Sabbath offerings two male lambs, grain, drink;

Special addition on Sabbath fine flour mixed with oil.

Monthly New Moon celebrations additional sacrifices;

Two young bulls, one ram, seven male lambs, grain, drink;

Offerings serve as a pleasing aroma to God.

This chapter focuses on instructions for various types of offerings that were presented regularly before God the daily offerings, Sabbath offerings, and monthly New Moon celebrations. Numbers 28 begins by providing instructions for daily offerings consisting of two male lambs in their first year along with grain and drink offerings at appointed times. Additionally, there is a continual burnt offering consisting of one lamb offered in the morning and another lamb offered at twilight each day.

Furthermore, Numbers 28 outlines specific instructions for Sabbath observance where additional sacrifices are made alongside regular daily burnt offering a total of two male lambs in their first year along with grain and drink offerings. This special addition includes two-tenths of an ephah (a measure) of fine flour mixed with oil.

The chapter concludes by detailing the monthly New Moon celebrations where specific additional sacrifices are made at the beginning of each month. These include two young bulls without blemish, one ram without blemish, seven male lambs in their first year without blemish all accompanied by appropriate grain and drink offerings. These sacrificial acts serve as a pleasing aroma before God during these festive occasions.

Numbers 28:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This passage speaks of the Lord speaking to Moses and commanding him to give instructions about the offerings.

1. The Lord's Direction: Following His Instructions and Guidance

2. The Power of Obedience: Demonstrating Faith through Listening and Acting

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Isaiah 1:19 - "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land."

Numbers 28:2 Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, My offering, and my bread for my sacrifices made by fire, for a sweet savour unto me, shall ye observe to offer unto me in their due season.

God instructed the Israelites to offer Him sacrifices at the appointed time.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Appointment

2. The Blessing of Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 11:27 - "And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you."

2. Philippians 2:8 - "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Numbers 28:3 And thou shalt say unto them, This is the offering made by fire which ye shall offer unto the LORD; two lambs of the first year without spot day by day, for a continual burnt offering.

God commanded the Israelites to offer two lambs of the first year as a continual burnt offering.

1. The Importance of Consistent Obedience to God's Commands

2. The Sacrifice of Obedience: Giving up our Will to Follow God's

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?"

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Numbers 28:4 The one lamb shalt thou offer in the morning, and the other lamb shalt thou offer at even;

This passage instructs the Israelites to offer a lamb in the morning and another lamb in the evening as a burnt offering.

1. The Power of Offering: How our daily prayers can transform us.

2. Make Every Moment Count: The importance of dedicating time to God.

1. Matthew 6:11 - Give us this day our daily bread.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

Numbers 28:5 And a tenth part of an ephah of flour for a meat offering, mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil.

This passage describes the offering God commanded his people to give to him: a tenth part of an ephah of flour mixed with a fourth part of an hin of oil.

1. "Our Offerings to God: A Biblical Model for Generosity"

2. "The Significance of Offering to God: A Study of Numbers 28:5"

1. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Numbers 28:6 It is a continual burnt offering, which was ordained in mount Sinai for a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD.

The continual burnt offering, which was ordained by God on Mount Sinai, is a sweet-smelling sacrifice made by fire to the LORD.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How God's Gifts Require Our Response

2. A Heart of Gratitude: Growing in Our Appreciation of God's Provision

1. Leviticus 1:1-17; 3:1-17 - God's instructions for the burnt offering

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Expressing gratitude to God through sacrifice and offerings

Numbers 28:7 And the drink offering thereof shall be the fourth part of an hin for the one lamb: in the holy place shalt thou cause the strong wine to be poured unto the LORD for a drink offering.

This passage describes the drink offering associated with the offering of a single lamb, which is one fourth of a hin of strong wine to be poured out in the holy place as an offering to the LORD.

1. The Offering of the Lamb: A Consideration of the Sacrificial Nature of Worship

2. Wine as a Symbol of Joy and Celebration in the Lord's House

1. Isaiah 55:1-2 - "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness."

2. Psalm 104:15 - "And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart."

Numbers 28:8 And the other lamb shalt thou offer at even: as the meat offering of the morning, and as the drink offering thereof, thou shalt offer it, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

The Lord required a lamb to be offered twice a day, once in the morning and once in the evening, as a burnt offering with a pleasing aroma.

1. The Beauty and Importance of Sacrifice

2. A Pleasing Aroma: How Our Worship Glorifies God

1. Psalm 50:14 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Numbers 28:9 And on the sabbath day two lambs of the first year without spot, and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and the drink offering thereof:

On the Sabbath day, two unblemished lambs, two tenth-deals of flour mixed with oil, and the accompanying drink offering were to be presented to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Worship: Presenting the Best of What We Have to the Lord

2. The Significance of Sabbath: Taking Time for Rest and Renewal in the Presence of the Lord

1. Leviticus 23:3 - "Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings."

2. Psalm 116:17 - "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD."

Numbers 28:10 This is the burnt offering of every sabbath, beside the continual burnt offering, and his drink offering.

Every Sabbath, a burnt offering and a drink offering were to be made in addition to the continual burnt offering.

1. Christians should use the example of the burnt offering from Numbers 28:10 to worship God every Sabbath.

2. The burnt offering is a reminder of our need for continual sacrifice for our sins.

1. Numbers 28:10 - "This is the burnt offering of every sabbath, beside the continual burnt offering, and his drink offering."

2. Hebrews 10:12 - "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;"

Numbers 28:11 And in the beginnings of your months ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD; two young bullocks, and one ram, seven lambs of the first year without spot;

This passage outlines the instructions for offering sacrifices to the Lord at the beginning of each month.

1. The God of Abundance: The Significance of Offering Sacrifices to the Lord

2. The Power of Obedience: How to Follow God's Instructions for Offerings

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - "But you shall seek the place that the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, and there you shall go. And thither you shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks. And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice in all that you put your hand unto, you and your households, wherein the LORD your God hath blessed you.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Numbers 28:12 And three tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one bullock; and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one ram;

The Lord commanded the Israelites to offer one bullock and one ram as a meat offering, each accompanied by a specific quantity of flour mixed with oil.

1. The Lord's Commandments: A Call to Worship

2. Holiness Through Obedience: Offerings to the Lord

1. Leviticus 1:2-17 - The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Numbers 28:13 And a several tenth deal of flour mingled with oil for a meat offering unto one lamb; for a burnt offering of a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD.

This passage talks about a burnt offering of a sweet savour as a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD.

1. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Why We Give Up What We Value Most to Follow God

2. The Power of Obedience: How Our Devotion to God Changes Our Lives

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Numbers 28:14 And their drink offerings shall be half an hin of wine unto a bullock, and the third part of an hin unto a ram, and a fourth part of an hin unto a lamb: this is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year.

This passage describes the drink offering which was to be given each month as part of a burnt offering.

1. The Importance of Obedience - How following God's commands brings us closer to Him

2. The Joy of Service - How serving God brings us joy and spiritual fulfillment.

1. Deuteronomy 30:16 - In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

2. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Numbers 28:15 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering unto the LORD shall be offered, beside the continual burnt offering, and his drink offering.

This passage discusses the offering of a goat as a sin offering to the LORD, in addition to the continual burnt offering and its drink offering.

1. The Power of Confession: Why We Must Confess Our Sins to the Lord

2. Atonement Through Sacrifice: The Significance of Sin Offerings in the Bible

1. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. Leviticus 16:21-22 - "And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness."

Numbers 28:16 And in the fourteenth day of the first month is the passover of the LORD.

On the fourteenth day of the first month, the Lord's Passover is celebrated.

1. The Lord's Passover: Celebrating the Covenant with God

2. God's Provision: A Celebration of Redemption

1. Deuteronomy 16:1-8 - God's instructions for the Passover celebration

2. Exodus 12:1-28 - The story of the Lord's Passover

Numbers 28:17 And in the fifteenth day of this month is the feast: seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten.

On the fifteenth day of the month, a seven-day feast of unleavened bread is to be consumed.

1. The importance of keeping God's feasts and the symbolism of unleavened bread.

2. The spiritual significance of obedience in following God's commands.

1. Exodus 12:15-20 - God's instruction to keep the feast of unleavened bread.

2. Matthew 26:17-30 - Jesus' observance of the Passover feast and the Last Supper.

Numbers 28:18 In the first day shall be an holy convocation; ye shall do no manner of servile work therein:

On the first day of the month a holy convocation was to be observed in which no servile work was to be done.

1. The Importance of Resting and Recharging

2. God's Faithfulness and Provision

1. Exodus 20:8-11; Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy

2. Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Keep the Sabbath day holy

Numbers 28:19 But ye shall offer a sacrifice made by fire for a burnt offering unto the LORD; two young bullocks, and one ram, and seven lambs of the first year: they shall be unto you without blemish:

This passage states that God commanded two young bullocks, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year be offered to the Lord as a burnt offering.

1. The Lord's Command: Offerings of Sacrifice

2. Obedience to God, Reverence, and Gratitude

1. Leviticus 22:19-20 - "You shall offer a sacrifice of a peace offering to the Lord. If you offer it by way of thanksgiving, then along with the thanksgiving sacrifice you shall offer cakes of leavened bread mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil, and cakes of fine flour well mixed with oil.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Numbers 28:20 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil: three tenth deals shall ye offer for a bullock, and two tenth deals for a ram;

This passage outlines the offering requirements for bulls and rams - three tenth deals of flour mixed with oil for a bullock, and two tenth deals for a ram.

1. The Power of Generosity - The Lord asks us to offer up our best, even when it seems difficult; through our obedience, we demonstrate our faithfulness and receive blessings.

2. The Value of Sacrifice - We can often be tempted to hold on tightly to that which we possess; yet, when we give sacrificially to God, we are reminded of the value of trust and faith in Him.

1. Malachi 3:10 - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

2. Luke 21:1-4 - And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

Numbers 28:21 A several tenth deal shalt thou offer for every lamb, throughout the seven lambs:

This passage explains that seven lambs must be sacrificed as an offering with a tenth deal.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How God Calls Us to Give Generously

2. Understanding the Significance of Seven: The Perfect Number in the Bible

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Leviticus 1:2-3 - Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When anyone among you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

Numbers 28:22 And one goat for a sin offering, to make an atonement for you.

This passage is about God's provision of atonement through a sin offering of a goat.

1. The Atonement of Christ - God's Great Gift of Redemption

2. The Power of Forgiveness - How God's Mercy Can Transform Lives

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Numbers 28:23 Ye shall offer these beside the burnt offering in the morning, which is for a continual burnt offering.

This passage from Numbers 28 speaks of the need to offer burnt offerings in addition to the daily morning offering.

1. The Importance of Dedicating Ourselves to God in Worship

2. The Power of Obedience in Following God's Commands

1. Luke 4:8 - And Jesus answered him, It is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Numbers 28:24 After this manner ye shall offer daily, throughout the seven days, the meat of the sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD: it shall be offered beside the continual burnt offering, and his drink offering.

God commands that a daily sacrifice of sweet-smelling fire be offered to him, alongside the continual burnt offering and drink offering.

1. The Sacrifice of Sweet-Smelling Fire: A Call to Surrender

2. Making a Pleasing Aroma to the Lord: An Invitation to Worship

1. Ephesians 5:2 - And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Numbers 28:25 And on the seventh day ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work.

On the seventh day of the week, a holy convocation is to be observed and no servile work done.

1. The Sanctity of the Sabbath: Practicing Rest and Reflection

2. The Joy of Rejoicing and Refreshing on the Seventh Day

Cross-

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

2. Exodus 20:8-10 - Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

Numbers 28:26 Also in the day of the firstfruits, when ye bring a new meat offering unto the LORD, after your weeks be out, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work:

On the day of the firstfruits, there is to be an holy convocation and no servile work is to be done.

1. Remembering the Firstfruits and the Blessing of Rest

2. Abiding in God's Presence: The Significance of Holy Convocation

1. Colossians 2:16-17 - Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Numbers 28:27 But ye shall offer the burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the LORD; two young bullocks, one ram, seven lambs of the first year;

The LORD commanded the offering of two young bullocks, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year as a sweet savour unto Him.

1: We are called to offer our best to God in service to Him.

2: Our sacrifices to God should be given with joy and love.

1: Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2: Philippians 4:18-19 - I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

Numbers 28:28 And their meat offering of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals unto one bullock, two tenth deals unto one ram,

This passage describes the offering of flour, oil, and animals to God as a sacrifice.

1. God's Faithfulness and Generosity in Sacrifices

2. The Power of Giving and Gratitude

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. Philippians 4:18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

Numbers 28:29 A several tenth deal unto one lamb, throughout the seven lambs;

The passage states that seven lambs should be offered, with one tenth of a deal given to each lamb.

1. The Importance of Sacrificial Offerings

2. The Significance of Division and Unity in Sacrifices

1. Leviticus 1:2-4 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock. If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Numbers 28:30 And one kid of the goats, to make an atonement for you.

This passage from Numbers 28:30 speaks of a sacrificial offering of a goat for the atonement of sin.

1. The Greatest Sacrifice: How Jesus' Atonement Serves As Our Ultimate Redemption

2. The Power of Atonement: How We Can Repent and Receive Forgiveness

1. Hebrews 9:12-15 - "He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption."

2. Romans 3:21-26 - "But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe."

Numbers 28:31 Ye shall offer them beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, (they shall be unto you without blemish) and their drink offerings.

This passage is about the offerings which must be made to God, which must be without blemish.

1. The Perfect Offering: How our Sacrifice to God Must Reflect His Perfection

2. The Power of Worship: Why it is Vital to Offer Our Best to God

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship.

2. Leviticus 22:20 - But whatever has a blemish, that you shall not offer, for it will not be acceptable for you.

Numbers 29 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 29:1-11 provides instructions for the offerings to be presented during the Feast of Trumpets. On the first day of the seventh month, a holy convocation is to be held, and a burnt offering is to be offered a young bull, one ram, and seven male lambs in their first year all without blemish. Additionally, grain and drink offerings are to accompany these sacrifices.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 29:12-34, the chapter outlines the offerings for the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles. On the tenth day of the seventh month is the Day of Atonement when a holy convocation is called. On this day, specific sin offerings are made consisting of one young bull, one ram, and seven male lambs in their first year all without blemish. The chapter then details instructions for each day of the Feast of Tabernacles starting from the fifteenth day through to its conclusion on the twenty-second day with varying numbers and types of sacrifices offered each day.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 29 concludes by emphasizing that all these appointed feasts require specific offerings at their designated times. These include additional burnt offerings, grain offerings, drink offerings, sin offerings, and peace offerings as prescribed by God through Moses. The chapter highlights how these sacrifices serve as a pleasing aroma to God.

In summary:

Numbers 29 presents:

Instructions for Feast of Trumpets burnt offering, grain, drink;

Offerings on Day of Atonement sin offering;

Feast of Tabernacles varying sacrifices each day.

Emphasis on specific offerings at appointed times;

Burnt, grain, drink, sin, peace;

Sacrifices serve as a pleasing aroma to God.

Numbers 29:1 And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you.

On the first day of the seventh month, the Israelites were to have a holy gathering and not do any work. This was a day of sounding the trumpets.

1. The Meaning of a New Month: Learning to Rejoice in the Special Moments of Life

2. The Power of the Trumpet: The Significance of Sound in Ancient Times

1. Psalm 81:3: "Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day."

2. Isaiah 58:13: "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words."

Numbers 29:2 And ye shall offer a burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the LORD; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year without blemish:

The LORD commanded the Israelites to offer a burnt offering of one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year without blemish.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. The Sweet Smell of Sacrifice: The Meaning of Offering to God

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Numbers 29:3 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals for a bullock, and two tenth deals for a ram,

This passage outlines the amount of flour and oil for a bullock and a ram offering.

1. God is generous and provides for His people, even in their offerings.

2. Offerings to God are a way to show devotion and trust in Him.

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - "But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come: And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks: And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee."

2. Leviticus 7:11-12 - "And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the LORD. If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried."

Numbers 29:4 And one tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs:

The Lord commanded the Israelites to offer seven lambs and one tenth deal for each lamb.

1: We can learn from the Lord's example to be generous in our giving.

2: God's perfect will is often accomplished through His commands.

1: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Numbers 29:5 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering, to make an atonement for you:

A sin offering of one kid of the goats was to be offered to atone for the people.

1. Jesus is our ultimate sin offering, through whom we can find reconciliation with God.

2. The importance of recognizing our sin and offering a sacrifice to atone for it.

1. Romans 5:8-9 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God s wrath through him!

2. Isaiah 53:10 Yet it was the Lord s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

Numbers 29:6 Beside the burnt offering of the month, and his meat offering, and the daily burnt offering, and his meat offering, and their drink offerings, according unto their manner, for a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD.

This passage speaks about the burnt offering, meat offering, and drink offerings that are made as a sacrifice to the LORD.

1. The Beauty of God s Sacrifices

2. Offerings to the Lord: Our Joyful Duty

1. Philippians 4:18 - But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Numbers 29:7 And ye shall have on the tenth day of this seventh month an holy convocation; and ye shall afflict your souls: ye shall not do any work therein:

The people of Israel are to gather on the tenth day of the seventh month for a holy convocation and to afflict their souls.

1. The Power of Purposeful Reflection

2. Keeping Holy Days in the Life of Faith

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

2. Isaiah 58:5 - "Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord?"

Numbers 29:8 But ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD for a sweet savour; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year; they shall be unto you without blemish:

On the seventh day of the seventh month, a burnt offering is to be made to the Lord consisting of one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year, all without blemish.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commandments

2. The Meaning of a Burnt Offering: Understanding the Significance of Sacrifices

1. Deuteronomy 12:6-7 - Offer your burnt offerings on the altar of the Lord your God, and sacrifice peace offerings.

2. Leviticus 1:9-10 - The priest shall offer up the whole burnt offering on the altar; it is a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

Numbers 29:9 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals to a bullock, and two tenth deals to one ram,

This passage describes the offering of grain and oil to be presented to God by bulls and rams.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Understanding God's Expectation of Obedience

2. The Gift of Generosity: Giving to God out of Love and Gratitude

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.

2. Leviticus 7:12-13 - If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord.

Numbers 29:10 A several tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs:

The passage refers to the Israelites offering seven lambs every day for seven days, with one tenth deal of fine flour and oil for one lamb.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated through the sacrifice of the lambs.

2. Our need to follow God's commands and make our own sacrifices to honor Him.

1. "I will sacrifice to you with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord." (Jonah 2:9)

2. "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name." (Hebrews 13:15)

Numbers 29:11 One kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the sin offering of atonement, and the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering of it, and their drink offerings.

Numbers 29:11 describes the offerings to be made for atonement, including one male goat for a sin offering, a continual burnt offering, a meat offering, and their accompanying drink offerings.

1. The Power of Atonement: Understanding the Significance of the Sacrificial Offerings in Numbers 29:11

2. Receiving Forgiveness: Applying the Message of Atonement to Our Lives

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - "He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

Numbers 29:12 And on the fifteenth day of the seventh month ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work, and ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days:

On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, a holy convocation is held where no servile work is done and a feast to the Lord is kept for seven days.

1. "The Power of Holiness: Celebrating God's Holiness in the Seventh Month"

2. "The Joy of the Lord: Experiencing God's Joy Through Keeping the Feast"

1. Psalm 30:11-12 - "You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness; that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!"

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - "If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth."

Numbers 29:13 And ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year; they shall be without blemish:

The Lord commanded the offering of thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year as a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the Lord.

1. The Lord's Command: Offerings of Sacrifice and Atonement

2. The Meaning of True Sacrifice: Obedience to God's Will

1. Leviticus 22:17-25 - Instructions for presenting offerings made by fire to the Lord

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ

Numbers 29:14 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals unto every bullock of the thirteen bullocks, two tenth deals to each ram of the two rams,

Every bullock of the thirteen bullocks was to receive a meat offering of three tenth deals of flour mingled with oil and each of the two rams was to receive two tenth deals.

1. The Power of a Meat Offering - Using Numbers 29:14 to illustrate how God honors even the simplest acts of devotion.

2. The Perfect Balance - Exploring Numbers 29:14 as a reminder of how God's design is always perfectly balanced.

1. Leviticus 2:1-2 - "And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon: And he shall bring it to Aaron's sons the priests: and he shall take thereout his handful of the flour thereof, and of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof..."

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

Numbers 29:15 And a several tenth deal to each lamb of the fourteen lambs:

The Lord prescribed a special offering of fourteen lambs for the people of Israel.

1. The Value of Sacrifice - A look at the special offering prescribed by the Lord and its importance to the people of Israel.

2. Obedience to the Lord's Will - Examining the significance of following God's will and the blessings that come with it.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

2. Leviticus 1:2-3 - Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When anyone among you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

Numbers 29:16 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

God's provision of forgiveness and restoration.

1: God provides a way for us to be forgiven and restored through the sacrifice of a sin offering.

2: We can be restored to a right relationship with God through the atoning sacrifice of Christ.

1: Isaiah 53:5-6 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2: Hebrews 9:11-12 - "But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption."

Numbers 29:17 And on the second day ye shall offer twelve young bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without spot:

This passage speaks of offering two rams and twelve young bulls, along with fourteen lambs as an offering to God.

1. The Power of Giving: Why We Offer Sacrifices to God

2. Serving God Wholeheartedly: Overcoming Our Fear of Sacrifice

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Philippians 4:18 - "I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God."

Numbers 29:18 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

This passage outlines instructions for offering meat and drink offerings to God for bullocks, rams, and lambs according to the number of animals.

1. The Power of Offerings: Understanding the Significance of Sacrificing to God

2. Giving God Our Best: Appreciating the Gift of Giving

1. Philippians 4:18: "I have received full payment, and more; I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

2. Isaiah 1:11: "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats."

Numbers 29:19 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering thereof, and their drink offerings.

Numbers 29:19 discusses a sin offering of one kid of the goats, in addition to a continual burnt offering, a meat offering, and drink offerings.

1. The Significance of Sacrifices in Biblical Times

2. The Importance of Atonement Through Sin Offerings

1. Leviticus 16:20-22 - And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place, the tabernacle of meeting, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat. Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, concerning all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a suitable man. The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to an uninhabited land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Numbers 29:20 And on the third day eleven bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish;

This passage speaks of a sacrificial offering of eleven bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs.

1. The Power of Sacrifice in Obedience to God

2. The Necessity of Making Sacrifices to Acknowledge God's Provision

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Leviticus 1:2-3 - Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When any of you brings an offering to the Lord, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock.

Numbers 29:21 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

Numbers 29:21 outlines the manner in which offerings of meat and drink should be made for bulls, rams, and lambs.

1. Learning to Offer Sacrifices: The Meaning of Numbers 29:21

2. The Holiness of Giving: Fulfilling our Obligations in Numbers 29:21

1. Psalm 51:16-17 - For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Numbers 29:22 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Numbers 29:22 describes the instructions for a sin offering sacrifice, including a goat, a continual burnt offering, and grain and drink offerings.

1. Jesus: The Perfect Sin Offering - The sacrifices prescribed in Numbers 29:22 are fulfilled in Jesus' perfect sacrifice for our sins.

2. The Need for Atonement - This passage reminds us of the need for atonement for our sins and God's provision for it.

1. Romans 5:8-9 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 10:1-2 - The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

Numbers 29:23 And on the fourth day ten bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish:

This passage reveals that on the fourth day of the religious festival, ten bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish should be offered.

1. The Sacrifice of Obedience - A on Numbers 29:23

2. The Significance of the Fourth Day - A on Numbers 29:23

1. Leviticus 1:2-3 - "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

3. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - "Three times in a year shall all your males appear before the Lord your God in the place that he will choose: at the festival of unleavened bread, and at the festival of weeks, and at the festival of booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

Numbers 29:24 Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

The passage describes the offerings that the Israelites were to give according to the number of bulls, rams, and lambs that were sacrificed.

1: God has a purpose for every offering we make.

2: Our offerings are an expression of our faith and trust in God.

1: Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Numbers 29:25 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

On the tenth day of the seventh month, the Lord instructed the Israelites to offer one kid of the goats as a sin offering in addition to the continual burnt offering, its corresponding meat offering, and its corresponding drink offering.

1. The Lord Requires Us to Make Atonement for Our Sins

2. The Importance of Offering Sacrifices to the Lord

1. Leviticus 16:20-22 - And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place, the tabernacle of meeting, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat. Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, confess over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, concerning all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a suitable man.

2. Hebrews 10:1-4 - For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

Numbers 29:26 And on the fifth day nine bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without spot:

This passage outlines the sacrificial offering for the fifth day of the Festival of Tabernacles: nine bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without spot.

1. The Cost of Worship: The Sacrificial Offerings of the Festival of Tabernacles

2. The Generosity of the Lord: His Provision For Our Worship

1. Leviticus 23:34 - "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the Lord."

2. Psalm 81:3-4 - "Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob."

Numbers 29:27 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

On the Day of Atonement, the Israelites offered sacrifices according to a specific number and manner as outlined by the Lord.

1. The Importance of Following the Lord's Commandments

2. The Meaning of the Atonement Sacrifices

1. Numbers 29:27 - And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

2. Hebrews 10:1-3 - For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.

Numbers 29:28 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering.

On the tenth day of the seventh month, one goat must be presented to the Lord as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering, meat offering, and drink offering.

1. The Power of Atonement: How to Find Forgiveness Through Jesus

2. The Significance of the Day of Atonement: A Study of Numbers 29:28

1. Hebrews 9:22 - In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

2. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Numbers 29:29 And on the sixth day eight bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish:

This passage describes the sacrifices that were to be offered on the sixth day of a religious ceremony.

1. God's love for us is demonstrated through His provision of sacrifice.

2. We must come to God in humility and obedience, as demonstrated by the ritual sacrifices.

1. Hebrews 10:4-5 - "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me."

2. Leviticus 22:17-19 - "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto Aaron, and to his sons, and unto all the children of Israel, and say unto them, Whatsoever he be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers in Israel, that will offer his oblation for all his vows, and for all his freewill offerings, which they will offer unto the LORD for a burnt offering; thou shalt offer at your own will a male without blemish, of the beeves, of the sheep, or of the goats.

Numbers 29:30 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

Numbers 29:30 speaks of the offering of meat and drink for the bullocks, rams, and lambs according to the number of each.

1) The Power of Giving: Revealing God's Love Through Our Offerings

2) Sacrifice and Obedience: Honoring God Through Our Offerings

1) 2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2) Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Numbers 29:31 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Numbers 29:31 mentions a sin offering of one goat, which is to be accompanied by a continual burnt offering, a meat offering, and a drink offering.

1. The Power of Atonement Through Sacrifice

2. The Significance of the Sin Offering

1. Leviticus 16:3-5 - "Tell Aaron that he shall come into the Holy Place with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and he shall have the linen undergarments on his body, and he shall tie the linen sash around his waist, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy garments. He shall bathe his body in water and put them on."

2. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."

Numbers 29:32 And on the seventh day seven bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish:

This passage describes the offering of seven bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs on the seventh day.

1. The Generous Offering - How We Can Show Gratitude Through Our Offerings

2. Redemptive Offerings - How Our Offerings Represent Our Relationship With God

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Hebrews 13:16 - But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Numbers 29:33 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

This passage outlines the offerings made to God by the Israelites for bullocks, rams, and lambs, according to the number of each.

1. God desires us to offer our gifts to Him with intention and care.

2. Sacrificing for the Lord provides us with joy and peace.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

2. Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Numbers 29:34 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

One goat was offered as a sin offering along with the continual burnt offering, a meat offering, and a drink offering.

1. The Importance of Sin Offerings

2. The Significance of Offerings in Worship

1. Hebrews 10:11-14 And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

2. Isaiah 1:11-17 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

Numbers 29:35 On the eighth day ye shall have a solemn assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein:

On the eighth day, a solemn assembly is to be held and no servile work is to be done.

1. Living a Life of Reverence - Living in a manner that honors God and His commands.

2. Setting Aside Time for Worship - Recognizing the importance of dedicating a day to the Lord.

1. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

2. Luke 4:16 - So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.

Numbers 29:36 But ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD: one bullock, one ram, seven lambs of the first year without blemish:

On the tenth day of the seventh month, the Israelites were to offer one bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year without blemish as a burnt offering to the Lord.

1. Offerings to the Lord: A Sweet Aroma - Numbers 29:36

2. The Significance of Holy Offerings - Numbers 29:36

1. Leviticus 1:13-17 - The instructions for the burnt offering

2. Psalm 51:16-17 - A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise

Numbers 29:37 Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullock, for the ram, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

This passage describes the specific offerings of sacrifice made to God according to the number of animals sacrificed.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: A Biblical Study of Offering our Best to God

2. Counting the Cost: The Rewards and Responsibilities of Giving to God

1. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 You may say in your heart, My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me. But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Numbers 29:38 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering.

This passage from Numbers 29:38 describes a sin offering of one goat in addition to the continual burnt offering and accompanying meal and drink offerings.

#1: Jesus, the perfect and ultimate sin offering, satisfies our every need.

#2: The offering of a goat in Numbers 29:38 is symbolic of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for us.

#1: Hebrews 10:14 - "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

#2: Isaiah 53:10 - "Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand."

Numbers 29:39 These things ye shall do unto the LORD in your set feasts, beside your vows, and your freewill offerings, for your burnt offerings, and for your meat offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings.

God's people are commanded to obey and honor Him by offering set feasts, vows, freewill offerings, burnt offerings, meat offerings, drink offerings, and peace offerings.

1. Devotion: Why We Worship God

2. Sacrifice: The Cost of Obedience

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

2. John 4:23-24 - "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Numbers 29:40 And Moses told the children of Israel according to all that the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses commanded the Israelites to follow all of the Lord's commands.

1. Obeying the Lord's Commands Brings Blessings

2. Listening to God's Words Brings Clarity

1. 1 Samuel 15:22 - "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams."

2. Psalm 119:165 - "Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble."

Numbers 30 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 30:1-2 introduces the concept of vows and oaths. The chapter begins by stating that when a man makes a vow to the Lord or takes an oath to bind himself with a pledge, he must not break his word but must fulfill what he has promised. This applies to both men and women.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 30:3-16, the chapter provides specific instructions regarding vows made by women. If a woman makes a vow while living in her father's house and her father hears about it but remains silent, her vow stands. However, if her father opposes it on the day he hears about it, then any vow or binding obligation she has made becomes void. Similarly, if a woman makes a vow while married and her husband hears about it but remains silent, her vow stands. But if her husband opposes it on the day he hears about it, then any vow or binding obligation she has made becomes void.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 30 concludes by highlighting that if a widow or divorced woman makes a vow, she is bound by it and must fulfill what she has promised. However, if her husband annulled the vow or oath on the day he heard about it, then she is released from fulfilling that commitment. These are the laws regarding vows for both men and women.

In summary:

Numbers 30 presents:

Introduction of vows, oaths must not be broken;

Applies to both men and women.

Instructions for vows made by women father's house;

If father opposes vow becomes void.

Instructions for vows made by married women if husband opposes vow becomes void.

Vows made by widows, divorced women bound to fulfill;

If husband annuls released from commitment.

These are the laws regarding vows for both men and women.

This chapter focuses on the concept of vows and oaths, particularly regarding their validity and fulfillment. Numbers 30 begins by emphasizing that when a person, whether male or female, makes a vow to the Lord or takes an oath, they are expected to fulfill their commitment and not break their word.

Furthermore, Numbers 30 provides specific instructions concerning vows made by women. If a woman makes a vow while living in her father's house and her father remains silent upon hearing it, her vow stands. However, if her father opposes the vow on the day he hears about it, then the vow becomes void. Similarly, if a married woman makes a vow and her husband remains silent upon hearing it, her vow stands. But if her husband opposes the vow on the day he hears about it, then it becomes void.

The chapter concludes by addressing vows made by widows or divorced women. In such cases, if they make a vow or take an oath, they are bound to fulfill what they have promised. However, if their husband annuls the vow or oath on the day he hears about it, then they are released from fulfilling that commitment. These laws regarding vows apply to both men and women in different circumstances.

Numbers 30:1 And Moses spake unto the heads of the tribes concerning the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded.

Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes about the children of Israel, outlining God's commands.

1. Obeying God's Commands: Understanding our Responsibility

2. God's Love and Care for His People: Our Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Numbers 30:2 If a man vow a vow unto the LORD, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond; he shall not break his word, he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth.

A man who makes a vow or swears an oath to the LORD must keep his word and fulfill it in accordance with what he has said.

1. "The Power of Our Words - Keeping Our Promises to God"

2. "The Strength of Our Faith - Trusting in the Lord"

1. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple Yes or No. Otherwise you will be condemned.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a promise to God, do not delay in fulfilling it, for God takes no pleasure in fools. Fulfill what you have promised. It is better not to make a promise than to make one and not fulfill it.

Numbers 30:3 If a woman also vow a vow unto the LORD, and bind herself by a bond, being in her father's house in her youth;

This passage discusses a woman's vow to the Lord, which must be made in her father's house while she is still young.

1. "Vows to the Lord: A Call to Honor Your Commitments"

2. "Making Your Vow to the Lord: A Blessing of Obedience"

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

2. Psalm 15:4 - "In whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change."

Numbers 30:4 And her father hear her vow, and her bond wherewith she hath bound her soul, and her father shall hold his peace at her: then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she hath bound her soul shall stand.

If a woman makes a vow or bind herself to something, her father must remain silent in order for her vow or bond to stand.

1. The Power of a Woman's Voice - Exploring how a woman's voice can be impactful and powerful in her decision-making.

2. The Importance of Silence - Examining how silence can be a powerful tool in allowing someone to make their own decisions.

1. Proverbs 31:25 - "Strength and honor are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

Numbers 30:5 But if her father disallow her in the day that he heareth; not any of her vows, or of her bonds wherewith she hath bound her soul, shall stand: and the LORD shall forgive her, because her father disallowed her.

A daughter's vows will be nullified if her father disapproves of them. The LORD will forgive her for not following through with her vows.

1. The power of forgiveness in God's love - Luke 23:34

2. Parental guidance and its importance - Proverbs 22:6

1. Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

2. Colossians 3:13 - Bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

Numbers 30:6 And if she had at all an husband, when she vowed, or uttered ought out of her lips, wherewith she bound her soul;

This passage explains that if a woman has made a vow or committed herself to something verbally, she is legally bound to it even if she has a husband.

1: God s Law: Binding Promises - God s law is clear that when a person makes a vow, they are bound to it, no matter the circumstance.

2: The Power of Words - Our words carry weight and have the power to bind us to promises. We must be sure to be mindful of what we say and take our commitments seriously.

1: James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

2: Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it.

Numbers 30:7 And her husband heard it, and held his peace at her in the day that he heard it: then her vows shall stand, and her bonds wherewith she bound her soul shall stand.

This verse from Numbers 30:7 states that if a husband hears the vows of his wife and does not object to them, her vows and commitments will stand.

1. The Power of a Woman's Vow: Understanding the Significance of Numbers 30:7

2. Respecting the Promises of Others: Learning from the Example of a Husband in Numbers 30:7

1. Proverbs 31:25 - She is clothed with strength and dignity and she laughs without fear of the future.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it, for he takes no pleasure in fools. Fulfill what you vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it.

Numbers 30:8 But if her husband disallowed her on the day that he heard it; then he shall make her vow which she vowed, and that which she uttered with her lips, wherewith she bound her soul, of none effect: and the LORD shall forgive her.

A husband can annul his wife's vow if he hears of it on the same day that it was made, and the Lord will forgive her.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Exploring the grace of God to forgive us of our vows.

2. The Blessings of Marriage - Examining how the covenant of marriage can bring blessing to our lives.

1. Numbers 30:8 - But if her husband disallowed her on the day that he heard it; then he shall make her vow which she vowed, and that which she uttered with her lips, wherewith she bound her soul, of none effect: and the LORD shall forgive her.

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Numbers 30:9 But every vow of a widow, and of her that is divorced, wherewith they have bound their souls, shall stand against her.

A widow or divorced woman must fulfill any vow she has made.

1. The importance of keeping one's word

2. The power of a woman's vow

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

Numbers 30:10 And if she vowed in her husband's house, or bound her soul by a bond with an oath;

A woman who has made a vow in her husband's house or has bound her soul with an oath is subject to her husband's authority.

1. God's Plan: Submission to Authority

2. The Power and Authority of Vows

1. Ephesians 5:22-24 - "Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - "When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it."

Numbers 30:11 And her husband heard it, and held his peace at her, and disallowed her not: then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she bound her soul shall stand.

A husband can choose to accept or deny his wife's vows or bonds that she has made.

1. The Power of a Husband's Will: Exploring the Significance of Numbers 30:11

2. The Strength of Vows: Understanding the Consequences of Keeping Promises

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

2. Proverbs 20:25 - It is a snare to a man to utter a vow and not to pay it.

Numbers 30:12 But if her husband hath utterly made them void on the day he heard them; then whatsoever proceeded out of her lips concerning her vows, or concerning the bond of her soul, shall not stand: her husband hath made them void; and the LORD shall forgive her.

This verse states that a husband can void any vows his wife has made, and that God will forgive her.

1. The Power of a Husband's Forgiveness

2. Making Godly Vows in Marriage

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Numbers 30:13 Every vow, and every binding oath to afflict the soul, her husband may establish it, or her husband may make it void.

A husband has the right to approve or reject any vow or oath made by his wife that will cause her to suffer.

1. The Power of Marriage: Understanding the Rights and Responsibilities of Husbands and Wives

2. The Power of a Vow: Upholding a Commitment Despite Difficulties

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 Submission in Marriage

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-6 The Power of a Vow

Numbers 30:14 But if her husband altogether hold his peace at her from day to day; then he establisheth all her vows, or all her bonds, which are upon her: he confirmeth them, because he held his peace at her in the day that he heard them.

If a husband does not object to his wife's vows or obligations, he is confirming and upholding them.

1. The Power of Words: Understanding the Significance of Vows

2. The Blessing of Silence: How Keeping Quiet Can Speak Volumes

1. Proverbs 12:14 - A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the reward of a man's hands will be rendered to him.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:2-3 - Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few.

Numbers 30:15 But if he shall any ways make them void after that he hath heard them; then he shall bear her iniquity.

This passage outlines the consequences of a husband making void of a vow his wife has made.

1. Women Should Not Be Discouraged from Making Vows

2. Men Should Not Take Advantage of Their Power in Marriage

1. Proverbs 21:9, "It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife."

2. Ephesians 5:22-25, Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Numbers 30:16 These are the statutes, which the LORD commanded Moses, between a man and his wife, between the father and his daughter, being yet in her youth in her father's house.

This verse from Numbers 30 outlines the laws that the Lord commanded Moses for relationships between a man and woman, and between a father and his daughter who is still living in her father's home.

1. Living in Righteousness: Relationships in Accordance with God s Law

2. The Sacred Bond of Parent and Child: Honoring God s Commandments

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body.

2. Colossians 3:20-21 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

Numbers 31 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 31:1-12 recounts the instructions given by God to Moses regarding the Midianites. God commands Moses to take vengeance on the Midianites for their role in seducing the Israelites into idolatry and sexual immorality. Moses gathers a thousand men from each tribe of Israel for battle and sends them against the Midianites. Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, accompanies them with holy vessels and trumpets.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 31:13-24, the chapter describes how Israel carries out their campaign against Midian. They attack and kill all the males, including five kings of Midian Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba and they also kill Balaam, who had advised Balak to send women to seduce Israel. The Israelite army captures women and children as plunder along with livestock and other possessions.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 31 concludes by addressing concerns about ritual purity after battle. The soldiers are instructed to purify themselves according to specific rituals before rejoining their community. The captured spoils are divided among those who participated in battle half going to the soldiers while half is given as an offering to God through Eleazar the priest.

In summary:

Numbers 31 presents:

God's command for vengeance against Midian;

Israel's campaign killing males, capturing plunder;

Instructions for ritual purification after battle.

Moses instructed by God for vengeance against Midian;

Israel gathers troops thousand men per tribe;

Attack on Midian killing males, five kings, Balaam captured plunder.

Instructions for ritual purification after battle;

Soldiers purify themselves before rejoining community;

Spoils divided between soldiers, offering to God through priest.

This chapter focuses on the instructions given by God to Moses regarding the Midianites, the subsequent campaign carried out by Israel against Midian, and instructions for ritual purification after battle. Numbers 31 begins with God commanding Moses to take vengeance on the Midianites for their involvement in leading the Israelites into idolatry and sexual immorality. Moses gathers a thousand men from each tribe of Israel, accompanied by Phinehas, and sends them to battle against Midian.

Furthermore, Numbers 31 describes how Israel executes their campaign against Midian. They attack and kill all the male inhabitants of Midian, including five kings and Balaam who had advised Balak to send women to seduce Israel. The Israelite army captures women, children, livestock, and other possessions as plunder.

The chapter concludes by addressing concerns about ritual purity after battle. The soldiers are instructed to purify themselves according to specific rituals before rejoining their community. Additionally, the captured spoils are divided between those who participated in battle half going to the soldiers while half is given as an offering to God through Eleazar the priest. These actions demonstrate obedience to God's commandments and maintain ritual purity within the community.

Numbers 31:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is commanded by God to take vengeance on the Midianites.

1. God's Wrath and Judgment: Lessons from the Midianites

2. Loving our Enemies: A Challenge from Moses

1. Hebrews 10:30-31 - "For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

2. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

Numbers 31:2 Avenge the children of Israel of the Midianites: afterward shalt thou be gathered unto thy people.

Moses instructs the Israelites to avenge the Midianites for the harm they have caused.

1. Man Shall Reap What He Sows - Galatians 6:7

2. Vengeance Belongs to God - Romans 12:19

1. Leviticus 19:18 - "You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

2. Proverbs 20:22 - "Do not say, I will repay evil ; wait for the LORD, and he will deliver you."

Numbers 31:3 And Moses spake unto the people, saying, Arm some of yourselves unto the war, and let them go against the Midianites, and avenge the LORD of Midian.

Moses commanded the people of Israel to select some of their own men to go to war against the Midianites to avenge the Lord.

1. "A Heart for Justice: Avenging the Lord"

2. "Called to War: Fighting for the Lord"

1. Isaiah 61:8-9 - For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrong. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them.

2. Exodus 15:3 - The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.

Numbers 31:4 Of every tribe a thousand, throughout all the tribes of Israel, shall ye send to the war.

God commanded the Israelites to send one thousand men each from each of the twelve tribes to fight in a war.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The value of unity in the face of adversity.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Numbers 31:5 So there were delivered out of the thousands of Israel, a thousand of every tribe, twelve thousand armed for war.

12,000 men of the Israelite tribes were armed and chosen for battle from a population of thousands.

1. The Importance of Being Prepared for Battle

2. The Strength of Unity in Conflict

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. Romans 8:31 - If God be for us, who can be against us?

Numbers 31:6 And Moses sent them to the war, a thousand of every tribe, them and Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, to the war, with the holy instruments, and the trumpets to blow in his hand.

Moses sent an army of one thousand from each tribe, accompanied by Phinehas the priest, with holy instruments and trumpets to the war.

1. God's Protection in War - How God's presence and power can give us strength and courage in times of conflict.

2. The Power of Prayer - How prayer can give us strength and courage when facing difficult situations.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Numbers 31:7 And they warred against the Midianites, as the LORD commanded Moses; and they slew all the males.

The Israelites fought against the Midianites as commanded by God and killed all the men.

1. The Faithfulness of God: His commandments are always true and we must be obedient to them.

2. The Power of God: Even in the face of insurmountable odds, we can always trust in God to guide us to victory.

1. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah"

Numbers 31:8 And they slew the kings of Midian, beside the rest of them that were slain; namely, Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, five kings of Midian: Balaam also the son of Beor they slew with the sword.

The Israelites slew five kings of Midian and Balaam the son of Beor with the sword.

1. The Power of God to Overcome Enemies

2. The Consequence of Disobeying God

1. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Numbers 31:9 And the children of Israel took all the women of Midian captives, and their little ones, and took the spoil of all their cattle, and all their flocks, and all their goods.

The Israelites took all the Midianites captive and seized their possessions.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The power of faith in times of hardship.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 31:10 And they burnt all their cities wherein they dwelt, and all their goodly castles, with fire.

The Israelites destroyed all the cities and castles of their enemies.

1: We must be willing to make sacrifices to protect what is ours.

2: Let us not forget the example set by the Israelites and be prepared to fight for our faith.

1: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 - "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

2: Ephesians 6:10-13 - "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Numbers 31:11 And they took all the spoil, and all the prey, both of men and of beasts.

This passage describes the spoils taken by the Israelites after their victory in battle.

1. The Lord's Strength in Battle: How God Gives Us the Victory

2. Trusting in the Lord in Times of Conflict: Relying on God's Provision and Power

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Psalm 18:2-3 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Numbers 31:12 And they brought the captives, and the prey, and the spoil, unto Moses, and Eleazar the priest, and unto the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the camp at the plains of Moab, which are by Jordan near Jericho.

This passage describes the Israelites returning from battle with captives, spoils, and prey to Moses and Eleazar in the camp at the plains of Moab near the Jordan River.

1. God's faithfulness in protecting His people in battle and leading them home to safety.

2. The importance of faithful obedience to God even in the midst of danger.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Psalm 91:14-16 - Because he loves me, says the Lord, I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

Numbers 31:13 And Moses, and Eleazar the priest, and all the princes of the congregation, went forth to meet them without the camp.

Moses and the priests met the victorious Israelite warriors outside of camp and praised them for their victory.

1. The Power of Unity - How working together can lead to greatness.

2. The Strength of Leadership - How good leadership can guide a people to victory.

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Numbers 31:14 And Moses was wroth with the officers of the host, with the captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, which came from the battle.

Moses was angry with the leaders of the Israelite army for returning from battle.

1. The Power of Leadership: Our Responsibilities and Accountabilities

2. Anger Management: Learning to Control Your Emotions

1. Proverbs 16:32 - He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

2. James 1:19-20 - My beloved brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Numbers 31:15 And Moses said unto them, Have ye saved all the women alive?

Moses challenged the Israelites to show mercy to the women they had captured in battle.

1: Show mercy and kindness to those who are different from you, as God shows mercy and kindness to us.

2: Do not be quick to judge those who are different from you, but instead show them mercy and kindness.

1: Luke 6:36 - Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

2: Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you.

Numbers 31:16 Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD.

Balaam led the children of Israel to sin against the Lord, resulting in a plague among the congregation.

1. The Consequences of Following False Counsel - Proverbs 14:12

2. Temptation and the Danger of Giving In - James 1:13-14

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

2. James 1:13-14 - "Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted by God ; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed."

Numbers 31:17 Now therefore kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman that hath known man by lying with him.

Moses commands the Israelites to kill all the Midianite males and women who have had sexual relations with a man.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Will

2. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding the Weight of Our Choices

1. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Numbers 31:18 But all the women children, that have not known a man by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves.

The Israelites are given instructions to keep all the female children who have not had sexual relations with a man alive.

1. The Sanctity of Life: Appreciating God's Gift

2. Taking Responsibility for the Lives of Others

1. Matthew 18:5-6 - And whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

2. Proverbs 24:11-12 - Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, Behold, we did not know this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?

Numbers 31:19 And do ye abide without the camp seven days: whosoever hath killed any person, and whosoever hath touched any slain, purify both yourselves and your captives on the third day, and on the seventh day.

God commands the Israelites to remain outside the camp for seven days, and to purify themselves and their captives on the third and seventh days for those who have killed or touched anyone who has been slain.

1. The Significance of Being Set Apart: How to Live a Life of Purity and Holiness

2. The Importance of Keeping God's Commands: How to Walk in Obedience

1. Hebrews 12:14 - Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord

2. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Numbers 31:20 And purify all your raiment, and all that is made of skins, and all work of goats' hair, and all things made of wood.

The Israelites were instructed to purify all the clothing, leather, goat hair, and wooden items they had.

1. Living a Life of Purity - The importance of purifying all aspects of our lives.

2. Striving for Holiness - The call to holiness and how to purify ourselves.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:22 - "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

2. Matthew 5:8 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

Numbers 31:21 And Eleazar the priest said unto the men of war which went to the battle, This is the ordinance of the law which the LORD commanded Moses;

The LORD commanded Moses that the men of war should be under the ordinance of the law.

1: The Lord's Commandments are to be Obeyed

2: Obedience is Better than Sacrifice

1: Deuteronomy 5:32-33 You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that you shall possess.

2: 1 Samuel 15:22-23 Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has also rejected you from being king.

Numbers 31:22 Only the gold, and the silver, the brass, the iron, the tin, and the lead,

God expects us to use the resources we have been given wisely.

1: Be a Good Steward - God expects us to use the resources he has given us to serve others.

2: The Power of Possibility - Every resource we have can be used to make a positive impact.

1: Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the Talents)

2: 1 Timothy 6:17-19 (Instructions on being Rich in Good Works)

Numbers 31:23 Every thing that may abide the fire, ye shall make it go through the fire, and it shall be clean: nevertheless it shall be purified with the water of separation: and all that abideth not the fire ye shall make go through the water.

This passage speaks of purifying with fire and with water.

1. The Power of Purification: How God Cleanses Us Through Fire and Water

2. The Sanctity of Fire and Water: How They Transform Us for the Better

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Hebrews 10:22 - Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Numbers 31:24 And ye shall wash your clothes on the seventh day, and ye shall be clean, and afterward ye shall come into the camp.

On the seventh day, the Israelites were instructed to cleanse themselves and their clothes, and then return to the camp.

1. The importance of spiritual and physical cleansing.

2. The significance of the seventh day.

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well."

2. Ephesians 5:26 - "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word."

Numbers 31:25 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is instructed to take a census of the people of Israel.

1. "God's Call to Take a Census"

2. "The Importance of Following God's Commands"

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Numbers 31:26 Take the sum of the prey that was taken, both of man and of beast, thou, and Eleazar the priest, and the chief fathers of the congregation:

Moses instructs Eleazar the priest and the chief fathers of the congregation to take a tally of the spoils of war, both people and animals.

1. The Power of Unity - How even in the most trying of times, when God's people come together, they are able to persevere.

2. The Blessing of Obedience - How God's people are rewarded for their obedience to His word.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Numbers 31:27 And divide the prey into two parts; between them that took the war upon them, who went out to battle, and between all the congregation:

The Israelites divided the spoils of war into two parts, one for those who fought in battle and one for the whole congregation.

1. God Rewards Those Who Go Out and Fight for Him

2. God Rewards the Whole Congregation When We Act Together

1. John 15:13 - "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

2. Acts 4:32-35 - All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Numbers 31:28 And levy a tribute unto the Lord of the men of war which went out to battle: one soul of five hundred, both of the persons, and of the beeves, and of the asses, and of the sheep:

The Lord commanded a tribute of one out of every five hundred people, cattle, donkeys, and sheep that had gone out to battle.

1. Glorifying God through Sacrifice

2. The Cost of War and the Blessing of Peace

1. 2 Corinthians 8:12 "For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have."

2. Exodus 13:2 "Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal."

Numbers 31:29 Take it of their half, and give it unto Eleazar the priest, for an heave offering of the LORD.

God commands the Israelites to give half of their spoils of war to Eleazar the priest as a heave offering.

1. The Necessity of Worship: An Examination of Numbers 31:29

2. The Spiritual Significance of Offerings: Exploring Numbers 31:29

1. Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Numbers 31:30 And of the children of Israel's half, thou shalt take one portion of fifty, of the persons, of the beeves, of the asses, and of the flocks, of all manner of beasts, and give them unto the Levites, which keep the charge of the tabernacle of the LORD.

Moses instructed the Israelites to give half of their spoils of war to the Levites, who were responsible for taking care of the tabernacle.

1. God's Provision - How God provides for those who serve Him faithfully.

2. Stewardship - Using God's gifts to serve and glorify Him.

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Mark 12:41-44 - "And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

Numbers 31:31 And Moses and Eleazar the priest did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses and Eleazar the priest followed the LORD's commands.

1. Obeying God Despite the Challenges

2. Following God's Instructions Faithfully

1. Psalm 119:60: I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

2. John 14:15: If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Numbers 31:32 And the booty, being the rest of the prey which the men of war had caught, was six hundred thousand and seventy thousand and five thousand sheep,

The Israelites had captured a large amount of booty from their battle with the Midianites- 600,070 sheep and 5,000 cattle.

1. The Lord rewards His people with abundance.

2. God is our provider in all circumstances.

1. Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 31:33 And threescore and twelve thousand beeves,

The Israelites took a large amount of livestock from the Midianites.

1: God provided abundantly for the Israelites in Numbers 31:33.

2: We must be thankful for the blessings God has given us, just like the Israelites were in Numbers 31:33.

1: Psalm 50:10-11 - For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

2: Deuteronomy 14:29 - And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

Numbers 31:34 And threescore and one thousand asses,

The Israelites were given a large number of items as spoils of war, including 61,000 asses.

1: God rewards those who are faithful to Him, just as He rewarded the Israelites for their faithfulness.

2: We should trust God to provide for us in times of need, just as He provided for the Israelites with the spoils of war.

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-14; God promises blessings for those who are faithful to Him.

2: Psalm 37:3-5; We should trust in the Lord and do good, and He will provide for us.

Numbers 31:35 And thirty and two thousand persons in all, of women that had not known man by lying with him.

In Numbers 31:35, it is recorded that 32,000 women were counted among the Israelites, who had not lain with a man.

1. God's faithfulness in protecting His people.

2. God's faithfulness in preserving His chosen people.

1. Joshua 2:8-14 - Rahab the harlot and her family were preserved from the destruction of Jericho.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - The Lord fights for His people and delivers them from their enemies.

Numbers 31:36 And the half, which was the portion of them that went out to war, was in number three hundred thousand and seven and thirty thousand and five hundred sheep:

The Israelites brought back three hundred thousand sheep as part of their spoils of war from the Midianites.

1: God leads his people to victory and provides for their needs.

2: Our faith will be rewarded when we trust in the Lord.

1: Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2: Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 31:37 And the LORD's tribute of the sheep was six hundred and threescore and fifteen.

This passage states that the Lord's tribute of the sheep was 675.

1: We are reminded that God is the ultimate provider, and that when He provides, He does so in abundance.

2: We can trust in God s faithfulness to provide for our needs, no matter how great or small.

1: Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2: Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 31:38 And the beeves were thirty and six thousand; of which the LORD's tribute was threescore and twelve.

In Numbers 31:38, it is reported that 36,000 beeves were collected and the Lord's tribute was 72.

1. The Lord's Generosity: How God Rewards Generous Giving

2. The Lord's Provision: Trusting God for Every Need

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - "But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work."

2. Malachi 3:10-12 - Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field, says the Lord of hosts; And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land, says the Lord of hosts.

Numbers 31:39 And the asses were thirty thousand and five hundred; of which the LORD's tribute was threescore and one.

The LORD's tribute was 61 out of 30,500 asses.

1. God is always worthy of our best offerings.

2. What we give to the Lord is a reflection of our faith.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Malachi 3:8-10 - "Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, How have we robbed you? In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need."

Numbers 31:40 And the persons were sixteen thousand; of which the LORD's tribute was thirty and two persons.

The LORD's tribute was thirty two persons out of a total of sixteen thousand.

1. God's justice is always just

2. The importance of giving a portion to God

1. Exodus 30:13 - "Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering unto the LORD."

2. Leviticus 27:30 - "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD."

Numbers 31:41 And Moses gave the tribute, which was the LORD's heave offering, unto Eleazar the priest, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses gave the tribute, which was God's offering, to the priest as instructed by God.

1. Giving Back to God: A Lesson from Moses

2. Submission to God's Will: An Example from the Book of Numbers

1. Mark 12:30-31 - "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

2. Malachi 3:10 - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Numbers 31:42 And of the children of Israel's half, which Moses divided from the men that warred,

Moses divided the Israelites into two halves, a half for those who fought and a half for those who did not.

1. The Power of Unity - How coming together for a common purpose can help accomplish great things.

2. Living in Faith - How embracing the Lord's will can bring great joy and peace.

1. Joshua 24:15 - Choose this day whom you will serve.

2. Romans 12:12 - Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Numbers 31:43 (Now the half that pertained unto the congregation was three hundred thousand and thirty thousand and seven thousand and five hundred sheep,

The Israelites' half of the spoils of war was 305,700 sheep.

1: We must use our resources responsibly, for God will judge us according to our stewardship.

2: Through God's protection and provision, He will bring us great victory and provisions for our lives.

1: 1 Corinthians 4:2 - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

2: Joshua 10:14 - And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.

Numbers 31:44 And thirty and six thousand beeves,

The passage states that thirty-six thousand beeves were given to the Lord.

1. "The Gift of Giving" - Celebrating the blessings we receive by giving to the Lord.

2. "The Joy of Generosity" - Encouraging generosity and the joy that comes from giving to others.

1. Deuteronomy 15:10 - Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Numbers 31:45 And thirty thousand asses and five hundred,

The Israelites received thirty thousand asses and five hundred from the Midianites.

1. God Rewards Faithful Service

2. The Power of Generosity

1. James 2:14-17 "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Numbers 31:46 And sixteen thousand persons;)

and of the persons that were in the midst of the children of Israel, thou and Eleazar the priest, and the chief fathers of the congregation, went to the war.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to wage war against the Midianites, and Moses and Eleazar the priest, along with the leaders of the congregation, helped lead 16,000 of them into battle.

1. The Strength of Unity: How God's People Can Accomplish Great Things Together

2. Courage in the Face of Conflict: How to Find Strength to Stand Up for What is Right

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Numbers 31:47 Even of the children of Israel's half, Moses took one portion of fifty, both of man and of beast, and gave them unto the Levites, which kept the charge of the tabernacle of the LORD; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses divided the spoils of war among the people according to the Lord's command.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Guidance - how God's guidance can help us divide our resources fairly and justly.

2. The Power of Obedience - how following God's command can bring us victory in times of conflict.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Numbers 31:48 And the officers which were over thousands of the host, the captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds, came near unto Moses:

Moses was met by the officers of the army who were responsible for leading thousands of troops.

1. Leadership - We can learn from Moses' example of trust and respect in delegating to those under his command.

2. Obedience - We can take comfort in the example of Moses' obedience to God, even in difficult and challenging circumstances.

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Numbers 31:49 And they said unto Moses, Thy servants have taken the sum of the men of war which are under our charge, and there lacketh not one man of us.

The servants of Moses reported to him that they had counted the men of war under their charge and not one was missing.

1. The Power of Faithfulness - how even in times of war, faithfulness can bring about success.

2. The Strength of Community - how working together can bring victory.

1. Matthew 18:12-14 - "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

2. Acts 4:32-35 - Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Numbers 31:50 We have therefore brought an oblation for the LORD, what every man hath gotten, of jewels of gold, chains, and bracelets, rings, earrings, and tablets, to make an atonement for our souls before the LORD.

The Israelites offered the Lord a sacrifice of jewelry as a way to atone for their sins.

1: Seek Atonement Through Sacrifice

2: The Power of Jewels in Worship

1: Isaiah 43:25-26 "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified."

2: Hebrews 9:22 "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

Numbers 31:51 And Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold of them, even all wrought jewels.

Moses and Eleazar the priest collected all the gold and jewels obtained from the Midianite prisoners.

1. God rewards those who serve Him faithfully.

2. We should handle our possessions with integrity and give back to God.

1. 1 Chronicles 29:14 - "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee."

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Numbers 31:52 And all the gold of the offering that they offered up to the LORD, of the captains of thousands, and of the captains of hundreds, was sixteen thousand seven hundred and fifty shekels.

The Israelites offered 16,750 shekels of gold to the Lord as part of their offering.

1. The Power of Giving: How to Let Go and Let God

2. Sacrifice and Obedience: The Cost of Following God

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Philippians 4:12-13 - I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Numbers 31:53 (For the men of war had taken spoil, every man for himself.)

The passage discusses how the men of war had taken spoil for themselves.

1. Contentment: The Importance of Being Satisfied with What We Have

2. Greed: The Dangers of Pursuing Unnecessary Wealth

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Proverbs 15:16 - "Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it."

Numbers 31:54 And Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold of the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and brought it into the tabernacle of the congregation, for a memorial for the children of Israel before the LORD.

Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold of the captains of thousands and of hundreds and brought it to the tabernacle of the congregation as a memorial for the children of Israel before the LORD.

1. God's Mercy in Providing Memorials for His People

2. The Power of Remembrance for Israel's Future

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

2. Psalm 78:3-4 - Things we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

Numbers 32 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 32:1-5 introduces the situation where the tribes of Reuben and Gad approach Moses with a request. They notice that the land of Jazer and Gilead, which they had conquered, is suitable for livestock. The leaders of these tribes propose that they be allowed to settle in this land instead of crossing over into the Promised Land with the rest of Israel.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 32:6-15, Moses expresses concern about the proposal made by Reuben and Gad. He reminds them of how their fathers had discouraged the Israelites from entering Canaan, resulting in forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Moses fears that if Reuben and Gad choose not to cross over into Canaan, it will discourage the rest of Israel from doing so as well. He warns them that their actions could provoke God's anger against all of Israel.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 32 concludes with an agreement reached between Moses and the tribes of Reuben and Gad. They agree to send their warriors to assist in conquering Canaan before settling down themselves in Gilead. The tribes promise to leave their families behind while participating in battle until all other tribes have received their inheritances. They affirm their commitment to fulfilling this arrangement.

In summary:

Numbers 32 presents:

Request by Reuben, Gad settle outside Promised Land;

Moses' concern fearful it will discourage others;

Agreement reached warriors assist before settling.

Reuben, Gad request permission to settle outside Promised Land;

Moses expresses concern about discouraging others;

Agreement reached warriors assist before settling down.

The chapter focuses on a request made by the tribes of Reuben and Gad regarding settling outside the Promised Land. In Numbers 32, these tribes approach Moses and express their desire to settle in the land of Jazer and Gilead, which they had already conquered and found suitable for their livestock. However, Moses is concerned that this decision may discourage the rest of Israel from entering Canaan as originally commanded by God. He reminds them of the consequences faced by their fathers who discouraged the Israelites from entering Canaan, resulting in forty years of wandering in the wilderness.

Despite Moses' concerns, an agreement is reached between him and the tribes of Reuben and Gad. They agree to send their warriors to assist in conquering Canaan alongside the other tribes before settling down themselves in Gilead. The tribes promise to leave their families behind while participating in battle until all other tribes have received their inheritances. This arrangement ensures that they fulfill their responsibilities towards conquering Canaan before enjoying the land they have chosen for themselves.

In conclusion, Numbers 32 highlights a significant discussion between Moses and the tribes of Reuben and Gad regarding settlement outside the Promised Land. It emphasizes Moses' concerns about discouraging others from obeying God's commandments while also showcasing an agreement reached where these tribes commit to assisting in conquest before settling down themselves.

Numbers 32:1 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great multitude of cattle: and when they saw the land of Jazer, and the land of Gilead, that, behold, the place was a place for cattle;

The children of Reuben and Gad had a large number of cattle, and when they saw the land of Jazer and Gilead, they realized it was ideal for their cattle.

1. God s Provision: Discovering Opportunities in Unexpected Places

2. Contentment in Christ: Finding Satisfaction in God s Plan

1. Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

Numbers 32:2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spake unto Moses, and to Eleazar the priest, and unto the princes of the congregation, saying,

The children of Gad and Reuben spoke to Moses, Eleazar the priest, and the leaders of the community.

1. "The Power of Unity: Working Together for God's Glory"

2. "The Priority of Obedience: Listening to God's Leaders"

1. Philippians 2:1-4 - "Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves."

2. Hebrews 13:17 - "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."

Numbers 32:3 Ataroth, and Dibon, and Jazer, and Nimrah, and Heshbon, and Elealeh, and Shebam, and Nebo, and Beon,

The tribes of Reuben and Gad wanted to settle in the land east of the Jordan River.

1: God shows us that He is faithful to His promises. He was faithful to His promise to the Tribes of Reuben and Gad to give them land east of the Jordan River.

2: God is a God of abundance. He is able to provide more than enough land for His people.

1: Deuteronomy 32:9-12 - For the Lord s portion is His people, Jacob His allotted inheritance. 10 He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; He encircled him, He cared for him, He kept him as the apple of His eye. 11 Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that hovers over its young, He spread His wings and caught them, He carried them on His pinions. 12 The Lord alone guided him, and there was no foreign god with him.

2: Isaiah 49:20-21 - They did not hunger or thirst, nor was the scorching wind or sun upon them; for He who had mercy on them will lead them, even by the springs of water He will guide them. 21 And He will raise up a banner for the nations, and will assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

Numbers 32:4 Even the country which the LORD smote before the congregation of Israel, is a land for cattle, and thy servants have cattle:

The Lord provided the Israelites with lands for their cattle.

1: We should always be grateful to the Lord for taking care of our needs.

2: We should trust in the Lord's provision and not be afraid of lack.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Numbers 32:5 Wherefore, said they, if we have found grace in thy sight, let this land be given unto thy servants for a possession, and bring us not over Jordan.

The people of Reuben and Gad asked Moses to give them the land on their side of the Jordan River as their possession.

1. Contentment is found in the Lord, not in possessions.

2. Have faith in God's provision for you.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Numbers 32:6 And Moses said unto the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben, Shall your brethren go to war, and shall ye sit here?

Moses questioned the children of Gad and Reuben, asking why their brothers should go to battle while they stayed at home.

1. Don't be a Bystander: Living an Active Faith

2. The Courage to Stand Up and Fight: Having the Strength to Face Challenges

1. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Numbers 32:7 And wherefore discourage ye the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land which the LORD hath given them?

The Israelites were discouraged from entering the land promised to them by the Lord.

1. God's Promises are Unbreakable - Hebrews 10:23

2. Have Faith in God's Plan for You - Romans 8:28

1. Deuteronomy 1:21 - "Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Numbers 32:8 Thus did your fathers, when I sent them from Kadeshbarnea to see the land.

The ancestors of the Israelites explored the land of Canaan when they were sent by God from Kadeshbarnea.

1. Trusting God to Lead Us to New Adventures

2. Obeying God's Commands in Faith

1. Genesis 12:1-3 The Lord had said to Abram, Go from your country, your people and your father s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

3. Joshua 1:1-3 After the death of Moses the Lord s servant, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses aide: Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.

Numbers 32:9 For when they went up unto the valley of Eshcol, and saw the land, they discouraged the heart of the children of Israel, that they should not go into the land which the LORD had given them.

The children of Israel were discouraged from entering the land that the Lord had given them when they saw the Valley of Eshcol.

1. God's Promises Are Always True - Jeremiah 29:11

2. Be Encouraged in Difficult Times - Romans 15:13

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Numbers 32:10 And the LORD's anger was kindled the same time, and he sware, saying,

The LORD was angered at the Israelites' plans to settle in the Eastern lands and swore they would not enter the Promised Land.

1. God's Promises are Not to Be Taken Lightly

2. Taking God's Authority Into Our Own Hands is Disastrous

1. Numbers 32:10

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Numbers 32:11 Surely none of the men that came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob; because they have not wholly followed me:

The Israelites who are over 20 years old will not be able to inherit the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, because they have not fully followed God's commands.

1. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness: How Unfulfilled Promises Speak to Us Today

2. The Rewards of Obedience: How to Receive the Promises of God

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2. Joshua 1:8-9 - This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Numbers 32:12 Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite, and Joshua the son of Nun: for they have wholly followed the LORD.

The LORD rewarded Caleb and Joshua for their faithful loyalty.

1. The Faithfulness of Caleb and Joshua: A Model for Us All

2. The Blessing of Loyalty to God

1. Joshua 24:14-15 - Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Numbers 32:13 And the LORD's anger was kindled against Israel, and he made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until all the generation, that had done evil in the sight of the LORD, was consumed.

The Lord's anger was kindled against the Israelites and caused them to wander in the wilderness for 40 years until all the wicked generations were destroyed.

1. The consequences of sin: learning from the Israelites

2. Facing trials: trusting in God's plan

1. Romans 5:3-4 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. Isaiah 48:17-18 - This is what the Lord says your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

Numbers 32:14 And, behold, ye are risen up in your fathers' stead, an increase of sinful men, to augment yet the fierce anger of the LORD toward Israel.

The Israelites have risen up in their fathers' stead, leading to an increase of sinful men and the LORD's fierce anger towards Israel.

1. Sin brings God's wrath, but He still loves us.

2. The consequences of our actions can extend beyond our own lives.

1. Romans 5:8-9 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Proverbs 11:29 - Whoever brings ruin on their family will inherit only wind, and the fool will be servant to the wise.

Numbers 32:15 For if ye turn away from after him, he will yet again leave them in the wilderness; and ye shall destroy all this people.

This passage reminds us that if we turn away from God, He may leave us in the wilderness and cause destruction.

1: Don't be fooled into thinking that because God is merciful and loving, He will not punish us if we turn away from Him.

2: If we want to be faithful to God, we must remember that He will not tolerate sin and will not hesitate to punish us if we disobey Him.

1: Hebrews 10:26-31 - "If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God."

2: James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Numbers 32:16 And they came near unto him, and said, We will build sheepfolds here for our cattle, and cities for our little ones:

The people approached Moses and requested to build sheepfolds and cities for their cattle and children.

1. "Planning for the Future: Building for our Children"

2. "The Importance of Caring for our Livestock"

1. Proverbs 13:22, "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children, but the sinner s wealth is laid up for the righteous"

2. Psalm 23:1-3, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

Numbers 32:17 But we ourselves will go ready armed before the children of Israel, until we have brought them unto their place: and our little ones shall dwell in the fenced cities because of the inhabitants of the land.

The tribes of Reuben and Gad were willing to go armed before the children of Israel to help them settle in their place, while their own little ones would stay in the fortified cities.

1. The Importance of Selflessness: The tribes of Reuben and Gad serve as an example of how we should be willing to sacrifice for the benefit of others.

2. The Power of Unity: By standing together in unity, the children of Israel were able to find a safe place to call home.

1. Galatians 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Numbers 32:18 We will not return unto our houses, until the children of Israel have inherited every man his inheritance.

The Israelites refuse to return home until each person has received their rightful inheritance.

1. We should never give up on our God-given rights and privileges.

2. God desires to provide us with an inheritance that we should not take for granted.

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12: And it shall be, when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

2. Psalm 37:3-5: Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Numbers 32:19 For we will not inherit with them on yonder side Jordan, or forward; because our inheritance is fallen to us on this side Jordan eastward.

The Israelites declare they will not cross the Jordan River, as their inheritance is to the east of the river.

1. God's Faithfulness: Learning to Receive the Blessings God Has for Us

2. Recognizing and Receiving Our Inheritance in Christ

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Numbers 32:20 And Moses said unto them, If ye will do this thing, if ye will go armed before the LORD to war,

The Israelites are encouraged to go to war and fight for the Lord.

1. To Fight for the Lord: A Call to Faithful Action

2. The Lord's Army: A Call to Courage and Obedience

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Numbers 32:21 And will go all of you armed over Jordan before the LORD, until he hath driven out his enemies from before him,

The Israelites were commanded to march into the Promised Land armed and ready for battle, to take possession of it before the Lord.

1: Do not be afraid of entering into the battles of life, for the Lord is with you and will see you through.

2: With courage and faith, march boldly into the Promised Land of God's abundant blessing.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2: Deuteronomy 20:4 - "For the Lord your God is He who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you."

Numbers 32:22 And the land be subdued before the LORD: then afterward ye shall return, and be guiltless before the LORD, and before Israel; and this land shall be your possession before the LORD.

The Israelites were promised land as a reward for their obedience to the Lord.

1. God's promises are sure - be faithful and you will receive your reward.

2. Obey the Lord and be blessed - do not waver in your faithfulness.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Numbers 32:23 But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

Sin will be revealed and will cause consequences.

1: God is merciful and will forgive us if we repent of our sins.

2: Our sins will eventually be revealed, so it is important to confess them and accept God's forgiveness.

1: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

2: Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Numbers 32:24 Build you cities for your little ones, and folds for your sheep; and do that which hath proceeded out of your mouth.

This passage encourages the Israelites to build cities for their children and pens for their sheep as promised.

1. The Value of Keeping Promises: A Study on Numbers 32:24

2. The Power of Fulfilling Your Word: An Exploration of Numbers 32:24

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. James 5:12 - Above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your Yes be yes, and your No, no, or you will be condemned.

Numbers 32:25 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben spake unto Moses, saying, Thy servants will do as my lord commandeth.

The children of Gad and Reuben demonstrated their obedience to Moses' commands.

1: Obedience to God's commands is essential for success.

2: We should have faith and trust that God's commands are for our benefit.

1: John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commandments.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Numbers 32:26 Our little ones, our wives, our flocks, and all our cattle, shall be there in the cities of Gilead:

The Israelites are preparing to cross the Jordan River into the land of Gilead, and they will take their families, livestock, and possessions with them.

1. Learning to Trust God in Times of Transition

2. The Strength of Family in Times of Change

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 32:27 But thy servants will pass over, every man armed for war, before the LORD to battle, as my lord saith.

The Israelites were willing to go to battle before the Lord.

1: We should always be willing to fight for what is right, no matter the cost.

2: We should always be obedient to the Lord and do what He asks of us.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Numbers 32:28 So concerning them Moses commanded Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the chief fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel:

The Lord commanded Moses to instruct Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the chief fathers of the tribes of Israel.

1. Obedience and Faithfulness: Learning from the Example of Moses

2. Walking in Unity: The Power of Working Together

1. Acts 6:3-4 - Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Numbers 32:29 And Moses said unto them, If the children of Gad and the children of Reuben will pass with you over Jordan, every man armed to battle, before the LORD, and the land shall be subdued before you; then ye shall give them the land of Gilead for a possession:

Moses tells the tribes of Gad and Reuben that they can have the land of Gilead as a possession if they fight in the army before the LORD and help to subdue the land.

1. The importance of fighting for the Lord.

2. God's faithfulness in providing for His people.

1. 2 Chronicles 15:7 - "Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded."

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Numbers 32:30 But if they will not pass over with you armed, they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan.

The Israelites are promised land in Canaan if they choose to cross the Jordan River with arms.

1. God always keeps his promises, no matter the circumstance.

2. We can trust in God s plans for our lives.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope

Numbers 32:31 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben answered, saying, As the LORD hath said unto thy servants, so will we do.

The children of Gad and Reuben agreed to do as the Lord commanded.

1. Obedience to God Brings Blessing

2. Obeying God is the Path to Fulfillment

1. Psalm 119:1-2 Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart!

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-27 See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God.

Numbers 32:32 We will pass over armed before the LORD into the land of Canaan, that the possession of our inheritance on this side Jordan may be ours.

The people of Israel declared that they would pass over armed before the Lord into the land of Canaan, so that their inheritance may be theirs.

1. God honors those who are willing to fight for what He has promised them.

2. The Lord will provide for those who trust Him and are willing to take action.

1. Deuteronomy 6:18-19 - "And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, To cast out all thine enemies from before thee, as the LORD hath spoken."

2. Joshua 1:6-9 - "Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Numbers 32:33 And Moses gave unto them, even to the children of Gad, and to the children of Reuben, and unto half the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, the land, with the cities thereof in the coasts, even the cities of the country round about.

Moses gave the children of Gad, Reuben, and half of the tribe of Manasseh the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, along with their cities and the surrounding area.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Provision of God's Blessings for His People

1. Numbers 32:33

2. Psalm 84:11 - For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Numbers 32:34 And the children of Gad built Dibon, and Ataroth, and Aroer,

The children of Gad built three cities in the land of Moab.

1. We should strive to build up our communities and our world with love and faith.

2. We should be mindful of the impact our actions have on others.

1. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

Numbers 32:35 And Atroth, Shophan, and Jaazer, and Jogbehah,

The passage mentions four cities: Atroth, Shophan, Jaazer, and Jogbehah.

1. The Power of Working Together: How Communities Can Accomplish Great Things

2. Achieving Our Goals Through Perseverance and Cooperation

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Numbers 32:36 And Bethnimrah, and Bethharan, fenced cities: and folds for sheep.

This passage mentions two cities, Bethnimrah and Bethharan, which were fenced and had folds for sheep.

1. God s Provision for His People: How God Cared for the People of Bethnimrah and Bethharan

2. The Importance of Caring for Our Flocks: Lessons from Bethnimrah and Bethharan

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters.

2. Isaiah 32:18 - My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

Numbers 32:37 And the children of Reuben built Heshbon, and Elealeh, and Kirjathaim,

The children of Reuben built three cities: Heshbon, Elealeh, and Kirjathaim.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the constructions of the children of Reuben.

2: God blesses the work of our hands when we are obedient to His will.

1: Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2: Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Numbers 32:38 And Nebo, and Baalmeon, (their names being changed,) and Shibmah: and gave other names unto the cities which they builded.

The people of Reuben and Gad changed the names of Nebo, Baalmeon, and Shibmah upon building cities.

1. God is the Master of our Lives: A Study of Names in Numbers 32:38

2. Go Forth and Build: The Courage of Reuben and Gad in Numbers 32:38

1. Joshua 1:6 - Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Numbers 32:39 And the children of Machir the son of Manasseh went to Gilead, and took it, and dispossessed the Amorite which was in it.

The children of Machir the son of Manasseh took Gilead from the Amorite who lived there.

1.Trust in the Lord to achieve your goals.

2.God will deliver you from your enemies.

1.Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2.Psalm 37:39 - The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

Numbers 32:40 And Moses gave Gilead unto Machir the son of Manasseh; and he dwelt therein.

Moses gave the land of Gilead to Machir, son of Manasseh, who lived there.

1. The Power of Generosity: Learning from Moses' example of giving.

2. Faithful Fulfillment of Promises: Keeping one's word, no matter what.

1. Numbers 32:40

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Numbers 32:41 And Jair the son of Manasseh went and took the small towns thereof, and called them Havothjair.

This passage describes Jair the son of Manasseh taking small towns and calling them Havothjair.

1. God s Providence in Naming discussing the significance of names and how God can use them to shape our destiny.

2. Unity Through Diversity highlighting how different people can work together to form a unified society.

1. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold."

2. Colossians 3:12-15 - "Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

Numbers 32:42 And Nobah went and took Kenath, and the villages thereof, and called it Nobah, after his own name.

This passage describes the account of Nobah taking the town of Kenath and renaming it to Nobah after himself.

1. God s sovereignty allows us to find our purpose in life.

2. We should be careful to seek God s will before claiming something for our own.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Numbers 33 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 33:1-15 provides a detailed account of the Israelites' journey from Egypt to their encampment at Mount Sinai. The chapter lists each location where they camped along the way, starting from their departure from Rameses in Egypt and ending at Rephidim near Mount Sinai. This passage serves as a historical record of the stages of their journey and highlights significant landmarks and events during this period.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 33:16-36, the chapter describes the subsequent stages of the Israelites' journey after leaving Mount Sinai. It recounts their various encampments, including locations such as Kibroth-hattaavah, Hazeroth, Rithmah, Rimmon-perez, Libnah, Rissah, Kehelathah, Mount Shepher, Haradah, Makheloth, Tahath, Terahzahhurim. These details provide a chronological account of their travels through different regions.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 33 concludes by highlighting specific instructions given by God to Moses regarding the conquest of Canaan. God commands Moses to instruct the Israelites to drive out all the inhabitants of Canaan and destroy all their idols and high places. The chapter emphasizes that failure to do so will result in these people becoming thorns in Israel's sides and causing trouble within the land that God has promised them.

In summary:

Numbers 33 presents:

Detailed account of Israelites' journey Egypt to Sinai;

Listings of encampments, landmarks, events.

Continuation of journey after Sinai various encampments;

Chronological account through different regions.

God's instructions for conquest drive out inhabitants, destroy idols;

Warning against failure leading to trouble within Promised Land.

This chapter serves as a historical record, providing a detailed account of the Israelites' journey from Egypt to their encampment at Mount Sinai and beyond. Numbers 33 begins by listing each location where they camped along the way, starting from their departure from Rameses in Egypt and ending at Rephidim near Mount Sinai. This passage highlights significant landmarks and events during this period, establishing a timeline of their travels.

Continuing in Numbers 33, the chapter describes the subsequent stages of the Israelites' journey after leaving Mount Sinai. It recounts various encampments they established along the way, including locations such as Kibroth-hattaavah, Hazeroth, Rithmah, Rimmon-perez, Libnah, Rissah, Kehelathah, Mount Shepher, Haradah, Makheloth, Tahath,and Terahzahhurim. These details provide a chronological account of their travels through different regions.

Numbers 33 concludes by highlighting specific instructions given by God to Moses regarding the conquest of Canaan. God commands Moses to instruct the Israelites to drive out all the inhabitants of Canaan and destroy all their idols and high places. The chapter emphasizes that failure to do so will result in these people becoming thorns in Israel's sides and causing trouble within the land that God has promised them. These instructions underscore both God's faithfulness in leading His people and His expectation for them to faithfully follow His commands as they enter into possession of their Promised Land.

Numbers 33:1 These are the journeys of the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Moses and Aaron led the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt with their armies.

1: God is the ultimate provider. He provided a leader in Moses and Aaron to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

2: In times of difficulty, it can be comforting to know that God is in control and will provide a way out.

1: Exodus 12:2-13 - God provided a way for the Israelites to escape Egypt, and He will provide a way for us as well.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Do not be afraid, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Numbers 33:2 And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the commandment of the LORD: and these are their journeys according to their goings out.

Moses wrote down the Israelites' journeys at the Lord's command.

1: God is in control of every step we take and should be obeyed.

2: God is faithful to His people and will lead them in the right direction.

1: Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

2: Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Numbers 33:3 And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.

The children of Israel departed from Rameses in the first month on the fifteenth day, the day after the Passover. They left with great confidence in the presence of all the Egyptians.

1. "Confidence in the Midst of Difficulties"

2. "Leaving with Courage"

1. Isaiah 30:15 - "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.

2. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Numbers 33:4 For the Egyptians buried all their firstborn, which the LORD had smitten among them: upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.

God's judgment is just and will be carried out on all who disobey.

1. God's wrath is just and will be meted out to those who disobey Him.

2. We must always obey God and His commands, for He will bring judgment upon those who do not.

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Exodus 20:3-5 - " You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me."

Numbers 33:5 And the children of Israel removed from Rameses, and pitched in Succoth.

The Israelites left Rameses and camped in Succoth.

1: We should be willing to take risks in order to grow in faith.

2: Leaving our comfort zone is necessary for spiritual growth.

1: Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2: Mark 8:34-35 - When he had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel s will save it.

Numbers 33:6 And they departed from Succoth, and pitched in Etham, which is in the edge of the wilderness.

The Israelites left Succoth and camped at Etham.

1: We can trust God to lead us to our destination.

2: In times of uncertainty, God is always present.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 107:7 - He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

Numbers 33:7 And they removed from Etham, and turned again unto Pihahiroth, which is before Baalzephon: and they pitched before Migdol.

The Israelites departed from Etham and traveled back to Pihahiroth, which is in front of Baalzephon, and they camped near Migdol.

1. God's Guidance: How God's Direction Can Lead Us to Safety and Provision

2. Trust in the Lord: Learning to Obey and Follow God's Commands

1. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Numbers 33:8 And they departed from before Pihahiroth, and passed through the midst of the sea into the wilderness, and went three days' journey in the wilderness of Etham, and pitched in Marah.

The Israelites left Pihahiroth and traveled three days through the wilderness of Etham before arriving at Marah.

1. God will lead us through our own wilderness and journey to a place of peace.

2. We must trust God to take us to our own Marah.

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

2. Psalm 23 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Numbers 33:9 And they removed from Marah, and came unto Elim: and in Elim were twelve fountains of water, and threescore and ten palm trees; and they pitched there.

The Israelites traveled from Marah to Elim, where they found twelve fountains of water and seventy palm trees.

1. The Everlasting Provision of God - God's Faithfulness in Providing for His People

2. Relying on God's Abundance - Experiencing the Blessings of His Generosity

1. Isaiah 41:17 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.

Numbers 33:10 And they removed from Elim, and encamped by the Red sea.

The Israelites journeyed from Elim and camped by the Red Sea.

1. Faith in Motion: How the Israelites' Faithful Journey Led Them to the Red Sea

2. God's Timing: Relying on God's Guidance to Reach Our Goals

1. Exodus 14:22 And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:17 18 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Numbers 33:11 And they removed from the Red sea, and encamped in the wilderness of Sin.

The Israelites left the Red Sea and camped in the Wilderness of Sin.

1. God's faithfulness in guiding us out of challenging times.

2. Dwelling in the wilderness of sin and the consequences of our choices.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Numbers 33:12 And they took their journey out of the wilderness of Sin, and encamped in Dophkah.

The Israelites left the wilderness of Sin and camped in Dophkah.

1. The Power of Faith: Taking Steps of Faith in the Wilderness

2. God's Direction: Following the Lord's Guidance Through Life's Journeys

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Numbers 33:13 And they departed from Dophkah, and encamped in Alush.

The Israelites left Dophkah and camped in Alush.

1. The Journey of Faith: Learning to Follow God's Lead

2. The Power of Obedience: Taking Steps of Faith Even When We Don't Understand

1. Deuteronomy 1:19-21 - Trusting God to Lead Us Through Difficult Times

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Reassurance that God is With Us on Our Journey

Numbers 33:14 And they removed from Alush, and encamped at Rephidim, where was no water for the people to drink.

The Israelites moved from Alush and arrived at Rephidim where there was no water.

1. God provides for us even in the toughest of times.

2. Be prepared for the unexpected when following God's will.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Numbers 33:15 And they departed from Rephidim, and pitched in the wilderness of Sinai.

The Israelites left Rephidim and camped in the wilderness of Sinai.

1: God guides us on our journey of faith, even if we don't know where it leads.

2: When we trust in God, we can have confidence even in the midst of uncertainty.

1: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Numbers 33:16 And they removed from the desert of Sinai, and pitched at Kibrothhattaavah.

The Israelites left the desert of Sinai and camped at Kibrothhattaavah.

1. Moving Forward in Faith: How the Israelites were Bold Enough to Follow God's Lead

2. The Power of Perseverance: How the Israelites Overcame Difficulties in the Desert

1. Deuteronomy 1:26-27 - Despite the difficulties, the Israelites were determined to obey God and move forward.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith, the Israelites followed God and left the desert of Sinai for Kibrothhattaavah.

Numbers 33:17 And they departed from Kibrothhattaavah, and encamped at Hazeroth.

The Israelites left Kibrothhattaavah and camped at Hazeroth.

1. God is always with us, no matter where we are.

2. In times of transition, remember to trust in the Lord.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Numbers 33:18 And they departed from Hazeroth, and pitched in Rithmah.

The Israelites departed from Hazeroth and camped in Rithmah.

1. How Obedience Leads to Blessing - The Israelites followed God's commands and were rewarded with a new place to rest.

2. Faithful Steps of Obedience - When we are obedient to God, even in the small things, He will lead us to bigger and better places.

1. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Numbers 33:19 And they departed from Rithmah, and pitched at Rimmonparez.

The Israelites departed from Rithmah and pitched camp at Rimmonparez.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the journey of the Israelites.

2. God is our protector and provider, even when we are on the move.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Numbers 33:20 And they departed from Rimmonparez, and pitched in Libnah.

The Israelites left Rimmonparez and set up camp at Libnah.

1. God is always guiding our steps, no matter where we are in life.

2. Moving forward in faith requires us to set aside our comfort and security.

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

2. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Numbers 33:21 And they removed from Libnah, and pitched at Rissah.

The Israelites left Libnah and camped at Rissah.

1: No matter the difficulty, God is always with us as we move forward.

2: We must remain faithful to God's instructions as we journey through life.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Numbers 33:22 And they journeyed from Rissah, and pitched in Kehelathah.

This passage describes the Israelites' journey from Rissah to Kehelathah.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in His provision of a safe journey for His people.

2: We can trust God to lead us through our own journeys, no matter how difficult.

1: Psalm 37:23 - "The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way;"

2: Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Numbers 33:23 And they went from Kehelathah, and pitched in mount Shapher.

The Israelites journeyed from Kehelathah and camped at mount Shapher.

1. Moving Forward in Faith: Trusting God on our Journey

2. Overcoming Obstacles: The Israelites' Journey to the Promised Land

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God."

2. Joshua 1:2-3 "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses."

Numbers 33:24 And they removed from mount Shapher, and encamped in Haradah.

The Israelites moved from Mount Shapher to Haradah.

1. God's guidance: Even when we think we know where we're going, God knows the best path.

2. The importance of following God's will: All of us have a journey to take, but ultimately, we must trust God to show us the way.

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - "You shall observe to do therefore as the Lord your God hath commanded you: you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess."

2. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Numbers 33:25 And they removed from Haradah, and pitched in Makheloth.

The Israelites journeyed from Haradah to Makheloth.

1. The importance of continually moving forward in faith.

2. Learning to trust God with every step of the journey.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Numbers 33:26 And they removed from Makheloth, and encamped at Tahath.

The Israelites moved from Makheloth and camped at Tahath.

1. Moving On: How to Keep Going When Life Gets Hard

2. Overcoming Challenges: God's Strength in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Numbers 33:27 And they departed from Tahath, and pitched at Tarah.

The Israelites left Tahath and camped at Tarah.

1. The journey of faith: Taking the next step despite uncertainty

2. The importance of perseverance: Moving forward despite obstacles

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Numbers 33:28 And they removed from Tarah, and pitched in Mithcah.

The Israelites left Tarah and camped at Mithcah.

1. The importance of following God's instructions.

2. The power of obedience.

1. Joshua 1:6-9 - "Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2. Deuteronomy 4:1-2 - "Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.

Numbers 33:29 And they went from Mithcah, and pitched in Hashmonah.

The Israelites left Mithcah and camped in Hashmonah.

1. The importance of faith in times of transition.

2. Making the best of every circumstance.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Numbers 33:30 And they departed from Hashmonah, and encamped at Moseroth.

The Israelites departed from Hashmonah and encamped at Moseroth.

1. God is always with us, even when we move from one place to another.

2. When we trust in God, He will lead us to the places we need to go.

1. Isaiah 49:10 "They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them."

2. Deuteronomy 31:8 "And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."

Numbers 33:31 And they departed from Moseroth, and pitched in Benejaakan.

The Israelites left Moseroth and camped in Benejaakan.

1. Having faith in God's plan will lead to great things.

2. Where we are planted is not nearly as important as why we are planted.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun."

Numbers 33:32 And they removed from Benejaakan, and encamped at Horhagidgad.

The Israelites left Benejaakan and set up camp at Horhagidgad.

1. God Guides our Steps - Reflecting on the Israelites journey and God's divine guidance.

2. Moving Forward in Faith - Exploring the importance of trusting God in times of transition.

1. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Numbers 33:33 And they went from Horhagidgad, and pitched in Jotbathah.

The Israelites left Horhagidgad and set up camp at Jotbathah.

1. God's Guidance: How God Leads Us to Our Destination

2. The Power of Perseverance: How to Keep Moving Despite Difficulties

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Numbers 33:34 And they removed from Jotbathah, and encamped at Ebronah.

The Israelites left Jotbathah and camped at Ebronah.

1. Learning to trust God's timing in our lives.

2. Waiting on the Lord to lead us to our destination.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!

Numbers 33:35 And they departed from Ebronah, and encamped at Eziongaber.

The Israelites journeyed from Ebronah to Eziongaber.

1. God's Promises Are Kept: The Israelites' Journey from Ebronah to Eziongaber

2. Freedom Through Faith: Experiencing the Journey with the Israelites

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, Seek, Knock

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight Yourself in the Lord and He Will Give You the Desires of Your Heart

Numbers 33:36 And they removed from Eziongaber, and pitched in the wilderness of Zin, which is Kadesh.

The Israelites traveled from Eziongaber to the wilderness of Zin, which was also known as Kadesh.

1. The Journey of Faith: Learning to Walk in Obedience and Trust

2. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times: Finding Comfort in His Presence

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 "And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may boldly say: The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Numbers 33:37 And they removed from Kadesh, and pitched in mount Hor, in the edge of the land of Edom.

The Israelites journeyed from Kadesh to Mount Hor at the border of Edom.

1. "Walking on the Path of Faith"

2. "God's Plan for Our Lives"

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Numbers 33:38 And Aaron the priest went up into mount Hor at the commandment of the LORD, and died there, in the fortieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the first day of the fifth month.

Aaron the priest went up to mount Hor at the commandment of the LORD and died there in the fortieth year after the Israelites had left Egypt, on the first day of the fifth month.

1. Obedience: The Power of Following God's Commands - A Study of Aaron's Sacrifice

2. Trust: God's Plan Will Be Accomplished - A Study of Aaron's Faith in the Lord

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

Numbers 33:39 And Aaron was an hundred and twenty and three years old when he died in mount Hor.

Aaron died at the age of 123 in Mount Hor.

1. The brevity of life: how to make the most of our time on earth.

2. The importance of honoring God and fulfilling his will.

1. James 4:14 - "Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."

2. Deuteronomy 33:8 - "And of Aaron he said, 'Let the Lord bless him and give him peace, and be pleased with him forever.'"

Numbers 33:40 And king Arad the Canaanite, which dwelt in the south in the land of Canaan, heard of the coming of the children of Israel.

The Canaanite King Arad heard of the coming of the Israelites.

1: God is always in control, even when it seems like the enemy is winning.

2: God's promises are sure and He will fulfill them even against strong opposition.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall confute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord."

Numbers 33:41 And they departed from mount Hor, and pitched in Zalmonah.

The Israelites left Mount Hor and camped at Zalmonah.

1. The Journey of Faith: Leaving Mount Hor for Zalmonah

2. Remaining Steadfast in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 121:8: The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

2. Ecclesiastes 1:9: The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

Numbers 33:42 And they departed from Zalmonah, and pitched in Punon.

The Israelites left Zalmonah and camped at Punon.

1. God brings us to new places in life, and we must trust Him to get us there.

2. The faithfulness of God in our lives is evident in our journey.

1. Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Numbers 33:43 And they departed from Punon, and pitched in Oboth.

The Israelites departed from Punon and camped in Oboth.

1. From Punon to Oboth: Following God's Path of Provision

2. The Journey of Faith: Walking with God from Punon to Oboth

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Numbers 33:44 And they departed from Oboth, and pitched in Ijeabarim, in the border of Moab.

The Israelites traveled from Oboth and camped at Ijeabarim, on the Moab border.

1. Faithful Steps: Learning from the Israelites' Journey

2. Taking Risks: Moving Forward in Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid or terrified of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; He will not fail you or forsake you.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither present nor future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Numbers 33:45 And they departed from Iim, and pitched in Dibongad.

The Israelites departed from Iim and pitched their tents in Dibongad.

1. God is faithful in providing for our every need, even when we are on the move.

2. Faithfulness in following God's call is rewarded with blessings.

1. Isaiah 41:10, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 37:3, "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture."

Numbers 33:46 And they removed from Dibongad, and encamped in Almondiblathaim.

The Israelites left Dibongad and camped at Almondiblathaim.

1. Moving forward - looking to the future with faith and courage

2. Overcoming challenges - trusting in God to provide strength and direction

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

2. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - The Lord our God said to us at Horeb, You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Break camp and advance into the hill country of the Amorites; go to all the neighboring peoples in the Arabah, in the mountains, in the western foothills, in the Negev and along the coast, to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, as far as the great river, the Euphrates. See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land the Lord swore he would give to your fathers to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and to their descendants after them.

Numbers 33:47 And they removed from Almondiblathaim, and pitched in the mountains of Abarim, before Nebo.

The Israelites moved from Almondiblathaim to the mountains of Abarim, where they set up camp near Nebo.

1. "God's Guidance and Provision: How God Leads us to New Destinations"

2. "The Faithfulness of God: Carrying us Through the Wilderness"

1. Deuteronomy 32:11-12 - "As an eagle stirs up its nest, and hovers over its young; as it spreads its wings, takes them up, and bears them on its pinions, the Lord alone guided him"

2. Isaiah 46:4 - "Even to your old age I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you."

Numbers 33:48 And they departed from the mountains of Abarim, and pitched in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho.

The Israelites left the mountains of Abarim and camped in the plains of Moab by the Jordan River near Jericho.

1. Finding Strength in Trials: How the Israelites Overcame Challenges During Their Exodus

2. Growing in Faith: The Journey of the Israelites as an Example of Courage

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Numbers 33:49 And they pitched by Jordan, from Bethjesimoth even unto Abelshittim in the plains of Moab.

The Israelites stopped and camped along the Jordan River from Bethjesimoth to Abelshittim in the plains of Moab.

1) How God has provided a refuge for us in times of need

2) Relying on the faithfulness of God to sustain us

1) Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

2) Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Numbers 33:50 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho, saying,

Moses receives instructions from the LORD in the plains of Moab.

1. Obeying the Voice of the Lord

2. Listening to God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Numbers 33:51 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye are passed over Jordan into the land of Canaan;

The Israelites are instructed to enter Canaan when they cross the Jordan River.

1: Take courage and press forward; when God calls us to a new land, He will make a way for us.

2: The Lord will bring us to a place of abundance and blessing if we are obedient to His call.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2: Psalm 37:25 - I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

Numbers 33:52 Then ye shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their pictures, and destroy all their molten images, and quite pluck down all their high places:

Israel is commanded to clear the land they were promised of its inhabitants, then to destroy their idols, pictures and images, and finally to demolish their high places.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. Learning to Discern Between Right and Wrong

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

2. Deuteronomy 7:5 - This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire.

Numbers 33:53 And ye shall dispossess the inhabitants of the land, and dwell therein: for I have given you the land to possess it.

God commands the Israelites to take possession of the land He has promised them.

1. God's Promise of Possession: Reclaiming Our Inheritance

2. Obeying God's Command: Taking Possession of Our Promised Land

1. Joshua 1:2-3 "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses."

2. Psalm 37:3-4 "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Numbers 33:54 And ye shall divide the land by lot for an inheritance among your families: and to the more ye shall give the more inheritance, and to the fewer ye shall give the less inheritance: every man's inheritance shall be in the place where his lot falleth; according to the tribes of your fathers ye shall inherit.

This passage from Numbers 33:54 tells us that when dividing the land among the families, the more shall receive a bigger inheritance and the fewer a smaller one, and each will receive inheritance in the place where their lot fell according to the tribes of their fathers.

1. God is Just: Exploring Numbers 33:54

2. Inheritance of Blessings: Understanding the Promise of Numbers 33:54

1. Psalm 16:5-6 - The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; thou holdest my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

2. Acts 20:32 - And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

Numbers 33:55 But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell.

God warns the Israelites that if they do not drive out the inhabitants of the land, they will become a source of trouble for them.

1. We must always trust in God and His word, even if it requires us to take difficult actions.

2. Through faithfulness and obedience, we can be delivered from the troubles of this world.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

2. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 - When the Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you,

Numbers 33:56 Moreover it shall come to pass, that I shall do unto you, as I thought to do unto them.

God promises to do to the Israelites what He planned to do to the Egyptians.

1. God is Faithful: He will Keep His Promises

2. God is Just: He Will Do What He Says He Will Do

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

2. Exodus 9:15-16 - For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth. And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to show in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

Numbers 34 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 34:1-15 outlines the boundaries of the Promised Land that God instructs Moses to divide among the tribes of Israel. The chapter describes the southern border, starting from the Salt Sea (Dead Sea) and extending to the southern edge of Edom. It then proceeds to delineate the western border along the Mediterranean Sea, followed by the northern border reaching Mount Hor and entering Hamath. Finally, it details the eastern border from Hazar-enan to Zedad.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 34:16-29, Moses is instructed to appoint leaders from each tribe who will assist in dividing and allocating the land among their respective tribes. These leaders are listed by name Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and one leader from each tribe to ensure a fair distribution according to God's instructions.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 34 concludes by specifying that Eleazar and Joshua are responsible for overseeing this division of land. The chapter highlights that this division is based on lot-casting an ancient method used for determining allocation and emphasizes that this distribution must be carried out in accordance with God's commandments. The chapter concludes with a reminder that these boundaries were given as an inheritance to Israel according to God's promise.

In summary:

Numbers 34 presents:

Boundaries of Promised Land divided among tribes;

Appointment of leaders for land allocation;

Distribution based on lot-casting fulfillment of God's promise.

Boundaries outlined from Salt Sea (Dead Sea) to Hamath;

Leaders appointed for fair distribution among tribes;

Land allocated through lot-casting inheritance according to God's promise.

The chapter focuses on defining and dividing the Promised Land among the tribes of Israel. In Numbers 34, God instructs Moses regarding specific boundaries of the land. The chapter details the southern, western, northern, and eastern borders of the Promised Land, providing a clear description of its extent.

Continuing in Numbers 34, Moses is directed to appoint leaders from each tribe who will assist in dividing and allocating the land among their respective tribes. These appointed leaders include Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and one leader from each tribe. Their role is crucial in ensuring a fair distribution according to God's instructions.

Numbers 34 concludes by emphasizing that Eleazar and Joshua are responsible for overseeing this division of land. It highlights that this allocation is based on lot-casting a method used to determine distribution ensuring impartiality. The chapter underscores that this division must be carried out according to God's commandments and serves as an inheritance given to Israel as part of God's promise to them.

Numbers 34:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Moses is commanded by the Lord to draw the borders of the Promised Land.

1. God has given us a mission to fulfill and the strength to do it.

2. Obey the Lord when He calls upon us to do something.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Colossians 3:17 - "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Numbers 34:2 Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land of Canaan; (this is the land that shall fall unto you for an inheritance, even the land of Canaan with the coasts thereof:)

God commands the children of Israel to take possession of the land of Canaan, which will be their inheritance.

1. God's Covenant: The Promises of Possession

2. Faithful Fulfillment: Taking Possession of God's Promised Land

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - God's promise of an inheritance in the land of Canaan.

2. Exodus 6:6-8 - God's promise to bring the children of Israel into the promised land.

Numbers 34:3 Then your south quarter shall be from the wilderness of Zin along by the coast of Edom, and your south border shall be the outmost coast of the salt sea eastward:

This passage describes the borders of the land of Israel.

1. The Lord has promised to give us a land of our own - Numbers 34:3

2. God cares about our needs and provides for us - Numbers 34:3

1. Joshua 1:2-3 - "Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses."

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Numbers 34:4 And your border shall turn from the south to the ascent of Akrabbim, and pass on to Zin: and the going forth thereof shall be from the south to Kadeshbarnea, and shall go on to Hazaraddar, and pass on to Azmon:

The border of Israel was to extend from the south to the ascent of Akrabbim, Zin, Kadeshbarnea, Hazaraddar, and Azmon.

1. The borders of our lives can be extended beyond what we think is possible when we trust in God.

2. The boundaries of our faith can be broadened when we heed God's call.

1. Deuteronomy 19:14 - "You shall not move your neighbor's boundary mark, which the ancestors have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the LORD your God gives you to possess."

2. Joshua 1:3 - "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses."

Numbers 34:5 And the border shall fetch a compass from Azmon unto the river of Egypt, and the goings out of it shall be at the sea.

The border of Israel will extend from Azmon to the River of Egypt, and the border will end at the Mediterranean Sea.

1. The Boundaries of God's Promises: Exploring the Depths of Our Inheritance

2. Taking Hold of Our Inheritance: Reaching Beyond the Boundaries of Our Comfort

1. Isaiah 43:1-7, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine"

2. Romans 8:17-18, "And if children, then heirs heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him."

Numbers 34:6 And as for the western border, ye shall even have the great sea for a border: this shall be your west border.

The western border of Israel was the Mediterranean Sea.

1. God is powerful and His plans for us are beyond our understanding.

2. Finding peace and comfort in God's promises.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Numbers 34:7 And this shall be your north border: from the great sea ye shall point out for you mount Hor:

This passage explains the northern border of a region shall be marked by Mount Hor.

1. God has marked our boundaries and we should be thankful for what He has given us.

2. We should not try to extend beyond the limits set for us by God.

1. Psalm 16:6 - The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; Indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me.

2. Philippians 3:13 - Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead.

Numbers 34:8 From mount Hor ye shall point out your border unto the entrance of Hamath; and the goings forth of the border shall be to Zedad:

The border of Israel will extend from Mount Hor to the entrance of Hamath, and from there to Zedad.

1. Recognizing God's Boundaries: Appreciating the Limits of His Plans for Us

2. Living Within the Lines: Learning to Respect the Boundaries Set for Us

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Numbers 34:9 And the border shall go on to Ziphron, and the goings out of it shall be at Hazarenan: this shall be your north border.

This verse describes the northern border of the land promised to the Israelites, extending from Ziphron to Hazarenan.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling his promises.

2. The importance of having trust in God.

1. Joshua 1:3-5 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

2. Psalm 37:4-5 - "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Numbers 34:10 And ye shall point out your east border from Hazarenan to Shepham:

This passage describes the border of Israel's land from Hazarenan to Shepham.

1. God's faithfulness in securing the land promised to Israel.

2. The importance of defining and understanding borders.

1. Genesis 15:18-21 - God's promise to Abraham of the land of Canaan.

2. Joshua 1:3-5 - God's command to Joshua to possess the promised land.

Numbers 34:11 And the coast shall go down from Shepham to Riblah, on the east side of Ain; and the border shall descend, and shall reach unto the side of the sea of Chinnereth eastward:

This passage describes the eastern border of the land of Israel.

1. The importance of borders and boundaries in our lives and how they can protect us.

2. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people.

1. Deuteronomy 1:7-8 - "Turn you, and take your journey, and go to the mount of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the hills, and in the vale, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates. Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them."

2. Psalm 105:8-9 - "He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations. Which covenant he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac; And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant."

Numbers 34:12 And the border shall go down to Jordan, and the goings out of it shall be at the salt sea: this shall be your land with the coasts thereof round about.

This verse describes the borders of the land of Israel, which includes the Jordan River and the Dead Sea.

1. How God's Promises are Fulfilled: A Study of Numbers 34:12

2. The Boundaries of Our Faith: A Reflection on Numbers 34:12

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - "Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be."

2. Joshua 1:3-4 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast."

Numbers 34:13 And Moses commanded the children of Israel, saying, This is the land which ye shall inherit by lot, which the LORD commanded to give unto the nine tribes, and to the half tribe:

Moses commanded the Israelites to inherit the land that the Lord had promised to give to the nine tribes and the half tribe.

1: The Lord's Promise of Provision - God has promised to provide for His people and He will never fail to keep His promises.

2: Obedience Brings Blessings - Following God's commands brings blessings of provision and peace.

1: Joshua 14:1-5 - The promise of the Lord to provide the land of Canaan as an inheritance to the Israelites.

2: Psalm 37:3-5 - Trusting in the Lord brings blessing and provision.

Numbers 34:14 For the tribe of the children of Reuben according to the house of their fathers, and the tribe of the children of Gad according to the house of their fathers, have received their inheritance; and half the tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance:

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh have been given their inheritance.

1. We can learn from God's faithfulness to His people in Numbers 34:14.

2. Following God's plan is the path to true fulfillment.

1. Joshua 1:6 - Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

2. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

Numbers 34:15 The two tribes and the half tribe have received their inheritance on this side Jordan near Jericho eastward, toward the sunrising.

This passage tells of the two tribes and a half tribe of Israel receiving their inheritance near Jericho eastward, toward the sunrising.

1. Rejoice in the Blessings of God

2. Persevere in Faithful Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 1:7-8 Turn and take your journey, and go to the mountains of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the hills, and in the vale, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates. Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them.

2. Joshua 1:3-6 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before you: the Lord your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

Numbers 34:16 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

The LORD commanded Moses to assign borders for the Promised Land.

1. God provides us with divine instructions to protect us.

2. Trusting in the Lord leads to insight and direction.

1. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

2. Jeremiah 3:23 - " Truly in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, and from the multitude of mountains; truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel.

Numbers 34:17 These are the names of the men which shall divide the land unto you: Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun.

The Lord commanded Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun to divide the land among the Israelites.

1. God's faithfulness is seen through His provision for His people.

2. We can trust in God's authority and plan for our lives.

1. Ephesians 3:20-21 "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

2. Deuteronomy 1:38 And Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you, he shall enter. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.

Numbers 34:18 And ye shall take one prince of every tribe, to divide the land by inheritance.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to select one prince from each of their twelve tribes in order to divide the Promised Land among them.

1. God's Greatness Shown Through His Plan for Inheritance: A Study of Numbers 34:18

2. The Power of Obedience: Applying Numbers 34:18 to Our Lives Today

1. Deuteronomy 19:14 - "Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the Lord thy God giveth thee to possess it."

2. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Numbers 34:19 And the names of the men are these: Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

This passage mentions Caleb, son of Jephunneh, from the tribe of Judah.

1: God s faithfulness is demonstrated in the story of Caleb, a man of great faith and courage.

2: True faith is demonstrated when it is put into action, as seen in the life of Caleb.

1: Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation.

2: Joshua 14:6-7 - Then the people of Judah came to Joshua at Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, You know what the Lord said to Moses the man of God in Kadesh-barnea concerning you and me.

Numbers 34:20 And of the tribe of the children of Simeon, Shemuel the son of Ammihud.

This passage mentions Shemuel the son of Ammihud, a member of the tribe of Simeon.

1. God calls us to serve in unexpected ways.

2. Through the faithfulness of one individual, a whole tribe can be blessed.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

2. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 34:21 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Elidad the son of Chislon.

This passage mentions Elidad, son of Chislon, from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. The Faithfulness of God's Promises - A Study of Elidad, son of Chislon (Numbers 34:21)

2. The Power of Inheritance - How the Legacy of Benjamin Lives On Through Elidad (Numbers 34:21)

1. Deuteronomy 33:12 - "Of Benjamin he said: 'Let the beloved of the Lord rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the Lord loves rests between his shoulders.'"

2. Isaiah 9:6 - "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Numbers 34:22 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Dan, Bukki the son of Jogli.

Bukki the son of Jogli is the prince of the tribe of the children of Dan.

1. The Value of Leadership: A Study on Bukki the Son of Jogli

2. The Identity of the Tribe of Dan: A Study of the Children of Dan

1. Ephesians 6:12 - "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Numbers 34:23 The prince of the children of Joseph, for the tribe of the children of Manasseh, Hanniel the son of Ephod.

The prince of the children of Joseph, Hanniel the son of Ephod, is assigned to the tribe of Manasseh.

1. God provides leaders to lead us in the right direction - Deuteronomy 31:8

2. Put your trust in God's appointed leaders - 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "And the Lord, He it is that doth go before thee; He will be with thee, He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity."

Numbers 34:24 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Ephraim, Kemuel the son of Shiphtan.

The prince of the tribe of Ephraim is Kemuel, the son of Shiphtan.

1. God chooses leaders to serve His people.

2. God anoints and appoints leaders to lead His people.

1. Acts 7:35 - "This Moses whom they rejected, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?' is the one God sent to be a ruler and deliverer by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush."

2. 2 Chronicles 19:5-7 - "He said to them: 'Consider what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment. Now therefore let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take care and do it, for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, no partiality, nor taking of bribes.'"

Numbers 34:25 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Zebulun, Elizaphan the son of Parnach.

The prince of the tribe of Zebulun was Elizaphan the son of Parnach.

1. Jesus, Our True Prince and High Priest

2. Putting Our Trust in God's Chosen Leaders

1. Hebrews 4:14-16 - Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are yet he did not sin. 16 Let us then approach God s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Numbers 34:26 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Issachar, Paltiel the son of Azzan.

The prince of the tribe of Issachar was Paltiel, son of Azzan.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Heritage

2. God's Plan for Each Tribe Revealed

1. Deuteronomy 33:18-19 - Of Zebulun he said: Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, and Issachar, in your tents. They shall call the peoples to the mountain; there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness; for they shall partake of the abundance of the seas and of treasures hidden in the sand.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Numbers 34:27 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Asher, Ahihud the son of Shelomi.

Ahihud, son of Shelomi, was the prince of the tribe of Asher.

1. The Importance of Leadership in the Bible

2. Following Authority Figures in Scripture

1. Joshua 19:24-31 - The allotment of land to the tribe of Asher

2. Numbers 36:1-13 - The inheritance laws for the daughters of Zelophehad

Numbers 34:28 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Naphtali, Pedahel the son of Ammihud.

This passage mentions Pedahel, son of Ammihud, as the prince of the tribe of Naphtali.

1. Leadership in the Bible: The Example of Pedahel

2. Tribal Identity: God's Design for Community and Belonging

1. Genesis 49:21 - "Naphtali is a doe let loose; He gives beautiful words."

2. Joshua 19:32-39 - The land allotted to the tribe of Naphtali.

Numbers 34:29 These are they whom the LORD commanded to divide the inheritance unto the children of Israel in the land of Canaan.

God commanded the Israelites to divide the land of Canaan as an inheritance among the children of Israel.

1. Inheriting the Promised Land: A Study in Obedience

2. God s Provision: From Slavery to the Promised Land

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-11 - And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant and when you eat and are full.

2. Joshua 1:2-3 - Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

Numbers 35 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 35:1-8 introduces the concept of cities of refuge. God commands Moses to designate certain cities as places of refuge for individuals who unintentionally cause the death of another person. These cities are to provide a safe haven where those who have committed accidental manslaughter can find protection from avengers seeking retribution. The chapter specifies that six cities are to be set apart for this purpose, three on each side of the Jordan River.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 35:9-34, the chapter provides further instructions regarding the cities of refuge and outlines laws concerning murder and bloodshed. It establishes guidelines for determining whether a killing is accidental or intentional and specifies that intentional murderers are not eligible for protection within these cities. The chapter also addresses the role of witnesses in establishing guilt or innocence and emphasizes that proper legal processes must be followed to ensure justice.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 35 concludes by highlighting the importance of upholding justice and not defiling the land with bloodshed. It establishes penalties for intentional murder, stating that murderers must be put to death by avengers or through legal proceedings based on evidence provided by witnesses. The chapter emphasizes that no atonement can be made for intentional murder, as it defiles the land; only through punishment can justice be served.

In summary:

Numbers 35 presents:

Designation of cities of refuge safe havens for unintentional killers;

Guidelines distinguishing accidental manslaughter from intentional murder;

Emphasis on justice penalties for intentional murder.

Cities designated as refuges protection for unintentional killers;

Laws distinguishing accidental manslaughter from intentional murder;

Importance of upholding justice penalties established.

The chapter focuses on establishing cities of refuge as safe havens for individuals who have caused unintentional deaths. In Numbers 35, God commands Moses to designate specific cities where those who have committed accidental manslaughter can seek protection from avengers seeking retribution. The chapter specifies the number and location of these cities, ensuring their accessibility on both sides of the Jordan River.

Continuing in Numbers 35, the chapter provides further instructions regarding the cities of refuge and addresses laws concerning murder and bloodshed. It establishes guidelines for distinguishing between accidental killings and intentional murders, emphasizing that intentional murderers are not eligible for protection within these cities. The chapter also emphasizes the role of witnesses in establishing guilt or innocence and underscores the importance of following proper legal processes to ensure justice.

Numbers 35 concludes by highlighting the significance of upholding justice and avoiding bloodshed that defiles the land. It establishes penalties for intentional murder, stating that murderers must face punishment either through avengers seeking retribution or through legal proceedings based on evidence provided by witnesses. The chapter emphasizes that no atonement can be made for intentional murder as it defiles the land; only through appropriate punishment can justice be served and the sanctity of life preserved.

Numbers 35:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho, saying,

God spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho.

1. God speaks to us in unexpected places.

2. Faithful obedience to God will be rewarded.

1. Joshua 1:2-3 Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

2. Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Numbers 35:2 Command the children of Israel, that they give unto the Levites of the inheritance of their possession cities to dwell in; and ye shall give also unto the Levites suburbs for the cities round about them.

This passage is about the commandment to the children of Israel to give cities and suburbs to the Levites as their inheritance.

1. Living with Generosity: The Israelites' Blessing of the Levites

2. The Power of Giving: How God Uses Our Gifts

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

2. Matthew 10:8 - "Freely ye have received, freely give."

Numbers 35:3 And the cities shall they have to dwell in; and the suburbs of them shall be for their cattle, and for their goods, and for all their beasts.

God commands the Israelites to settle in cities and use the outskirts for their livestock, goods, and other animals.

1. The importance of God's Commandments: How Obedience Leads to Blessing.

2. Caring for God's Creation: The Blessings of Responsible Stewardship.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? He requires only that you fear the Lord your God, and live in a way that pleases him, and love him and serve him with all your heart and soul.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money."

Numbers 35:4 And the suburbs of the cities, which ye shall give unto the Levites, shall reach from the wall of the city and outward a thousand cubits round about.

The suburbs of the cities given to the Levites should reach 1000 cubits from the wall of the city.

1. The Importance of Generosity: How Giving to the Levites Can Strengthen Our Communities

2. The Holiness of Cities: How Sanctifying a City's Borders Can Bring Blessings

1. Deuteronomy 15:7-8 - "If there is among you a poor man, one of your brothers, in any of the towns of the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, 8 but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be."

2. Proverbs 11:25 - "Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered."

Numbers 35:5 And ye shall measure from without the city on the east side two thousand cubits, and on the south side two thousand cubits, and on the west side two thousand cubits, and on the north side two thousand cubits; and the city shall be in the midst: this shall be to them the suburbs of the cities.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to measure a city and the suburbs around it to be two thousand cubits in all four directions.

1. God's Plan for Us: Having a Clear Vision for our Lives

2. Obeying God's Commands: Submitting to His Will

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 - See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

Numbers 35:6 And among the cities which ye shall give unto the Levites there shall be six cities for refuge, which ye shall appoint for the manslayer, that he may flee thither: and to them ye shall add forty and two cities.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to give six cities to the Levites as cities of refuge for anyone who killed another person accidentally, and they were to provide an additional forty-two cities.

1. The Importance of Forgiveness: Learning from Numbers 35:6

2. God's Mercy and Compassion: An Examination of Numbers 35:6

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

2. Hebrews 10:30 - For we know him who said, Vengeance is mine; I will repay. And again, The Lord will judge his people.

Numbers 35:7 So all the cities which ye shall give to the Levites shall be forty and eight cities: them shall ye give with their suburbs.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to give 48 cities and their surrounding suburbs to the Levites.

1. The importance of honoring the Lord's commands.

2. The importance of showing kindness and generosity to others.

1. Deuteronomy 10:19 - Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

2. Matthew 5:43-45 - Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

Numbers 35:8 And the cities which ye shall give shall be of the possession of the children of Israel: from them that have many ye shall give many; but from them that have few ye shall give few: every one shall give of his cities unto the Levites according to his inheritance which he inheriteth.

This passage describes the cities which the Israelites are to give to the Levites, with those with more land giving more cities and those with less land giving fewer cities.

1. God's Generosity: Even in Times of Scarcity

2. The Power of Inheritance: Honoring Our History

1. Romans 8:17-18 - And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

2. Deuteronomy 10:9 - Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him.

Numbers 35:9 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

God commands Moses to set aside cities of refuge for the safety of the people.

1. The Safety of the People: God's Command to Moses

2. Cities of Refuge: God's Gift of Security

1. Deuteronomy 4:41-43: "Then Moses set apart three cities in the east beyond the Jordan, that the slayer might flee there, who kills his neighbor unintentionally, without having hated him in time past; and by fleeing to one of these cities he shall live: Bezer in the wilderness, in the plain country, of the Reubenites; and Ramoth in Gilead, of the Gadites; and Golan in Bashan, of the Manassites."

2. Joshua 20:1-9: "Then the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying: Speak to the children of Israel, saying: Appoint for yourselves cities of refuge, that the slayer who kills any person accidentally may flee there. ..."

Numbers 35:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come over Jordan into the land of Canaan;

This passage reminds the Israelites that when they cross the Jordan River to enter the land of Canaan, they must obey God's laws.

1. Obeying God's Laws: A Blessing to the Israelites

2. God's Promises Are Fulfilled Through Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God.

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Numbers 35:11 Then ye shall appoint you cities to be cities of refuge for you; that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person at unawares.

The Lord instructed the Israelites to set aside cities of refuge so that those who killed someone accidentally could flee and be protected from the vengeance of the relatives of the victim.

1. The Grace of Refuge: Finding Protection in Christ.

2. God s Law of Mercy: Putting Justice and Mercy in Balance.

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Numbers 35:12 And they shall be unto you cities for refuge from the avenger; that the manslayer die not, until he stand before the congregation in judgment.

Cities are provided as refuge for those who have committed manslaughter, in order to prevent them from being killed before standing trial in front of a congregation.

1. The importance of second chances in the eyes of God

2. The value of justice in a civil society

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

2. Luke 6:37 - Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

Numbers 35:13 And of these cities which ye shall give six cities shall ye have for refuge.

The Israelites were given six cities to provide refuge for those who had committed unintentional manslaughter.

1. The Power of Refuge: How God's Grace Protects and Sustains Us

2. The Blessing of Forgiveness: How to Receive and Give Grace

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

Numbers 35:14 Ye shall give three cities on this side Jordan, and three cities shall ye give in the land of Canaan, which shall be cities of refuge.

God instructs the Israelites to designate six cities as cities of refuge, three being on the east side of the Jordan River and three in the land of Canaan.

1. The Value of Refuge: Finding Comfort in a World of Unrest

2. How God's Protection Can Keep Us Safe

1. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."

Numbers 35:15 These six cities shall be a refuge, both for the children of Israel, and for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them: that every one that killeth any person unawares may flee thither.

God commanded that six cities be designated as a refuge for those who have killed someone unintentionally.

1. God's Mercy in Providing a Refuge for the Unintentional Murderer

2. The Need for Compassion for the Accidental Sinner

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Numbers 35:16 And if he smite him with an instrument of iron, so that he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

This passage states that a murderer must be put to death.

1. The Bible is Clear: Murderers Must Be Put to Death

2. We Must Uphold the Law: God's Judgement on Murderers

1. Genesis 9:6 - Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

2. Ezekiel 33:8 - When I say to the wicked, O wicked man, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.

Numbers 35:17 And if he smite him with throwing a stone, wherewith he may die, and he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

The passage states that a murderer should be put to death if he kills someone with a stone.

1: "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). We must all be accountable for our actions and the consequences of our choices.

2: "The Lord detests the way of the wicked, but he loves those who pursue righteousness" (Proverbs 15:9). We must strive to make the right choices and be obedient to God's will.

1: "Do not spread false reports. Do not help a wicked man by being a malicious witness" (Exodus 23:1).

2: "Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause; Deceive not with your lips" (Proverbs 24:28).

Numbers 35:18 Or if he smite him with an hand weapon of wood, wherewith he may die, and he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

The murderer shall be put to death.

1. The Grave Consequences of Sin

2. The Requirement of Justice

1. Genesis 9:6 - "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image."

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

Numbers 35:19 The revenger of blood himself shall slay the murderer: when he meeteth him, he shall slay him.

In Numbers 35:19, the punishment for murder is given as death by the "revenger of blood".

1. The Punishment for Taking a Life: A Study of Numbers 35:19

2. Justice and Mercy in the Bible: The Story of Numbers 35:19

1. Exodus 21:12-14 - "Whoever strikes a person mortally shall be put to death. If it was not premeditated, but an act of God, then I will appoint for you a place to which the killer may flee.

2. Leviticus 24:17 - "Whoever takes the life of any human being shall be put to death."

Numbers 35:20 But if he thrust him of hatred, or hurl at him by laying of wait, that he die;

The passage discusses the consequences of an intentional act of killing another person.

1. We must be careful not to let our emotions lead us to hatred and violence.

2. Our actions have consequences, and we must always think of the consequences of our decisions.

1. Luke 6:31-36 - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Numbers 35:21 Or in enmity smite him with his hand, that he die: he that smote him shall surely be put to death; for he is a murderer: the revenger of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him.

God demands justice when a murderer takes the life of another. 1: God's justice is perfect in His eyes and demands that murderers be put to death. 2: Blood cries out for justice and God hears the plea of the slain. 1: Genesis 9:6 - "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind." 2: Deuteronomy 19:10-13 - "If anyone schemes and kills another person deliberately, take the killer away from my altar to be put to death...Your eye must not pity him, but you must purge from Israel the guilt of shedding innocent blood."

Numbers 35:22 But if he thrust him suddenly without enmity, or have cast upon him any thing without laying of wait,

God's law requires us to seek justice for those who have wronged us, while also avoiding revenge.

1: "Turning the Other Cheek: Forgiving Instead of Retaliating"

2: "God's Call to Seek Justice Without Retaliation"

1: Matthew 5:38-39 - You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

2: Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Numbers 35:23 Or with any stone, wherewith a man may die, seeing him not, and cast it upon him, that he die, and was not his enemy, neither sought his harm:

If someone is killed with a stone or other object, and the killer did not intend to harm the victim, then they are not guilty of murder.

1. The Power of Intention: Recognizing the Difference between Accidental and Deliberate Actions

2. The Unintended Consequences of Unthinking Actions

1. Matthew 5:21-22 - "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment."

2. James 3:2 - "For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body."

Numbers 35:24 Then the congregation shall judge between the slayer and the revenger of blood according to these judgments:

The community must make decisions between a murderer and the family of the deceased.

1. We must all work together to make justice and seek healing in our community.

2. Vengeance belongs to God and He will make sure that those who do wrong will get their just reward.

1. Romans 12:19- "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Matthew 5:38-48 You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

Numbers 35:25 And the congregation shall deliver the slayer out of the hand of the revenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled: and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest, which was anointed with the holy oil.

The congregation is responsible for protecting a slayer from the revenger of blood, and must restore them to the city of refuge until the death of the high priest.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Luke 23:34.

2. The Importance of Mercy - Micah 6:8.

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.

Numbers 35:26 But if the slayer shall at any time come without the border of the city of his refuge, whither he was fled;

The slayer must remain within the confines of the city of refuge for safety.

1. God's Command to Seek Refuge in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of True Refuge in God

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Hebrews 6:18 - "That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us."

Numbers 35:27 And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood:

A slayer who flees to a city of refuge after killing someone can be killed by the revenger of blood if they are found outside the city of refuge.

1. The consequences of violence and the importance of seeking refuge.

2. God's justice and mercy in protecting those who seek refuge according to his law.

1. Deuteronomy 19:3-13

2. Joshua 20:1-9

Numbers 35:28 Because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest: but after the death of the high priest the slayer shall return into the land of his possession.

This passage speaks of the need for a person who has killed someone to remain in their city of refuge until the death of the high priest.

1) The Power of Forgiveness: How Jesus' Death Allows Even the Greatest Sinner to Be Redeemed

2) Purifying Our Lives Through Obedience: How We Can Make Amends for Our Sins

1) Luke 24:46-47 Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations.

2) Romans 3:23-24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Numbers 35:29 So these things shall be for a statute of judgment unto you throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

Numbers 35:29 states that the laws given in the passage are to be followed by all generations in all dwellings.

1. God's laws are timeless - Numbers 35:29

2. Obeying God's laws brings lasting benefits - Numbers 35:29

1. Deuteronomy 4:1-2 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

Numbers 35:30 Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die.

The Law of Moses states that a murderer must be put to death upon the testimony of two or more witnesses.

1. God's Justice: Understanding the Law of Moses

2. Bearing Witness to God's Mercy and Love

1. Deuteronomy 19:15 - "A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Numbers 35:31 Moreover ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death.

No satisfaction should be taken for a murderer's life, they must be put to death.

1. Seek justice, not vengeance.

2. Do not be complicit in murder.

1. Romans 12:19, Do not take revenge, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Exodus 21:12-14, Anyone who strikes a person with a fatal blow is to be put to death. However, if it is not done intentionally, but God allows it to happen, they are to flee to a place I will designate.

Numbers 35:32 And ye shall take no satisfaction for him that is fled to the city of his refuge, that he should come again to dwell in the land, until the death of the priest.

A person who has fled to a city of refuge is not allowed to return to the land until the death of the priest.

1. Refuge in the City: How to Find Security in Troubled Times.

2. The Priest's Role in Restoring Life and Community.

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Numbers 35:33 So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it.

The land cannot be cleansed of the blood spilled on it, except by the blood of the one who spilled it.

1: Respect the Land - We are called to be good stewards of the land, and to not pollute it, for it is sacred.

2: The Price of Sin - We can only be cleansed from our sins through the blood of Jesus, just as the land can only be cleansed from the blood spilled on it through the blood of the one who spilled it.

1: Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

2: Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Numbers 35:34 Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell: for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.

God has commanded us to not defile the land, as He dwells among us.

1. Respect the Land: God's Commandment to His People

2. Dwelling with God: The Blessing of Obedience

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

Numbers 36 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Numbers 36:1-4 addresses a concern raised by the heads of the clan of Gilead regarding the inheritance of land. They approach Moses and express their worry that if women from their tribe marry men from other tribes, their inherited land will pass on to those tribes, thus diminishing their own tribal territory. They propose a solution that daughters within their clan should only marry men from within their own tribe, ensuring that the land inheritance remains within the tribe of Gilead.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Numbers 36:5-9, Moses receives God's response to the concern raised by the heads of the clan of Gilead. God affirms that they have spoken rightly and provides a commandment regarding inheritance. He states that if daughters inherit property, they must marry within their own tribe so that the land inheritance remains secure and does not pass on to another tribe.

Paragraph 3: Numbers 36 concludes with an additional instruction given by God through Moses concerning marriage regulations for women who inherit property. It establishes a rule stating that any woman who inherits land must marry someone from her own tribal family so that each Israelite retains possession of his ancestral inheritance. This ensures the preservation and integrity of tribal territories throughout generations.

In summary:

Numbers 36 presents:

Concern raised inheritance passing to other tribes;

Proposal daughters marrying within own tribe;

God's affirmation commandment regarding inheritance.

Concern about inter-tribal marriages land passing to other tribes;

Solution proposed daughters marrying within same tribe;

God affirms proposal commandment for secure inheritance.

The chapter focuses on a concern raised by the heads of the clan of Gilead regarding inter-tribal marriages and its impact on land inheritance. In Numbers 36, they approach Moses with worries that if women from their tribe marry men from other tribes, their inherited land will pass on to those tribes, potentially diminishing their own tribal territory. They propose a solution where daughters within their clan should only marry men from within their own tribe to ensure the preservation of the land inheritance.

Continuing in Numbers 36, Moses receives God's response to the concern raised by the heads of the clan of Gilead. God affirms that they have spoken rightly and provides a commandment regarding inheritance. He states that if daughters inherit property, they must marry within their own tribe so that the land inheritance remains secure and does not pass on to another tribe. This instruction ensures that each Israelite retains possession of his ancestral inheritance and maintains the integrity of tribal territories throughout generations.

Numbers 36 concludes with an additional instruction given by God through Moses concerning marriage regulations for women who inherit property. It establishes a rule stating that any woman who inherits land must marry someone from her own tribal family. This requirement ensures that each tribe's ancestral possessions remain intact and prevents the transfer of inherited lands to other tribes through inter-tribal marriages. The chapter emphasizes the importance of maintaining tribal boundaries and preserving ancestral inheritances within Israelite society.

Numbers 36:1 And the chief fathers of the families of the children of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of the sons of Joseph, came near, and spake before Moses, and before the princes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel:

The families of the sons of Gilead, son of Machir and Manasseh, came before Moses and the princes to speak.

1. The importance of standing up for what is right.

2. Letting God's will lead us in every decision we make.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Numbers 36:2 And they said, The LORD commanded my lord to give the land for an inheritance by lot to the children of Israel: and my lord was commanded by the LORD to give the inheritance of Zelophehad our brother unto his daughters.

This passage explains how God commanded Moses to give Zelophehad's inheritance to his daughters.

1. God honors the value of daughters, and we should too.

2. God desires that we share what we have with others.

1. Isaiah 43:4 - "Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life."

2. Deuteronomy 16:18 - "You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment."

Numbers 36:3 And if they be married to any of the sons of the other tribes of the children of Israel, then shall their inheritance be taken from the inheritance of our fathers, and shall be put to the inheritance of the tribe whereunto they are received: so shall it be taken from the lot of our inheritance.

If any of the daughters of the daughters of Zelophehad marry into the other tribes of the children of Israel, then their inheritance will be moved from the tribe of their fathers to the tribe where they are accepted.

1. The Importance of Faithful Commitment in Marriages

2. The Power of Inheritance and How it Connects Us to God

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 6:1-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord.

Numbers 36:4 And when the jubile of the children of Israel shall be, then shall their inheritance be put unto the inheritance of the tribe whereunto they are received: so shall their inheritance be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.

The inheritance of the Israelites is to be returned to the tribe to which they belong at the time of the Jubilee.

1. Making the Most of Your Inheritance: The Importance of Jubilee

2. Making the Most of Our Gifts: The Responsibility of Stewardship

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Ephesians 2:8-10

Numbers 36:5 And Moses commanded the children of Israel according to the word of the LORD, saying, The tribe of the sons of Joseph hath said well.

Moses commanded the tribes of Israel according to the Lord's word, and the sons of Joseph gave a good response.

1. Obeying God s Commands: The Example of the Sons of Joseph

2. Responding to God s Word with Faith and Obedience

1. Joshua 1:7-8 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

2. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Numbers 36:6 This is the thing which the LORD doth command concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, Let them marry to whom they think best; only to the family of the tribe of their father shall they marry.

The Lord commands that the daughters of Zelophehad are to marry to whomever they choose, provided that it is within their father's tribe.

1. God cares for the individual - 1 Corinthians 10:13

2. Love knows no bounds - 1 John 4:7

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. 1 John 4:7 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Numbers 36:7 So shall not the inheritance of the children of Israel remove from tribe to tribe: for every one of the children of Israel shall keep himself to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.

The inheritance of the children of Israel will remain within the tribe of their fathers.

1. God's Plan: Don't Let Anything Move You From Your Inheritance

2. Staying True To Our Ancestors: Keeping God's Covenant

1. Ephesians 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Numbers 36:8 And every daughter, that possesseth an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel, shall be wife unto one of the family of the tribe of her father, that the children of Israel may enjoy every man the inheritance of his fathers.

The daughters of Israel are to marry within their own tribe to ensure the inheritance of their fathers remains in the tribe.

1. The Importance of Marrying Within Our Own Tribe

2. Passing On the Legacy of Our Fathers

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 Do not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for that would turn away your children from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the Lord would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly.

2. Ruth 1:16-17 But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.

Numbers 36:9 Neither shall the inheritance remove from one tribe to another tribe; but every one of the tribes of the children of Israel shall keep himself to his own inheritance.

This passage emphasizes the importance of each tribe of Israel preserving its own inheritance.

1. The importance of preserving our identity and heritage.

2. The blessings of honoring our inheritance.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2. 1 Peter 1:17-21 - And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Numbers 36:10 Even as the LORD commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad:

The daughters of Zelophehad obeyed the commands of the Lord.

1: Obeying the commands of the Lord brings great blessing and joy.

2: Even when it seems difficult, we must trust in the Lord and obey His commands.

1: Joshua 24:15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2: Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Numbers 36:11 For Mahlah, Tirzah, and Hoglah, and Milcah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, were married unto their father's brothers' sons:

The daughters of Zelophehad were married to their father's brothers' sons.

1: We should remember to honor the traditions and customs prescribed by God, even when they may not seem to make sense to us.

2: It is possible to remain true to our faith while honoring the customs of our ancestors.

1: Deuteronomy 25:5-6 If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her.

2: Leviticus 18:16 You shall not uncover the nakedness of your brother s wife; it is your brother s nakedness.

Numbers 36:12 And they were married into the families of the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of the family of their father.

The daughters of Zelophehad were married into the families of the sons of Manasseh, and their inheritance stayed in their father's tribe.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people through the generations.

2. Our obligations to ensure that the inheritance of our fathers is preserved.

1. Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. Deuteronomy 4:9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons.

Numbers 36:13 These are the commandments and the judgments, which the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses unto the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho.

God gave the Israelites His commandments and judgments at the plains of Moab near Jericho.

1. Following God's Commandments - Numbers 36:13

2. Obedience Brings Blessing - Deuteronomy 28:1-14

1. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Deuteronomy 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 1:1-18 sets the stage for the book of Deuteronomy. Moses addresses the Israelites on the plains of Moab, recounting their journey from Horeb (Mount Sinai) to Kadesh-barnea. He reminds them of God's promise to give them the land of Canaan and recalls how he appointed leaders from each tribe to assist in governing and judging the people. Moses emphasizes that he alone cannot bear the burden of leading such a large nation and encourages them to choose wise and understanding men as their leaders.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 1:19-46, Moses reflects on the Israelites' failure to trust God's promise when they reached Kadesh-barnea. He recounts how they sent spies into Canaan who brought back reports of a fruitful land but also instilled fear among the people due to reports of strong inhabitants. The Israelites rebelled against God's command, expressing a desire to return to Egypt instead of entering Canaan. As a result, God condemned that generation to wander in the wilderness for forty years until all those who doubted had perished.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 1 concludes with Moses recalling subsequent events after their time in Kadesh-barnea. He highlights how they eventually resumed their journey toward Canaan after wandering through various locations, including Mount Seir and Zered Valley. Moses acknowledges that even though God had granted victories over other nations along their path, they were not allowed to possess those lands since they belonged to other peoples whom God had appointed for inheritance.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 1 presents:

Moses' address journey from Horeb (Sinai) to Kadesh-barnea;

Appointment of leaders burden-sharing;

Reflection on failure to trust wandering in the wilderness.

Moses addresses Israelites journey recap;

Failure to trust God's promise at Kadesh-barnea;

Condemnation to wander in the wilderness for forty years.

Resumption of journey after Kadesh-barnea victories over other nations;

Acknowledgment of lands belonging to other peoples.

The chapter begins with Moses addressing the Israelites on the plains of Moab, reflecting on their journey from Horeb (Mount Sinai) to Kadesh-barnea. In Deuteronomy 1, he recounts how God promised them the land of Canaan and appointed leaders from each tribe to assist in governing and judging the people. Moses acknowledges that he alone cannot bear the burden of leading such a large nation and encourages them to choose wise and understanding men as their leaders.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 1, Moses reflects on a significant failure of trust displayed by the Israelites when they reached Kadesh-barnea. He recalls how they sent spies into Canaan who brought back reports of a fruitful land but also instilled fear among the people due to reports of strong inhabitants. The Israelites rebelled against God's command, expressing a desire to return to Egypt instead of entering Canaan. As a consequence, God condemned that generation to wander in the wilderness for forty years until all those who doubted had perished.

Deuteronomy 1 concludes with Moses recalling subsequent events after their time at Kadesh-barnea. He highlights how they eventually resumed their journey toward Canaan after wandering through various locations such as Mount Seir and Zered Valley. Moses acknowledges that even though God had granted them victories over other nations along their path, they were not allowed to possess those lands since they belonged to other peoples whom God had appointed for inheritance. This serves as a reminder that possession of specific territories was part of God's plan and timing for His chosen people.

Deuteronomy 1:1 These be the words which Moses spake unto all Israel on this side Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain over against the Red sea, between Paran, and Tophel, and Laban, and Hazeroth, and Dizahab.

This passage describes the location of the words spoken by Moses to all Israel.

1: God speaks to us in the wilderness, and we are still able to hear His voice.

2: Even in places of difficulty and uncertainty, God can bring us peace and direction.

1: Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2: Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Deuteronomy 1:2 (There are eleven days' journey from Horeb by the way of mount Seir unto Kadeshbarnea.)

This passage highlights the journey of the Israelites from Horeb, through Mount Seir, to Kadeshbarnea.

1. God's faithfulness in leading His people - Deuteronomy 1:30

2. The importance of following God's guidance - Proverbs 16:9

1. Psalm 78:52-53 - "For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham his servant. And he brought out his people with joy, his chosen ones with singing."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Deuteronomy 1:3 And it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, that Moses spake unto the children of Israel, according unto all that the LORD had given him in commandment unto them;

Moses spoke to the Israelites in the fortieth year, on the first day of the 11th month, according to all that the Lord had commanded them.

1. Obey the Lord's Commands - Deuteronomy 1:3

2. Trust in the Lord's Timing - Deuteronomy 1:3

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven"

2. Psalm 33:11 - "The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations"

Deuteronomy 1:4 After he had slain Sihon the king of the Amorites, which dwelt in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, which dwelt at Astaroth in Edrei:

Moses recounts to the Israelites their journey from Horeb to Kadesh-barnea, including the conquest of Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites and Bashan.

1. The Power of Faith: How the Israelites' Belief Showed God's Strength

2. A Journey of Transformation: What the Israelites Learned from Their Travels

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Deuteronomy 1:5 On this side Jordan, in the land of Moab, began Moses to declare this law, saying,

Moses begins to give the law to the Israelites on the east side of the Jordan river.

1: We must listen to God's law and obey it.

2: God keeps His promises and will always be by our side.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

Deuteronomy 1:6 The LORD our God spake unto us in Horeb, saying, Ye have dwelt long enough in this mount:

The LORD spoke to the people in Horeb, instructing them to leave the mountain.

1: Moving On - Let us not be stuck in the same place, but instead take courage and move forward into the unknown.

2: Heeding the Call - Obey the LORD's commands, trusting that He will guide us on our journey.

1: Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2: Psalm 121:1-2 - I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

Deuteronomy 1:7 Turn you, and take your journey, and go to the mount of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the hills, and in the vale, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates.

Moses instructs the Israelites to journey to all the places near the Amorites, including the plain, hills, valleys, south, sea shore, Canaanites, Lebanon, and the river Euphrates.

1. Journey to the Promised Land: A Reflection on the Faithful Israelites

2. Taking the Leap of Faith: Following God's Instructions Despite the Unknown

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Deuteronomy 1:8 Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them.

God is giving the land of Canaan to the Israelites as He had promised to their fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises.

2. The power of obedience to God's commands.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The LORD had said to Abram, Go from your country and your kindred and your father s house to the land that I will show you.

2. Joshua 1:6-7 - Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

Deuteronomy 1:9 And I spake unto you at that time, saying, I am not able to bear you myself alone:

The Lord told the people that He could not bear their burden alone.

1: God is always there to help us, but we must remember that He is not alone in this journey; He wants us to reach out to Him and to each other for help and support.

2: God's strength is so great, yet He also desires to provide us with the strength and support of our fellow man. We should recognize that He is not meant to carry our burdens alone.

1: Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

2: Psalm 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Deuteronomy 1:10 The LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude.

The LORD has blessed His people with a great multitude.

1: God's faithfulness to His people is seen through His provision.

2: God's blessings are innumerable.

1: Psalm 105:8-9 - He remembers His covenant forever, the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.

2: Ephesians 3:20-21 - Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Deuteronomy 1:11 (The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and bless you, as he hath promised you!)

The Lord promises to bless and make his people a thousand times greater.

1. The Power of God's Promise - How God has made us a thousand times greater

2. The Blessing of Abundance - How to experience God's blessing in our lives

1. Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us

2. Psalm 115:14 - May the LORD give you increase, you and your children!

Deuteronomy 1:12 How can I myself alone bear your cumbrance, and your burden, and your strife?

This passage from Deuteronomy 1:12 speaks of the burden of responsibility and the difficulty of carrying it alone.

1. "The Strength of Community: Learning to Share God's Burden"

2. "The Strength of Faith: Relying on God to Bear Our Burdens"

1. Romans 12:4-5 - "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

2. Hebrews 13:6 - "So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Deuteronomy 1:13 Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you.

This passage instructs the people of Israel to choose wise and understanding men from among their tribes to be rulers over them.

1. The importance of seeking wise counsel in decision making.

2. Following God's instructions for selecting leaders.

1. Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Deuteronomy 1:14 And ye answered me, and said, The thing which thou hast spoken is good for us to do.

The people of Israel agreed that what God commanded was good and to be done.

1: Obeying God's commands is always the right choice.

2: When God speaks, it is wise to listen.

1: James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

2: Colossians 3:20-21 - Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

Deuteronomy 1:15 So I took the chief of your tribes, wise men, and known, and made them heads over you, captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties, and captains over tens, and officers among your tribes.

Moses appointed wise and respected people from the tribes of Israel to be leaders and captains over them.

1. God gives us leaders to support us through difficult times.

2. Working together in unity is essential for success.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

2. Romans 12:4-8 - For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Deuteronomy 1:16 And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren, and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him.

God commanded the judges of Israel to treat their brothers and strangers equally in court and to judge justly.

1. "The Power of Justice: God's Charge to Us"

2. "Equality in Court: God's Commandment for All"

1. James 2:1-13

2. Romans 12:14-21

Deuteronomy 1:17 Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it.

This passage speaks of the importance of impartiality in judgement and calls us to bring difficult matters before God.

1. All Things Come to God: Not Respect Persons in Judgment

2. The Lord's Call to Impartiality: Hear the Small and Great

1. James 2:1-13 - The importance of not showing partiality in judgement

2. Proverbs 24:23 - To not show favoritism in judgement

Deuteronomy 1:18 And I commanded you at that time all the things which ye should do.

The passage talks about God commanding the people of Israel to obey His commandments.

1: Obedience to God's Commandments brings great blessings.

2: Obeying God brings us closer to Him.

1: John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2: 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

Deuteronomy 1:19 And when we departed from Horeb, we went through all that great and terrible wilderness, which ye saw by the way of the mountain of the Amorites, as the LORD our God commanded us; and we came to Kadeshbarnea.

The Israelites traveled through the wilderness from Horeb to Kadeshbarnea according to the command of the Lord their God.

1. Obedience to God: The Israelites' Example

2. Following God's Plan: The Journey of the Israelites

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Joshua 1:2-3 - "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses."

Deuteronomy 1:20 And I said unto you, Ye are come unto the mountain of the Amorites, which the LORD our God doth give unto us.

The people of Israel were told by God that they had come to the mountain of the Amorites, which God had given them.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for his people

2. Obeying God's commands

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - Do not worry, seek first the kingdom of God

2. Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want

Deuteronomy 1:21 Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged.

God encourages us to possess the land and trust in Him, without fear or discouragement.

1. Trust in the Lord: The Call to Possess the Land

2. Overcoming Fear and Discouragement: Rely on God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Deuteronomy 1:22 And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, We will send men before us, and they shall search us out the land, and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what cities we shall come.

The people of Israel wanted to know which way to go and which cities to enter.

1. God is the ultimate guide in our lives, and we should seek Him for direction.

2. We can find courage and strength for the unknown paths ahead of us if we put our trust in God.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

Deuteronomy 1:23 And the saying pleased me well: and I took twelve men of you, one of a tribe:

The Lord was pleased by the people's words and chose twelve men to represent each of the tribes.

1. The Lord's Will is Always Best: A Study in Deuteronomy 1:23

2. How to Know When You Are Following the Lord's Plan: A Study in Obedience

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Deuteronomy 1:24 And they turned and went up into the mountain, and came unto the valley of Eshcol, and searched it out.

The Israelites journeyed to the valley of Eshcol and explored the area.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will Lead You - Psalm 37:5

2. The Power of Obedience - Deuteronomy 4:1

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act.

2. Deuteronomy 4:1 - Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

Deuteronomy 1:25 And they took of the fruit of the land in their hands, and brought it down unto us, and brought us word again, and said, It is a good land which the LORD our God doth give us.

The Israelites explored the land promised to them by God and reported that it is a good land.

1. Trusting God's Promises: Lessons from Deuteronomy

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times: Examples from Deuteronomy

1. Romans 4:17-21

2. Joshua 1:1-9

Deuteronomy 1:26 Notwithstanding ye would not go up, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God:

The Israelites rebelled against the commandment of the Lord.

1: Disobedience has grave consequences and we must learn to obey God s commands.

2: We must learn to trust in the Lord and follow His will.

1: James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2: Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Deuteronomy 1:27 And ye murmured in your tents, and said, Because the LORD hated us, he hath brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us.

The Israelites were murmuring in their tents, expressing their fear that the Lord had brought them out of Egypt to deliver them into the hands of the Amorites and destroy them.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Fear

2. The Source of Our Strength in Uncertain Times

1. Romans 8:31 "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Deuteronomy 1:28 Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there.

The Israelites were discouraged due to their brothers saying that the people they would encounter were greater and taller than them, and that the cities were walled up to heaven.

1. Don't let discouragement take over when facing difficult tasks.

2. Have faith and trust that God will provide strength and support in times of need.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Deuteronomy 1:29 Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them.

The Lord encourages us not to fear when faced with difficult situations.

1. Don't Fear the Unknown: A Study of Deuteronomy 1:29

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 1:29

1. Isaiah 41:10 - fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Deuteronomy 1:30 The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes;

God promises to fight for His people as He did in Egypt.

1. God is Our Protector

2. Trusting in the Lord's Protection

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Deuteronomy 1:31 And in the wilderness, where thou hast seen how that the LORD thy God bare thee, as a man doth bear his son, in all the way that ye went, until ye came into this place.

The LORD bore the Israelites like a father bears his son through the wilderness until they reached their destination.

1: The LORD is our Father and His love for us is so strong that He takes us by the hand and leads us through the wilderness of life.

2: God has promised to be with us through each step of our journey. We can trust Him to protect and guide us.

1: Isaiah 48:17 Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

2: Psalm 23:3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Deuteronomy 1:32 Yet in this thing ye did not believe the LORD your God,

God calls us to trust in Him even when the odds seem insurmountable.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Faithfulness - Proverbs 3:5-6

2. Trusting God in the Face of Doubt - Matthew 21:21-22

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Deuteronomy 1:33 Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents in, in fire by night, to shew you by what way ye should go, and in a cloud by day.

God guided the Israelites with fire by night and a cloud by day.

1: We can trust in God to lead us through even the darkest times.

2: God leads us to safety, even through the most difficult circumstances.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Deuteronomy 1:34 And the LORD heard the voice of your words, and was wroth, and sware, saying,

The LORD was angered by the people's words and swore an oath.

1. A Warning Against Unwise Words: How to Speak With Care and Wisdom

2. The Power of Words: The Consequences of Our Speech

1. James 3:5-10 - Taming the Tongue

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and Life are in the power of the tongue

Deuteronomy 1:35 Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I sware to give unto your fathers,

God's promise of a land will not go unfulfilled, even if the current generation does not witness it.

1: Do not be discouraged, God's promises will be fulfilled in His time.

2: Do not become complacent, we must strive to achieve God's will.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.

Deuteronomy 1:36 Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the LORD.

God rewards those who put their trust in Him.

1: God is always faithful - Deuteronomy 1:36

2: God rewards faithfulness - Deuteronomy 1:36

1: Isaiah 40:31 - They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: James 1:12 - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Deuteronomy 1:37 Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither.

The LORD was angry with Moses for the sake of the Israelites, preventing Moses from entering the Promised Land.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning from the Example of Moses

2. The Importance of Obedience: How Disobedience Can Impact Others

1. Numbers 14:20-24; The LORD forgives the Israelites for their disobedience

2. Numbers 32:23; Moses' reminder to the Israelites to obey the LORD's commands

Deuteronomy 1:38 But Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.

God commands us to encourage and support one another as we work together to achieve God's goals.

1: God's Plan Requires Teamwork

2: The Power of Encouragement

1: Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

2: Proverbs 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

Deuteronomy 1:39 Moreover your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, and your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it.

God is faithful to his promise of giving the land of Canaan to the Israelites. He even includes their little ones and children, who are too young to know between good and evil.

1. God's Promise Is Reliable - Exploring how God is faithful to his promises, even to the little ones and children.

2. Taking Possession of Our Inheritance - Examining how we can take possession of our spiritual inheritance from God.

1. Romans 8:17 - And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Deuteronomy 1:40 But as for you, turn you, and take your journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

The Israelites were instructed to turn and take their journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

1. Taking a Leap of Faith

2. God's Direction: Following the Path of the Red Sea

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Deuteronomy 1:41 Then ye answered and said unto me, We have sinned against the LORD, we will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill.

The people of Israel had sinned against the Lord and despite this they were willing to go up and fight according to the Lord's commands.

1. In times of adversity, even sinners can still turn to God and find strength.

2. God's commands are not to be taken lightly, even when it might not be easy to obey them.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Deuteronomy 1:42 And the LORD said unto me, Say unto them, Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you; lest ye be smitten before your enemies.

God tells Moses to tell the Israelites not to go into battle as He will not be with them, and they will be defeated.

1. God's Presence - Understanding the Importance of Seeking God for Strength and Protection.

2. God's Wisdom - Relying on God's Guidance to Make Right Decisions.

1. 1 Chronicles 28:20, "And David said to his son Solomon, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD."

2. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Deuteronomy 1:43 So I spake unto you; and ye would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD, and went presumptuously up into the hill.

The Israelites refused to obey the Lord and went up into the hill without permission.

1. On Obedience: A Lesson from Deuteronomy 1:43

2. Rejecting Rebellion: The Danger of Presumptuousness

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 -"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

2. Psalm 119:1 - "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD."

Deuteronomy 1:44 And the Amorites, which dwelt in that mountain, came out against you, and chased you, as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, even unto Hormah.

The Amorites chased the Israelites out of Seir and destroyed them as far as Hormah.

1. God's Protection in the Face of Adversity

2. The Strength of God's Love Through Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 1:44

2. Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

Deuteronomy 1:45 And ye returned and wept before the LORD; but the LORD would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you.

The people of Israel wept before the LORD, but He did not listen to their cries.

1. The Power of Persistence in Prayer

2. Facing Disappointment in Prayer

1. James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Luke 18:1-8 - Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

Deuteronomy 1:46 So ye abode in Kadesh many days, according unto the days that ye abode there.

The Israelites stayed in Kadesh for a long period of time.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Providing for His People

2. The Benefits of Obedience to God

1. Psalm 107:7-9 "And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation. 8 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! 9 For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

2. Isaiah 55:11 "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Deuteronomy 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 2:1-7 recounts the instructions given by God to the Israelites regarding their journey. Moses reminds the people that they have been wandering in the wilderness long enough and that it is time to move on. God commands them to turn and go toward the land of Canaan, promising His presence and assistance throughout their journey. Moses also emphasizes that they should not provoke or engage in conflict with the descendants of Esau (Edom) or Moab, as those lands have been given to them as an inheritance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 2:8-23, Moses reflects on their encounters with other nations during their journey. He recalls how they passed through Edom without causing any harm or taking any possessions from them since God had granted Edom its own territory. Similarly, they passed through Moab without conflict, respecting God's command not to provoke war against them.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 2 concludes by highlighting the victories granted by God over other nations along their journey. Moses recounts how they defeated Sihon king of Heshbon and Og king of Bashan, capturing their lands and cities. These victories were part of God's plan for His people and served as a demonstration of His power and faithfulness.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 2 presents:

Instructions for onward journey turning toward Canaan;

Caution against provoking Edom and Moab respecting inheritances;

Victories over Sihon and Og demonstration of God's power.

God's command for onward movement time to leave wilderness;

Caution against provoking Edom and Moab respecting inheritances;

Victories over Sihon and Og manifestation of divine power.

The chapter focuses on the instructions given by God to the Israelites regarding their journey and their encounters with other nations along the way. In Deuteronomy 2, Moses reminds the people that it is time to move on from their long wanderings in the wilderness. God commands them to turn and go toward the land of Canaan, promising His presence and assistance throughout their journey. Moses emphasizes that they should respect and avoid conflict with the descendants of Esau (Edom) and Moab, as those lands have been given to them as inheritances.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 2, Moses reflects on their interactions with other nations during their journey. He recalls how they passed through Edom without causing harm or taking possessions from them since God had granted Edom its own territory. Similarly, they passed through Moab without engaging in war against them, obeying God's command not to provoke conflict.

Deuteronomy 2 concludes by highlighting significant victories granted by God over other nations along their journey. Moses recounts how they defeated Sihon king of Heshbon and Og king of Bashan, capturing their lands and cities. These victories served as demonstrations of God's power and faithfulness to His people as they advanced towards Canaan. It underscored that these conquests were part of God's plan for His chosen nation Israel.

Deuteronomy 2:1 Then we turned, and took our journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea, as the LORD spake unto me: and we compassed mount Seir many days.

The Israelites journeyed in the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea, as instructed by the Lord, and they journeyed around Mount Seir for many days.

1. How to Follow the Lord's Guidance in Difficult Times

2. The Faithfulness of God in Providing Guidance

1. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

2. Isaiah 48:17 - This is what the Lord says-- your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.

Deuteronomy 2:2 And the LORD spake unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Moses, giving him instructions.

1. God speaks to us in many ways, but it is important to listen carefully and follow His instructions.

2. We should be open to God's guidance and trust Him to lead us on the right path.

1. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

2. Psalm 9:10 - Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.

Deuteronomy 2:3 Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward.

God is telling the Israelites to leave the mountain and travel north.

1. God is calling us to move forward in faith.

2. Believing in God can lead us to the right path.

1. Psalm 16:11 "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

2. Isaiah 43:19 "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Deuteronomy 2:4 And command thou the people, saying, Ye are to pass through the coast of your brethren the children of Esau, which dwell in Seir; and they shall be afraid of you: take ye good heed unto yourselves therefore:

The Israelites were instructed to pass through the land of the Edomites, the descendants of Esau, with caution.

1. God calls us to be wise and careful when entering into foreign territory.

2. God commands us to be respectful and mindful of the boundaries of others.

1. Proverbs 14:16 One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.

2. Matthew 7:12 Therefore, whatever you want others to do for you, do also the same for them this is the Law and the Prophets.

Deuteronomy 2:5 Meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; because I have given mount Seir unto Esau for a possession.

God warned the Israelites not to interfere with the Edomites as he had given them the land of Mount Seir as their possession.

1. God's Promises of Provision - How God provided for the Edomites and how he will provide for us.

2. A Call to Remain Humble - How we should remain humble in all things and trust God's plan.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 6:31-33 - Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Deuteronomy 2:6 Ye shall buy meat of them for money, that ye may eat; and ye shall also buy water of them for money, that ye may drink.

God's provision for his people is seen in the importance of having access to water and food.

1: God provides all that we need.

2: We must be thankful for all that God has provided.

1: Matthew 6:31-34 - Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2: Psalm 50:10-11 - For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

Deuteronomy 2:7 For the LORD thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the LORD thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.

God has blessed the people of Israel and provided for all their needs during the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness.

1. The Lord's Provision: Relying on God's goodness and faithfulness in times of need.

2. The Lord's Blessing: Acknowledging God's grace and mercy in our lives.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Trust in God's provision and be not anxious.

2. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Deuteronomy 2:8 And when we passed by from our brethren the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, through the way of the plain from Elath, and from Eziongaber, we turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab.

The passage describes the Israelites passing by from their brethren, the children of Esau, who dwelt in Seir and through the way of the plain from Elath and Eziongaber. They then turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab.

1. God's Faithfulness in our Journeys

2. Walking in Obedience to God's Will

1. Psalm 107:7, "And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation."

2. Isaiah 48:17, "Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go."

Deuteronomy 2:9 And the LORD said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession.

God commanded the Israelites not to attack the Moabites and gave them the land of Ar instead.

1. Trusting God's Plans - Deuteronomy 2:9

2. The Promise of Possession - Deuteronomy 2:9

1. Genesis 19:36-38 - Lot's descendants given Ar

2. Joshua 13:15-22 - Israelites take possession of Ar

Deuteronomy 2:10 The Emims dwelt therein in times past, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims;

The Emims were a great, numerous and tall people who lived in the area before the Anakims.

1. Have faith that God will provide for you no matter the size of the obstacles you face.

2. Do not be intimidated by the size of a problem, trust that God will see you through.

1. Habakkuk 3:17-19 - Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Deuteronomy 2:11 Which also were accounted giants, as the Anakims; but the Moabites call them Emims.

This passage from Deuteronomy describes the Anakims and Emims, both of whom were considered giants.

1. The Power of Faith in God: Looking at Anakims and Emims in Deuteronomy

2. Overcoming Giants: A Study in Deuteronomy 2:11

1. Deuteronomy 2:11

2. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Deuteronomy 2:12 The Horims also dwelt in Seir beforetime; but the children of Esau succeeded them, when they had destroyed them from before them, and dwelt in their stead; as Israel did unto the land of his possession, which the LORD gave unto them.

The Horims had lived in Seir before the children of Esau took their place. Israel did the same to the land God gave them.

1. God's Covenant with His People: A Study in Blessing and Obedience

2. The Blessing of Inheritance: God's Promise to His People

1. Joshua 21:43-45: God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people

2. Deuteronomy 29:10-13: God's faithfulness and covenant with His people to possess the land

Deuteronomy 2:13 Now rise up, said I, and get you over the brook Zered. And we went over the brook Zered.

The passage from Deuteronomy 2:13 describes God instructing the Israelites to cross the brook Zered.

1. "God's Call to Step Out of Comfort Zones"

2. "Crossing the Zered: Taking Steps of Faith"

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Deuteronomy 2:14 And the space in which we came from Kadeshbarnea, until we were come over the brook Zered, was thirty and eight years; until all the generation of the men of war were wasted out from among the host, as the LORD sware unto them.

The Israelites spent 38 years in the wilderness, until all the men of war had died, as God had promised them.

1. God is Faithful - Even if it takes 38 years, God will keep His promises.

2. Life is Fleeting - We must make the most of our time on earth.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. James 4:14 - "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

Deuteronomy 2:15 For indeed the hand of the LORD was against them, to destroy them from among the host, until they were consumed.

God's hand is against those who disobey Him and He will bring judgement upon them.

1: Obey the Lord and His commandments, for He will bring judgement on those who disobey Him.

2: The Lord is a righteous God and His justice will be done upon those who do not obey Him.

1: Psalm 9:16 The LORD is known by the judgment He executes; The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.

2: Romans 12:19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Deuteronomy 2:16 So it came to pass, when all the men of war were consumed and dead from among the people,

The people of Israel lost all their men of war.

1: We must always remember that when we put our trust in God, no force can ultimately stand against us.

2: When faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles, we must always remember to look to God for guidance and strength.

1: Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Deuteronomy 2:17 That the LORD spake unto me, saying,

The passage speaks of God speaking to Moses and asking him to pass on His words to the people.

1. God's Word is Important - Deuteronomy 2:17

2. Listen to the Voice of God - Deuteronomy 2:17

1. Jeremiah 1:4-5 - "Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart.'"

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

Deuteronomy 2:18 Thou art to pass over through Ar, the coast of Moab, this day:

This passage from Deuteronomy instructs the Israelites to pass through Ar on the coast of Moab.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God's Instructions, Even When Uncomfortable

2. Trusting God's Guidance: Knowing that God's Plans are Perfect

1. Psalm 119:105: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. Isaiah 30:21: Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Deuteronomy 2:19 And when thou comest nigh over against the children of Ammon, distress them not, nor meddle with them: for I will not give thee of the land of the children of Ammon any possession; because I have given it unto the children of Lot for a possession.

God commanded the Israelites not to bother or interfere with the Ammonites, as He had already given the land of the Ammonites to the descendants of Lot.

1. God honors His promises and will fulfill His word.

2. We should trust and obey God, even when we don't understand His plan.

1. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Deuteronomy 2:20 (That also was accounted a land of giants: giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims;

)

This verse in Deuteronomy 2:20 states that in old times, the land of giants was inhabited by giants, which are referred to as Zamzummims by the Ammonites.

1. God's promise to protect us from giants.

2. The importance of being aware of our spiritual enemies.

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

2. Ephesians 6:12 - "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Deuteronomy 2:21 A people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; but the LORD destroyed them before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead:

The LORD destroyed the Anakims, a great and tall people, before the Israelites, and allowed the Israelites to take their place and dwell in their stead.

1. The Lord has the power to overcome even the greatest of obstacles.

2. We can trust in the Lord to protect us and provide for us in even the most difficult of circumstances.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Deuteronomy 2:22 As he did to the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, when he destroyed the Horims from before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead even unto this day:

God destroyed the Horims in order to give the children of Esau the land of Seir, and they have been living there ever since.

1. God's justice and mercy: how God can bring both destruction and salvation.

2. The power of faith: trusting in God's plan and provision.

1. Psalm 103:8 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Deuteronomy 2:23 And the Avims which dwelt in Hazerim, even unto Azzah, the Caphtorims, which came forth out of Caphtor, destroyed them, and dwelt in their stead.)

The Avims, who lived in Hazerim, were destroyed by the Caphtorims, who had come from Caphtor. The Caphtorims then took their place.

1. God's Plan for His People: The Caphtorims as an Example

2. Overcoming Adversity and Difficulties Through Faith in God

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 The Armor of God

2. Isaiah 41:10-13 The Lord's Strength for His People

Deuteronomy 2:24 Rise ye up, take your journey, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into thine hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land: begin to possess it, and contend with him in battle.

God commands the Israelites to fight for their land and take possession of it.

1. The Power of Possessing the Promised Land

2. Don't Be Afraid to Fight for What You Believe

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Deuteronomy 2:25 This day will I begin to put the dread of thee and the fear of thee upon the nations that are under the whole heaven, who shall hear report of thee, and shall tremble, and be in anguish because of thee.

God promises to place fear of Israel upon the nations that hear of them.

Best

1. A on how God's promise in Deuteronomy 2:25 is still relevant today.

2. A on how to live out God's promise in Deuteronomy 2:25 in our lives.

Best

1. Isaiah 13:11 - For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Deuteronomy 2:26 And I sent messengers out of the wilderness of Kedemoth unto Sihon king of Heshbon with words of peace, saying,

The passage discusses God sending messengers of peace to Sihon king of Heshbon.

1. The power of peace: How God's messengers can bring reconciliation.

2. The importance of reconciliation between enemies: Changing hearts through God's love.

1. Matthew 5:9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

2. Romans 12:18: If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Deuteronomy 2:27 Let me pass through thy land: I will go along by the high way, I will neither turn unto the right hand nor to the left.

God calls us to stay focused on our paths and to not be swayed by distractions.

1: "God's Path: Staying Focused and Unswayed"

2: "God's Call to Stay on the Right Path"

1: Proverbs 4:25-27, "Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil."

2: Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Deuteronomy 2:28 Thou shalt sell me meat for money, that I may eat; and give me water for money, that I may drink: only I will pass through on my feet;

The passage speaks of the Israelites being able to purchase food and water from others in order to sustain themselves.

1: God provides for us in ways we may not expect.

2: We must be willing to rely on others in times of need.

1: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Matthew 6:26 Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Deuteronomy 2:29 (As the children of Esau which dwell in Seir, and the Moabites which dwell in Ar, did unto me;) until I shall pass over Jordan into the land which the LORD our God giveth us.

The LORD commanded the Israelites to treat the Edomites and Moabites with respect and kindness until they passed over the Jordan.

1. Loving Our Enemies: The Example of the Israelites

2. God's Provision: Entering the Promised Land

1. Romans 12:19-21 - Do not take revenge, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Joshua 1:1-9 - The Lord spoke to Joshua, encouraging him to be strong and courageous and to meditate on the law day and night so that he could be successful in leading the Israelites into the Promised Land.

Deuteronomy 2:30 But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him: for the LORD thy God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate, that he might deliver him into thy hand, as appeareth this day.

The Lord hardened Sihon's spirit and made his heart obstinate so that He could deliver him into Israel's hands.

1. God's Sovereignty Over All Things: Accepting and Embracing His Plans

2. The Power of Obedience: Trusting God's Direction

1. Isaiah 45:7 - I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

2. Romans 8:28- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Deuteronomy 2:31 And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have begun to give Sihon and his land before thee: begin to possess, that thou mayest inherit his land.

The Lord promised to give the land of Sihon to the Israelites.

1. God is faithful to His promises.

2. Possessing the Promised Land.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 4:13-14 - For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect.

Deuteronomy 2:32 Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz.

Sihon and his people fought against the Israelites at Jahaz.

1. Overcoming Opposition: How to Respond to Adversity

2. The Power of Faith: Relying on God's Strength in Times of Trial

1. Hebrews 11:32-40 - The heroes of faith and their example of perseverance.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - Nothing can separate us from God's love.

Deuteronomy 2:33 And the LORD our God delivered him before us; and we smote him, and his sons, and all his people.

The Lord delivered Sihon and his people to the Israelites who then defeated them.

1. God will fight for us when we are faithful to Him.

2. We must remain humble and obedient in order to gain God's favor.

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

2. 1 Samuel 17:47 - "And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

Deuteronomy 2:34 And we took all his cities at that time, and utterly destroyed the men, and the women, and the little ones, of every city, we left none to remain:

The Israelites destroyed every city they encountered, including all its inhabitants.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Sin

2. God's Mercy: Understanding His Love Despite His Wrath

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Isaiah 40:11 - "He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young."

Deuteronomy 2:35 Only the cattle we took for a prey unto ourselves, and the spoil of the cities which we took.

God commands his people to take spoils from their enemies.

1: God provides for his people in unexpected ways.

2: Be humble before victory, and thankful for God's provision.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Deuteronomy 2:36 From Aroer, which is by the brink of the river of Arnon, and from the city that is by the river, even unto Gilead, there was not one city too strong for us: the LORD our God delivered all unto us:

The Lord delivered all the cities to the Israelites between Aroer on the river Arnon and Gilead.

1. God's Promises are Unfailing - Deuteronomy 2:36

2. The Power of Faith - Romans 4:21

1. Joshua 21:43-45 - God gave the Israelites all the land He promised them.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - God's Word will not return to Him empty but will accomplish what He desires.

Deuteronomy 2:37 Only unto the land of the children of Ammon thou camest not, nor unto any place of the river Jabbok, nor unto the cities in the mountains, nor unto whatsoever the LORD our God forbad us.

This passage highlights God's command to the Israelites to stay away from the land of the Ammonites.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Obedience

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Deuteronomy 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 3:1-11 recounts the conquests of Israel under the leadership of Moses against Og, the king of Bashan. Moses describes how they defeated Og and his army, capturing sixty cities in the region of Argob. The chapter provides details about the size and strength of Og, highlighting that he was a giant from the Rephaim, but ultimately God delivered him into the hands of Israel. Moses also mentions that they took possession of this land east of the Jordan River and allocated it to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 3:12-22, Moses addresses the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh who had already received their inheritance on the east side of Jordan. He encourages them to honor their commitment to join their fellow Israelites in crossing over into Canaan to help conquer it before settling down in their allotted lands. Moses reminds them that fulfilling this obligation is crucial for maintaining unity among all tribes.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 3 concludes with Moses recounting his plea to God for permission to enter Canaan. He shares how he pleaded with God multiple times but was ultimately denied due to his disobedience at Meribah when he struck a rock instead of speaking to it as instructed by God. Despite being unable to enter Canaan himself, Moses assures Joshua the appointed leader that God will go before him and grant victory over their enemies just as He did for him.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 3 presents:

Conquest against Og defeat and capture;

Allocation east of Jordan land given to Reuben, Gad, Manasseh;

Exhortation for unity joining fellow Israelites in Canaan conquest.

Conquest of Og, king of Bashan defeat and capture;

Allocation of captured land to Reuben, Gad, Manasseh;

Encouragement for unity joining in Canaan conquest.

The chapter focuses on the conquests led by Moses against Og, the king of Bashan. In Deuteronomy 3, Moses recounts how they defeated Og and his army, capturing sixty cities in the region of Argob. Despite Og's size and strength as a giant from the Rephaim, God delivered him into the hands of Israel. The conquered land east of the Jordan River was then allocated to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 3, Moses addresses the tribes that had already received their inheritance on the east side of Jordan the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh. He encourages them to honor their commitment to join their fellow Israelites in crossing over into Canaan to help conquer it before settling down in their allotted lands. Moses emphasizes that unity among all tribes is essential for success and fulfillment as God's chosen people.

Deuteronomy 3 concludes with Moses recounting his plea to God for permission to enter Canaan. He shares how he pleaded multiple times but was ultimately denied due to his disobedience at Meribah when he struck a rock instead of speaking to it as instructed by God. Although unable to enter Canaan himself, Moses assures Joshua the appointed leader that God will go before him and grant victory over their enemies just as He did for him.

Deuteronomy 3:1 Then we turned, and went up the way to Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.

God delivered His people from Og, King of Bashan.

1.God is faithful to protect and deliver us from our enemies.

2.God is sovereign and powerful; He will take care of us.

1.Isaiah 41:10-13

2.Psalm 34:7-8

Deuteronomy 3:2 And the LORD said unto me, Fear him not: for I will deliver him, and all his people, and his land, into thy hand; and thou shalt do unto him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.

God commands Moses to have faith and trust in Him, for He will deliver the enemy into his hand.

1: Trust in the Lord, for He is faithful and will help us in our battles.

2: We must have faith in God, for He will provide us with strength and courage in the face of adversity.

1: Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2: 2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Deuteronomy 3:3 So the LORD our God delivered into our hands Og also, the king of Bashan, and all his people: and we smote him until none was left to him remaining.

The LORD God delivered Og, the king of Bashan, and his people into the hands of the Israelites, and the Israelites destroyed them all.

1. Be Brave in Your Faith: The Israelites' example of trusting God in the face of overwhelming odds.

2. God's Protection: The LORD God's power to protect His people from their enemies.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

Deuteronomy 3:4 And we took all his cities at that time, there was not a city which we took not from them, threescore cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

This verse recounts the Israelites' conquest of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which included 60 cities in the region of Argob.

1. God will always provide the resources and strength needed to overcome our enemies.

2. The power of faith and obedience to God s commands will always lead to victory.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 37:39 - "The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble."

Deuteronomy 3:5 All these cities were fenced with high walls, gates, and bars; beside unwalled towns a great many.

The cities of the Amorites were fortified with high walls, gates, and bars, as well as many unwalled towns.

1. The Importance of Defending Ourselves Spiritually

2. The Strength of Community in Times of Trouble

1. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.

2. Ephesians 6:11- Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Deuteronomy 3:6 And we utterly destroyed them, as we did unto Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying the men, women, and children, of every city.

The Israelites destroyed the people of every city, including the men, women, and children, just as they did with Sihon king of Heshbon.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Justice and Mercy

1. Isaiah 5:8-9 - Woe to those who join house to house, who add field to field, until there is no more room, and you are made to dwell alone in the midst of the land.

2. Psalm 37:12-13 - The wicked plots against the just, and gnashes his teeth at him; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming.

Deuteronomy 3:7 But all the cattle, and the spoil of the cities, we took for a prey to ourselves.

The Israelites conquered the cities and took the cattle and other spoils for themselves.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: What the Israelites Gained for Following God's Commandments

2. The Power of Faith: How God Enabled the Israelites to Conquer

1. Joshua 10:41 - "And they smote all the cities: and all the spoil of them, and all the cattle, even all the goods, they took for a prey unto themselves."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Deuteronomy 3:8 And we took at that time out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites the land that was on this side Jordan, from the river of Arnon unto mount Hermon;

Moses and the Israelites took possession of land on the east side of the Jordan river from the Arnon river to Mount Hermon.

1. God's Promise of Victory: How Moses and the Israelites Claimed Their Promised Land

2. Possessing What Was Promised: How to Receive God's Riches

1. Deuteronomy 1:7-8 - Turn you, and take your journey, and go to the mount of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the hills, and in the vale, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates. Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them.

2. Isaiah 54:2-3 - Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

Deuteronomy 3:9 (Which Hermon the Sidonians call Sirion; and the Amorites call it Shenir;)

This passage is describing the area around Mount Hermon.

1. The Power of Place: The Significance of Mount Hermon

2. The Wonder of God's Creation: Exploring the Beauty of the Land

1. Psalm 133:3 - It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

2. Psalm 89:12 - The north and the south, you have created them; Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.

Deuteronomy 3:10 All the cities of the plain, and all Gilead, and all Bashan, unto Salchah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

This passage is about the cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Roots: Exploring the Cities of Bashan

2. God's Provision for His People: Ancient Cities of Bashan

1. Joshua 13:12 - All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants: these did Moses slay and drive out.

2. Judges 10:4 - And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havoth-jair unto this day, which are in the land of Gilead.

Deuteronomy 3:11 For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of giants; behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon? nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man.

Og of Bashan was the last of the giants. His bed was made of iron, and it measured nine cubits long and four cubits wide.

1. The Power of Faith: No Matter How Big the Giant, We Can Overcome with God

2. Standing Strong in the Face of Adversity: Og of Bashan and His Iron Bed

1. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:20 - Then David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished.

Deuteronomy 3:12 And this land, which we possessed at that time, from Aroer, which is by the river Arnon, and half mount Gilead, and the cities thereof, gave I unto the Reubenites and to the Gadites.

Moses gave the land of Aroer and half of Mount Gilead to the Reubenites and Gadites.

1. The Generosity of God's Grace

2. The Power of Giving

1. Romans 8:32 - He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

2. Ephesians 4:28 - Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Deuteronomy 3:13 And the rest of Gilead, and all Bashan, being the kingdom of Og, gave I unto the half tribe of Manasseh; all the region of Argob, with all Bashan, which was called the land of giants.

God gave the half-tribe of Manasseh the land of Bashan, which was known as the land of giants.

1. Overcome Your Giants: Conquering Fear with Faith

2. Possessing God's Promises: Claim What is Already Yours

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears.

Deuteronomy 3:14 Jair the son of Manasseh took all the country of Argob unto the coasts of Geshuri and Maachathi; and called them after his own name, Bashanhavothjair, unto this day.

Jair the son of Manasseh conquered the country of Argob and renamed it Bashanhavothjair, a name that remains to this day.

1. The Power of a Name: How a Name Can Outlast Generations

2. The Impact of a Person: How One Person Can Make a Lasting Impact

1. Isaiah 43:1 - But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

Deuteronomy 3:15 And I gave Gilead unto Machir.

The Lord gave Gilead to Machir.

1: God's Generosity

We see from this passage in Deuteronomy that the Lord is generous and willing to bless us with what we need.

2: Faithfulness and Provision

We can trust that the Lord will faithfully provide for us and meet our needs.

1: Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2: Psalm 68:19 - Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

Deuteronomy 3:16 And unto the Reubenites and unto the Gadites I gave from Gilead even unto the river Arnon half the valley, and the border even unto the river Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon;

God gave the Reubenites and Gadites the land of Gilead, from the Arnon River to the Jabbok River.

1. God's Generosity in Giving - Deuteronomy 3:16

2. The Importance of Sharing - Luke 6:38

1. Ephesians 4:28 - "Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give to him who has need."

2. James 2:14-17 - "What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, Depart in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?"

Deuteronomy 3:17 The plain also, and Jordan, and the coast thereof, from Chinnereth even unto the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, under Ashdothpisgah eastward.

The passage describes the geographical area of the plain of the Jordan River from Chinnereth to the Salt Sea eastward, under the region of Ashdothpisgah.

1. God is in Control of Every Detail of Creation

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 139:13-16 - For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Deuteronomy 3:18 And I commanded you at that time, saying, The LORD your God hath given you this land to possess it: ye shall pass over armed before your brethren the children of Israel, all that are meet for the war.

The LORD commanded the Israelites to pass over armed before their brethren who were fit for battle, in order to possess the land He had given them.

1. The Power of Obedience and Faith in Action

2. Preparing for Battle with God at the Helm

1. Joshua 1:5-9 Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God.

Deuteronomy 3:19 But your wives, and your little ones, and your cattle, (for I know that ye have much cattle,) shall abide in your cities which I have given you;

God assures the Israelites that their families, possessions, and livestock will remain safe in the cities given to them.

1. God's Provision: Rely on His Faithfulness for Your Security

2. Courage in the Face of Danger: God's Promises for Protection

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

Deuteronomy 3:20 Until the LORD have given rest unto your brethren, as well as unto you, and until they also possess the land which the LORD your God hath given them beyond Jordan: and then shall ye return every man unto his possession, which I have given you.

The LORD commands his people to wait until their brothers have rested and possess the promised land before they return to their own possessions.

1. Waiting on God's Timing: Trusting in His Plan

2. Sharing God's Blessings: United in His Call

1. Psalm 37:3-7 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Deuteronomy 3:21 And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, Thine eyes have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto these two kings: so shall the LORD do unto all the kingdoms whither thou passest.

God's power is evident in the destruction of two kings, and He will do the same to any other kingdom His people pass through.

1. Trust in God's Power - Deuteronomy 3:21

2. Relying on God's Strength - Deuteronomy 3:21

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do not be afraid, for I am with you

2. Psalm 118:6 - The Lord is on my side; I will not fear

Deuteronomy 3:22 Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God he shall fight for you.

God encourages us to not be afraid as He will fight for us.

1. God is Our Defender - Deuteronomy 3:22

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith - Deuteronomy 3:22

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Deuteronomy 3:23 And I besought the LORD at that time, saying,

God hears and answers prayers with grace and mercy.

1. The Lord's Grace - How God's mercy is ever present in our lives.

2. Praying in Faith - How trusting in God can bring about answered prayers.

1. Romans 8:26-27 - The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for us in prayer.

2. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Deuteronomy 3:24 O Lord GOD, thou hast begun to shew thy servant thy greatness, and thy mighty hand: for what God is there in heaven or in earth, that can do according to thy works, and according to thy might?

Moses praises God for His greatness and wonders who can match His works and might.

1. The Unfathomable Greatness of God

2. Appreciating the Lord's Magnificent Might

1. Jeremiah 32:17 Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.

2. Isaiah 40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Deuteronomy 3:25 I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.

The passage talks about the desire of Moses to see the land of Canaan.

1. Trusting the Lord's plan even when our vision is limited

2. Having faith to go forward even when the path is uncertain

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Deuteronomy 3:26 But the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the LORD said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter.

Despite Moses' pleas, the LORD refused to allow Moses to enter the Promised Land due to the Israelites' disobedience.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Lessons from Moses

2. God's Mercy and Justice: How to Respond to Unmet Expectations

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 5:20 - "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

Deuteronomy 3:27 Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold it with thine eyes: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

Moses is instructed to ascend to the top of Pisgah and observe the land around him in all directions, but he will not be able to cross the Jordan.

1. The Importance of Perspective: Taking Time to Look Around

2. The Importance of Accepting Our Limitations

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

Deuteronomy 3:28 But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see.

Moses encourages Joshua to lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land.

1: God's faith in us is greater than our faith in ourselves.

2: God's promises are sure and secure.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 3:29 So we abode in the valley over against Bethpeor.

The Israelites dwelt in the valley near Bethpeor.

1: God directs us to places of provision and security.

2: God's guidance is essential to our wellbeing.

1: Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

2: Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Deuteronomy 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 4:1-14 emphasizes the importance of obeying God's commandments and following His statutes. Moses instructs the Israelites to listen and observe the laws given to them, for they are a wise and understanding nation in the eyes of other nations. He warns against adding or subtracting from God's commandments, urging them to keep them diligently. Moses reminds the people of their encounter with God at Mount Sinai when He spoke to them directly, emphasizing that they should not forget this experience or make idols for themselves.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 4:15-31, Moses cautions against idolatry and warns of the consequences that come from turning away from God. He reminds the Israelites that they did not see any form when God spoke to them at Mount Sinai, therefore they should not make images or worship anything other than Him. Moses explains that if they turn to idolatry, they will be scattered among the nations as a result of their disobedience. However, he also reassures them that if they seek God wholeheartedly and repent, He will be merciful and gather them back.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 4 concludes by highlighting the uniqueness of Israel's relationship with God. Moses emphasizes that no other nation has experienced what Israel has God speaking directly to His people and delivering them out of Egypt with mighty signs and wonders. He encourages obedience to God's laws as a demonstration of their wisdom before other nations who will witness their righteous statutes. Moses reminds them once again not to forget what they have seen but rather teach it diligently to future generations.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 4 presents:

Importance of obeying commandments wise nation;

Caution against idolatry consequences of turning away;

Uniqueness of Israel's relationship with God teaching future generations.

Emphasis on obeying God's commandments wise and understanding nation;

Warning against idolatry consequences of turning away from God;

Uniqueness of Israel's relationship with God teaching future generations.

The chapter focuses on the importance of obedience to God's commandments and the consequences that come from turning away from Him. In Deuteronomy 4, Moses instructs the Israelites to listen and observe the laws given to them, emphasizing that they are a wise and understanding nation in the eyes of other nations. He warns against adding or subtracting from these commandments, urging them to keep them diligently. Moses reminds them not to forget their encounter with God at Mount Sinai when He spoke directly to them and warns against making idols for themselves.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 4, Moses cautions against idolatry and explains that worshiping anything other than God will result in scattering among the nations as a consequence of disobedience. He reminds the people that they did not see any form when God spoke to them at Mount Sinai, therefore they should not make images or worship false gods. However, Moses reassures them that if they seek God wholeheartedly and repent, He will be merciful and gather them back.

Deuteronomy 4 concludes by highlighting the uniqueness of Israel's relationship with God. Moses emphasizes that no other nation has experienced what Israel has the direct communication from God and His deliverance out of Egypt through mighty signs and wonders. He encourages obedience to God's laws as a demonstration of their wisdom before other nations who will witness their righteous statutes. Moses once again urges them not to forget what they have seen but rather teach it diligently to future generations so that they may continue in faithfulness.

Deuteronomy 4:1 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

Moses encourages the Israelites to listen to his teachings and obey the laws and commands of God in order to live and possess the promised land.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing - Deuteronomy 4:1

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness - Deuteronomy 4:1

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Joshua 1:8 - This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Deuteronomy 4:2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

God commands His people to not add or subtract from His Word.

1. The importance of following the Lord's Word exactly.

2. How to ensure that we remain faithful to God's commandments.

1. Revelation 22:18-19 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

2. Proverbs 30:5-6 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Deuteronomy 4:3 Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baalpeor: for all the men that followed Baalpeor, the LORD thy God hath destroyed them from among you.

God destroyed all those who followed Baalpeor from among the Israelites.

1. The consequences of following false gods.

2. The importance of following the one true God.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:6-14 - Paul's warning against idolatry.

2. Jeremiah 10:1-5 - A warning against worshipping false gods.

Deuteronomy 4:4 But ye that did cleave unto the LORD your God are alive every one of you this day.

The people of Israel are being reminded that those who were loyal to God are still alive today.

1. It s Never Too Late: God s Unending Faithfulness

2. The Promise of Life: Relying on God s Mercy

1. Psalm 136:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Deuteronomy 4:5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

This passage speaks of God's commandments and decrees that must be kept when in the Promised Land.

1. God's Commandments: Our Path to Life in the Promised Land

2. Keeping the Law: Our Covenant with God

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path."

2. Matthew 5:17-19 - "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Deuteronomy 4:6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

This passage encourages the Israelites to keep the Lord's commandments, as it is evidence of their wisdom and understanding to the nations.

1. Obey the Lord's Commandments and Reap the Rewards

2. Embrace God's Wisdom and Let Your Light Shine

1. Psalm 19:7-8 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Deuteronomy 4:7 For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

This passage from Deuteronomy 4:7 highlights God's nearness to the people of Israel and the great nation they are because of it.

1. God Is Always Near: Understanding God's Presence In Our Lives

2. Recognizing God's Faithfulness: Celebrating God's Nearness To His People

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Deuteronomy 4:8 And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

This passage highlights the greatness of God's law and how it is more righteous than any other law of any nation.

1. All Praise to God Who Gives Us His Righteous Law

2. God's Law Is Greater Than Any Law of Any Nation

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

2. James 2:10 - For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Deuteronomy 4:9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

God commands us to remember the things we have seen and experienced, and to teach them to our children and grandchildren.

1. Remembering and Sharing: Why God Commands Us to Take Heed

2. Passing Down Wisdom: The Importance of Teaching Our Children

1. Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

2. Romans 15:4 "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

Deuteronomy 4:10 Specially the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.

The LORD spoke to the people of Israel at Horeb and commanded them to learn to fear him and to teach their children the same.

1. The Fear of the Lord: Teaching Our Children the Fear of the Lord

2. God's Call to Hear His Word: The Significance of Horeb

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Deuteronomy 6:6-7, "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Deuteronomy 4:11 And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness.

This passage describes the terrifying experience of the Israelites standing under a mountain that was burning with fire to the middle of the heavens.

1. A Call to Holiness: The Holiness of God

2. Living in Fear or Living in Faith: A Lesson from Deuteronomy 4:11

1. Isaiah 6:1-3, In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

2. Psalm 19:1, The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Deuteronomy 4:12 And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice.

God spoke to the Israelites from the midst of a fire, but they only heard His voice and didn't see any form.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning to Trust the Unseen

2. God Speaks: Listening to Divine Direction

1. Hebrews 11:1-3, Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. 1 John 4:7-8, Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Deuteronomy 4:13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

God revealed His covenant to the Israelites, which they were commanded to obey, and it was written on two tablets of stone.

1. The Power of God's Covenant: How to Live in Accordance with God's Promises

2. The Ten Commandments: Knowing and Obeying God's Moral Law

1. Psalm 119:11 - "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Deuteronomy 4:14 And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it.

Moses is commanded by the Lord to teach the Israelites statutes and judgments as they prepare to enter the promised land.

1. Trusting in God's Protection and Guidance - Deuteronomy 4:14

2. Following God's Commandments - Deuteronomy 4:14

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Deuteronomy 4:15 Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day that the LORD spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire:

On the day that the Lord spoke to the people of Israel at Horeb, He warned them not to forget what He said and to take care of themselves.

1. Remember What God Taught You

2. Taking Care of Yourself in the Light of God's Word

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Psalm 119:11 - "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Deuteronomy 4:16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,

This passage warns against worshipping idols, reminding the listener that they should not make any image of a man or woman.

1. Worship Only God: A on the Dangers of Idolatry

2. Keeping God's Commands: Why We Should Follow the Warnings of Deuteronomy 4:16

1. Isaiah 44:9-20 God's rebuke of those who make idols and worship them.

2. Romans 1:18-23 A description of how idolatry leads to moral depravity.

Deuteronomy 4:17 The likeness of any beast that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air,

God's people must remember to not make idols from images of any creature that lives on the earth or flies in the air.

1. Idolatry: Don't Make Images of Anything Living

2. Remembering the Lord: Keeping Away from Idolatry

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - You shall have no other gods before Me.

2. Isaiah 44:9-20 - Do not fear, nor be afraid; have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.

Deuteronomy 4:18 The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth:

The Lord God instructs us not to make any likeness of creatures living on the ground or in the waters.

1. Walk in the ways of the Lord and do not be deceived by false idols.

2. Let us turn away from the temptation of worshipping false gods and instead devote ourselves to the one true God.

1. Exodus 20:4-5 - "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them."

2. 1 John 5:21 - "Dear children, keep yourselves from idols."

Deuteronomy 4:19 And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

God instructs his people not to worship the sun, moon, stars, and other heavenly bodies, since he has given them to all nations.

1. What it Means to Worship God, Not the Heavens

2. A Call to Remember Who We Worship

1. Isaiah 40:25-26 - To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

2. Psalm 115:3-5 - But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not.

Deuteronomy 4:20 But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.

God has rescued the Israelites from Egypt and made them His chosen people.

1. God's loving protection: the story of the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt.

2. God's faithfulness: the promise of a people of inheritance.

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - "And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

Deuteronomy 4:21 Furthermore the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and sware that I should not go over Jordan, and that I should not go in unto that good land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance:

God was angry with Moses because of the Israelites' disobedience and swore that Moses would not be able to enter the promised land.

1. The consequences of disobedience

2. The importance of following God's commands

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Deuteronomy 30:19 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants."

Deuteronomy 4:22 But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to go over the Jordan and take possession of the good land, as He would not be going with them.

1. Possessing God's Promises: Taking Hold of the Land of Promise in Obedience to the Lord

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt: Trusting in the Lord's Provision for His People

1. Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 37:5, "Commit your way to the Lord, trust in Him, and He will act."

Deuteronomy 4:23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

Moses instructs the Israelites to remember the covenant God made with them and to not create any idols or images of things which the Lord has forbidden.

1. Remembering the Covenant: Fulfilling God's Will in Our Lives

2. Keeping the Covenant: Living a Life of Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 5:29 - Oh, that they had such a heart as this always, to fear me and to keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their descendants forever!

2. Psalm 78:7 - That they might set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

Deuteronomy 4:24 For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

God is a consuming fire, jealous for His people and their obedience to Him.

1: God's Exacting Love: How our obedience brings Him glory.

2: The Jealousy of the Lord: How to honor God and remain faithful to Him.

1: Isaiah 48:10 - Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

2: Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Deuteronomy 4:25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger:

The people of Israel are warned not to make any graven images to worship, as it will provoke God's anger.

1. Don't Be Deceived: The Danger of Idolatry

2. A Call to Faithfulness: The Blessing of Obeying God's Commandments

1. Romans 1:25 - For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.

2. Jeremiah 10:14-15 - Every man is stupid, devoid of knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his molten images are deceitful, and there is no breath in them.

Deuteronomy 4:26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

God is warning the Israelites that they will be destroyed if they do not obey His commands.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding Deuteronomy 4:26

2. The Greatness of God's Mercy: Acknowledging Deuteronomy 4:26

1. Proverbs 11:19 - He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.

2. Psalm 37:38 - But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.

Deuteronomy 4:27 And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you.

The LORD will scatter the Israelites among many nations, leaving them few in number and leading them to wherever He chooses.

1: God's Sovereignty and Guidance

2: God's Love and Faithfulness amid Trial

1: Isaiah 43:2-3 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Deuteronomy 4:28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

The Israelites were warned not to worship idols, which were made by humans, as they were unable to see, hear, eat, or smell.

1. Don't be fooled by false gods; only God can truly offer salvation.

2. Idolatry leads to spiritual blindness; turn to God for true insight.

1. Matthew 4:9-10 And he said to him, You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.

2. Isaiah 44:9-20 All who make idols are nothing, and the things they treasure are worthless. Those who would speak up for them are blind; they are ignorant, to their own shame.

Deuteronomy 4:29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

God rewards those who seek Him with all their heart.

1. God is Faithful to Those Who Seek Him

2. The Rewards of Seeking God

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

2. James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

Deuteronomy 4:30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

In times of trouble and distress, we are encouraged to turn to God and obey his word.

1. The Power of Obedience: How to Find Strength in Times of Trouble

2. God's Promises in Times of Distress: How to Lean on Him for Comfort

1. Deuteronomy 4:30 - When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Deuteronomy 4:31 (For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

God is a merciful God and will never abandon His people. He will keep His covenant and fulfill His promises.

1. "The Covenant of God: A Gift to His People"

2. "God's Unfailing Love: A Source of Comfort and Hope"

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Deuteronomy 4:32 For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it?

In Deuteronomy 4:32, God challenges the Israelites to search throughout history to see if any nation has ever experienced anything as great as the Lord has done for them.

1. "The Greatness of God's Love for His People"

2. "The Unparalleled Wonders of God's Grace"

1. Psalm 145:3 - "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Deuteronomy 4:33 Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?

The passage emphasizes the miraculous experience of the Israelites in hearing the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire and living.

1) God's Voice is a Miracle: Experiencing the Unimaginable

2) Re-living the Miraculous: Embracing the Power of God's Voice

1) Isaiah 30:21 - And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2) Psalm 29:3-5 - The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the Lord is upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars; yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.

Deuteronomy 4:34 Or hath God assayed to go and take him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

God has proven himself to be a powerful protector and savior to His people.

1. The Lord Our God is Mighty to Save

2. Our Faith in the Lord is Strengthened Through His Miracles

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

Deuteronomy 4:35 Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.

God is the only true God, and there is no other.

1: The Lord is the only one who can bring us true peace and joy.

2: We must seek the Lord, for He alone is our salvation.

1: Isaiah 45:21-22 - Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me.

2: Psalm 86:10 - For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Deuteronomy 4:36 Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.

God speaks to us both through his word and through his presence.

1: Listen to God's voice and be instructed.

2: Be filled with awe and reverence for God and his great fire.

1: Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

2: 1 Thessalonians 2:13 - "And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe."

Deuteronomy 4:37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;

God showed His great love for the Israelites by bringing them out of Egypt with His mighty power.

1. God's Unconditional Love for His People

2. The Power of God's Mighty Hand

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 18:1-2 - I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Deuteronomy 4:38 To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day.

God's faithfulness to His people and His promise to bring them into a land of their own.

1: God's faithfulness is evidenced in His promise to provide us with a place to call our own.

2: In the face of all odds, God will always be there to bring us home.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Deuteronomy 4:39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

God is the only true God and Lord of Heaven and Earth.

1. God's Sovereignty: Seeing the Lord as the One True Sovereign

2. Knowing the Lord: Recognizing God as the Only Lord

1. Isaiah 40:22- He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.

2. Psalm 86:8- Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works.

Deuteronomy 4:40 Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever.

This passage encourages us to obey God's commandments so that we may have a prosperous life.

1. "Obedience Brings Blessings"

2. "Living a Life of Faithfulness to God"

1. Psalm 19:7-11 - The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul; the testimony of the Lord is trustworthy, making wise the simple.

8 The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart; the commandment of the Lord is radiant, giving light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous.

10 They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.

11 By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

Deuteronomy 4:41 Then Moses severed three cities on this side Jordan toward the sunrising;

Moses set aside three cities to the east of the Jordan River.

1. God calls us to protect the vulnerable, even in difficult times.

2. God shows us that He cares for us and provides for us even in difficult times.

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Deuteronomy 4:42 That the slayer might flee thither, which should kill his neighbour unawares, and hated him not in times past; and that fleeing unto one of these cities he might live:

This passage from Deuteronomy explains how fleeing to one of the designated cities of refuge could provide protection for someone who had killed another unintentionally.

1. See How God Provides Refuge and Redemption

2. The Power of Forgiveness and Righteousness

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. Isaiah 32:2 "Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land."

Deuteronomy 4:43 Namely, Bezer in the wilderness, in the plain country, of the Reubenites; and Ramoth in Gilead, of the Gadites; and Golan in Bashan, of the Manassites.

God's faithfulness to His people is demonstrated through the land He gave them.

1: We can trust God to be faithful to us just as He was faithful to the Israelites.

2: We can take comfort in the fact that God is always with us, no matter our circumstances.

1: Psalm 136:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

2: Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 4:44 And this is the law which Moses set before the children of Israel:

Moses' law was given to the children of Israel as a guide for their lives.

1. God has given us His law so that we can live a life pleasing to Him.

2. We must strive to follow the law of God in all our actions.

1. Matthew 5:17-20 - Jesus emphasizes the importance of obeying God's law.

2. Romans 8:3-4 - We are able to fulfill God's law through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Deuteronomy 4:45 These are the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which Moses spake unto the children of Israel, after they came forth out of Egypt,

Moses spoke to the children of Israel about the testimonies, statutes, and judgments after they left Egypt.

1. Listen to God's Commands and Find Freedom

2. Keep God's Covenant and Experience Blessing

1. Exodus 20:2-17 The Ten Commandments

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 The Shema Israel

Deuteronomy 4:46 On this side Jordan, in the valley over against Bethpeor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon, whom Moses and the children of Israel smote, after they were come forth out of Egypt:

Moses and the children of Israel conquered the Amorites in the valley of Bethpeor after leaving Egypt.

1. The Strength of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Obedience to God

1. Joshua 1:5-6 - "No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

Deuteronomy 4:47 And they possessed his land, and the land of Og king of Bashan, two kings of the Amorites, which were on this side Jordan toward the sunrising;

The Israelites possessed the land of two Amorite kings, the land of Og king of Bashan and the other side of Jordan towards the east.

1. Possessing the Promised Land: A Study of Deuteronomy 4:47

2. Understanding the Land of the Amorites: A Look at the Possession of the Israelites

1. Joshua 1:2-3 - Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

2. Genesis 12:7 - And the Lord appeared to Abram and said, To your offspring I will give this land. So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

Deuteronomy 4:48 From Aroer, which is by the bank of the river Arnon, even unto mount Sion, which is Hermon,

The passage describes the geographical area from Aroer to Mount Sion, which is Hermon.

1. Learning the Boundaries of Our Faith: Exploring the Landscape of Our Spiritual Journeys

2. Putting Our Faith into Practice: Living Out the Teaching of Deuteronomy 4:48

1. Joshua 2:10 - "For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed."

2. Numbers 21:13 - "From there they set out and camped on the other side of the Arnon, which is in the desert coming out of the border of the Amorites, for the Arnon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites."

Deuteronomy 4:49 And all the plain on this side Jordan eastward, even unto the sea of the plain, under the springs of Pisgah.

Moses is instructing the Israelites to remember that the land they are occupying extends to the east of the Jordan River, ending at the Sea of the Plain, which is located near the Pisgah Springs.

1. "The Blessings of Occupying Promised Land"

2. "God's Promise of Land Fulfilled"

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Numbers 34:3 - Then your south quarter shall be from the wilderness of Zin along by the coast of Edom, and your south border shall be the outmost coast of the salt sea eastward:

Deuteronomy 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 5:1-22 recounts the restating of the Ten Commandments by Moses to the Israelites. He reminds them of God's covenant and how He spoke to them from Mount Sinai, giving them these commandments. Moses emphasizes the importance of obeying these laws, which cover various aspects of their relationship with God and fellow human beings. The Ten Commandments include instructions regarding worshiping only one God, not making idols, keeping the Sabbath holy, honoring parents, and refraining from murder, adultery, theft, false witness, and coveting.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 5:23-33, Moses reflects on the people's response when they heard God speaking directly to them at Mount Sinai. They were afraid due to His majesty and power and requested that Moses act as an intermediary between them and God. They acknowledged that listening directly to God's voice could lead to their destruction because of His holiness. In response to their plea for Moses' intercession, he encourages them to continue in their fear of God and obedience to His commandments so that they may prosper in the land promised by Him.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 5 concludes with Moses urging the Israelites to pay attention and observe all the statutes and ordinances given by God. He emphasizes that following these laws will result in blessings for generations to come while disregarding or disobeying them will lead to negative consequences. Moses reminds them of their deliverance from Egypt by a mighty hand through signs and wonders performed by God. He encourages faithfulness towards Yahweh their covenant-keeping God and warns against turning aside after other gods.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 5 presents:

Restating of Ten Commandments God's covenant;

Fear of God's majesty request for Moses' intercession;

Emphasis on obedience blessings and warnings.

Restating of Ten Commandments God's covenant renewed;

Acknowledgment of God's holiness request for intermediary;

Importance of obedience blessings and consequences.

The chapter focuses on the restating of the Ten Commandments by Moses to the Israelites. In Deuteronomy 5, he reminds them of God's covenant and how He spoke directly to them from Mount Sinai, giving them these commandments. Moses emphasizes the significance of obeying these laws, which cover various aspects of their relationship with God and fellow human beings. The commandments include instructions regarding worshiping only one God, keeping the Sabbath holy, honoring parents, refraining from murder, adultery, theft, false witness, and coveting.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 5, Moses reflects on the people's response when they heard God speaking directly to them at Mount Sinai. They were overwhelmed by His majesty and power and requested that Moses act as an intermediary between them and God. They recognized that listening directly to God's voice could lead to their destruction due to His holiness. In response to their plea for his intercession, Moses encourages them to continue in their fear of God and obedience to His commandments so that they may prosper in the land promised by Him.

Deuteronomy 5 concludes with Moses urging the Israelites to pay attention and observe all the statutes and ordinances given by God. He emphasizes that following these laws will result in blessings for generations while disregarding or disobeying them will lead to negative consequences. Moses reminds them of their deliverance from Egypt through signs and wonders performed by a mighty hand. He encourages faithfulness towards Yahweh their covenant-keeping God and warns against turning aside after other gods or following any form of idolatry.

Deuteronomy 5:1 And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.

Moses called all of Israel to listen to the statutes and judgments he was speaking and to learn from them.

1. The importance of living God's laws.

2. Obedience to God's commands.

1. Matthew 28:20 - "teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you"

2. Psalm 119:4 - "You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

Deuteronomy 5:2 The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

The LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel at Horeb.

1: God is faithful and always keeps His promises.

2: The importance of obedience to God's covenant.

1: Hebrews 8:10-12 - This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

2: Jeremiah 31:31-34 - Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord.

Deuteronomy 5:3 The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.

God's covenant is with us, the living, not just with our ancestors.

1. God's Unchanging Covenant

2. The Covenant for the Living

1. Hebrews 13:8, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever

2. Isaiah 59:21, As for me, this is my covenant with them, says the LORD. My Spirit, who is on you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and forever, declares the LORD.

Deuteronomy 5:4 The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire,

God spoke to us directly in the presence of a great fire.

1: God desires a close and personal relationship with us, and will speak to us when we seek Him.

2: The Lord is always present with us, even in times of difficulty and challenge.

1: Exodus 34:29-30 - When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord.

2: 1 John 1:1-2 - That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

Deuteronomy 5:5 (I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to shew you the word of the LORD: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount;) saying,

The Lord commanded Moses to share His word with the Israelites, reminding them of the Ten Commandments, so that they may keep His laws and be blessed.

1: We must remember to keep the Lord's commandments so that we may be blessed.

2: Fear of the Lord can lead to greater obedience and understanding of His word.

1: Psalm 19:7-11, The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

2: Matthew 5:17-20, Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Deuteronomy 5:6 I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

God reminds the Israelites of his power and benevolence by reminding them of how He liberated them from the bondage of Egypt.

1: God's Power to Liberate Us from Bondage

2: The Benefits of Obeying God's Commandments

1: Psalm 107:2 - Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

2: Exodus 3:7-10 - And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows.

Deuteronomy 5:7 Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

The Lord commands us not to worship any other god before Him.

1. The Importance of Keeping God at the Forefront of Our Lives

2. God Deserves Our Undivided Attention

1. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. Ephesians 4:5-6 - One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Deuteronomy 5:8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

The Lord commands us not to make any graven images or likenesses of anything in heaven, earth, or the waters beneath the earth.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God's Commandments in Deuteronomy 5:8

2. The Meaning of True Worship: Understanding the Purpose of Deuteronomy 5:8

1. Exodus 20:4-5; Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

2. Isaiah 40:18-20; To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

Deuteronomy 5:9 Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me,

God is a jealous God and will punish the iniquity of fathers to three and four generations of those who hate Him.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

2. The Importance of Loving God and Keeping His Commandments

1. Exodus 20:5-6 "You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

2. Romans 2:5-8 But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will render to each one according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

Deuteronomy 5:10 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

God commands us to love Him and to keep His commandments, and shows mercy to those who do.

1. Love the Lord and Obey His Commandments

2. Receive Mercy from the Lord

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

2. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Deuteronomy 5:11 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

This passage reminds us that we should not use God's name in an inappropriate or irreverent way.

1. Respect the Lord's Name- Learning to Honor God with Our Words

2. The Power of Words- Why It Is Important to Speak Carefully

1. Exodus 20:7- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

2. James 3:9-10 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Deuteronomy 5:12 Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

God commands us to keep the Sabbath day holy.

1. Make Time for Rest and Rejuvenation: The Importance of the Sabbath

2. Honor God with Your Time: Keeping the Sabbath Holy

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Colossians 2:16-17 - Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days.

Deuteronomy 5:13 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

God calls us to work hard and complete the tasks that are put before us.

1: God calls us to be diligent and responsible in our daily lives.

2: We are to use our time and resources wisely, as if serving the Lord.

1: Ephesians 6:5-7 - Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

2: Colossians 3:23-24 - And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Deuteronomy 5:14 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.

God commands the Israelites to observe the Sabbath by abstaining from work, not only for themselves but also for their servants, livestock, and strangers.

1. God's Gift of Rest: A Reflection on the Sabbath

2. The Call to Love Our Neighbors: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 5:14

1. Mark 2:27-28 And he said to them, The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.

2. Ex 20:8-11 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Deuteronomy 5:15 And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

God commanded the Israelites to keep the Sabbath day as a reminder of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

1. "Resting in God's Provision"

2. "The Sabbath: An Invitation to Remembrance"

1. Exodus 20:8-11; 31:12-17

2. Isaiah 58:13-14; Jeremiah 17:19-27

Deuteronomy 5:16 Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Honour your parents as God has commanded, so that you may live a long life and have success in the land God has given you.

1. The Benefits of Honouring Our Parents

2. Living a Long Life in God's Land

1. Ephesians 6:1-3, Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 23:22, Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

Deuteronomy 5:17 Thou shalt not kill.

This passage is warning against killing and reminding us of our responsibility to protect life.

1: Jesus said, Love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:39) Let us remember this and respect life by honoring God s command to not kill.

2: We have been given the gift of life, and must not take it away from others. As Deuteronomy 5:17 reminds us, Thou shalt not kill.

1: Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

2: Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for God made man in his own image. (Genesis 9:6)

Deuteronomy 5:18 Neither shalt thou commit adultery.

God commands us not to commit adultery.

1. The Danger of Adultery: How to Resist Temptation.

2. The Blessing of Faithfulness: How to Live in Obedience to God.

1. Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

2. Proverbs 6:32 - Whoever commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.

Deuteronomy 5:19 Neither shalt thou steal.

This passage from Deuteronomy 5:19 reminds us that stealing is wrong and that we should be honest in all our dealings.

1: We should seek to be honest and not steal, as God has commanded us.

2: We should strive to be a people of integrity, exemplifying God's holiness in all our dealings.

1: Ephesians 4:28 - Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

2: Proverbs 11:1 - A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight.

Deuteronomy 5:20 Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour.

This passage emphasizes the importance of telling the truth in our relationships with others.

1: The Power of Truth: Honoring Our Neighbors through Honesty.

2: Bearing False Witness: The Danger of Deceiving Our Neighbors.

1: Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

2: Ephesians 4:25 - "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another."

Deuteronomy 5:21 Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

God commands that we should not covet anything that belongs to our neighbors.

1. Sin of Coveting: Understanding the Commandments of God.

2. The Value of Contentment: Living by God's Standards.

1. James 4:2-3 - You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.

2. 1 Timothy 6: 6-8 - But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Deuteronomy 5:22 These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.

The LORD spoke to the Israelites from out of the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness with a great voice and wrote the words on two tables of stone.

1. God's Word is Mighty and Powerful

2. The Power of the Written Word

1. Psalm 19:7-11

2. Romans 10:17

Deuteronomy 5:23 And it came to pass, when ye heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;

The Israelites heard the voice of God from the burning mountain and approached Him with all their leaders and elders.

1. Don't be afraid to approach God in the midst of darkness.

2. Trust God in the midst of difficult circumstances.

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Deuteronomy 5:24 And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth.

The people of Israel experienced God's glory, greatness and heard His voice from the midst of the fire, showing that God can talk with man and He lives.

1. The Reality of God's Presence: Experiencing God Through His Voice

2. How to Live Out a Faithful Life: Understanding the Blessing and Responsibility of Hearing God's Voice

1. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 - For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

2. Psalm 33:6 - By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Deuteronomy 5:25 Now therefore why should we die? for this great fire will consume us: if we hear the voice of the LORD our God any more, then we shall die.

The Israelites feared that if they heard God's voice again, they would die.

1. The Fear of God: Overcoming Our Fear of His Power

2. Learning to Trust God: Releasing Our Fear of His Authority

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 56:3-4 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

Deuteronomy 5:26 For who is there of all flesh, that hath heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?

Moses reminds the Israelites that no one has ever heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire and lived, except for them.

1. God's voice speaks life - Deuteronomy 5:26

2. The Uniqueness of the Israelites - Deuteronomy 5:26

1. Exodus 3:2-17 - God speaks to Moses from a burning bush

2. Isaiah 43:2 - God calls his people by name

Deuteronomy 5:27 Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak unto thee; and we will hear it, and do it.

God calls us to listen to His word and obey it.

1: God's Word: Listen, Obey, and Be Blessed

2: The Greatness of God: Our Duty to Listen and Obey

1: James 1:22-25, But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2: Matthew 7:24-26, Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

Deuteronomy 5:28 And the LORD heard the voice of your words, when ye spake unto me; and the LORD said unto me, I have heard the voice of the words of this people, which they have spoken unto thee: they have well said all that they have spoken.

The LORD heard the people's words when they spoke to Moses, and He said that they had said all that they had spoken well.

1. God Listens to Our Prayers

2. The Power of Words

1. James 3:5-10 - "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits."

Deuteronomy 5:29 O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!

God desires that His people fear Him and obey all His commandments so that it will be well with them and their children forever.

1. The Blessing of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Joy of Knowing God's Love Through Obedience

1. Romans 2:7-10 - To those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, He will give eternal life.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Deuteronomy 5:30 Go say to them, Get you into your tents again.

The passage is a reminder that God commanded the Israelites to return to their tents.

1. "God's Call to Obedience: Returning to Our Tents in Faith"

2. "The Faithful Response: Returning to Our Tents with God's Blessing"

1. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:7 - For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Deuteronomy 5:31 But as for thee, stand thou here by me, and I will speak unto thee all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which thou shalt teach them, that they may do them in the land which I give them to possess it.

God commanded Moses to teach the Israelites all of the commandments, statutes, and judgments, so that they may properly follow them in the land He gave to them.

1. Understanding God's Laws and Their Purpose

2. Obedience to God's Will and the Blessings of Doing So

1. Psalm 119:33-34 Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

2. Matthew 22:36-40 Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Deuteronomy 5:32 Ye shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

God commands us to obey him and not turn away from what He has told us to do.

1. God's Commands: Obey and Don't Turn Away

2. Following God's Path: Staying True and Not Deviating

1. Joshua 1:7 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Deuteronomy 5:33 Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.

This passage admonishes us to obey God and follow His commands in order to live a prosperous and fruitful life.

1. Choosing God's Way: The Path to Life and Blessing

2. Obeying God: The Key to a Long and Prosperous Life

1. Joshua 1:7-8 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Deuteronomy 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 6:1-9 emphasizes the importance of wholehearted love and devotion to God. Moses instructs the Israelites to listen and carefully observe the commandments and statutes given by God, ensuring that they are passed down from generation to generation. He urges them to teach these commandments diligently to their children, discussing them at all times when sitting at home, walking on the road, lying down, and getting up. Moses emphasizes the need for a constant reminder of God's laws through physical symbols such as binding them on their hands and foreheads and writing them on doorposts.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 6:10-19, Moses warns against forgetting God's blessings once they enter into the promised land of Canaan. He reminds them that it is God who provides abundance and prosperity. However, he cautions against becoming complacent or turning away from Him by worshiping other gods or idols. Moses recounts instances when Israel tested God's patience in the wilderness due to their lack of faith and obedience.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 6 concludes with Moses cautioning against self-righteousness once they settle in Canaan. He warns against forgetting God's deliverance from slavery in Egypt and His mighty signs and wonders performed on their behalf. Moses encourages obedience to God's commandments out of gratitude for His faithfulness rather than seeking personal righteousness or exalting themselves above others. He emphasizes that it is Yahweh alone who deserves worship.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 6 presents:

Importance of wholehearted love for God teaching future generations;

Warning against forgetting blessings avoiding idolatry;

Caution against self-righteousness remembering deliverance.

Emphasis on wholehearted love for God teaching future generations diligently;

Warning against forgetting blessings avoiding idolatry and complacency;

Caution against self-righteousness remembering deliverance and worshiping Yahweh alone.

The chapter focuses on the importance of wholehearted love and devotion to God, passing down His commandments to future generations, and avoiding idolatry. In Deuteronomy 6, Moses instructs the Israelites to listen carefully and observe the commandments given by God. He emphasizes the need to teach these commandments diligently to their children, ensuring that they are discussed at all times as a constant reminder. Moses encourages physical symbols such as binding them on hands and foreheads and writing them on doorposts.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 6, Moses warns against forgetting God's blessings once they enter into Canaan. He cautions against becoming complacent or turning away from Him by worshiping other gods or idols. Moses recounts instances when Israel tested God's patience in the wilderness due to their lack of faith and obedience. He reminds them that it is God who provides abundance and prosperity.

Deuteronomy 6 concludes with Moses cautioning against self-righteousness once they settle in Canaan. He warns against forgetting God's deliverance from slavery in Egypt and His mighty signs and wonders performed on their behalf. Moses encourages obedience to God's commandments out of gratitude for His faithfulness rather than seeking personal righteousness or exalting themselves above others. He emphasizes that it is Yahweh alone who deserves worship, emphasizing humility before Him as they live according to His statutes.

Deuteronomy 6:1 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

The Lord commanded the Israelites to obey the commandments, statutes, and judgments when entering the Promised Land.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands can bring us into the Promised Land.

2. The Blessings of Keeping God's Law - How the Lord rewards us for faithfully following His Word.

1. Deuteronomy 6:1 - "Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it."

2. Psalm 19:7-11 - "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple... More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb... Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."

Deuteronomy 6:2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

This passage emphasizes the importance of following God's statutes and commandments throughout one's life in order to be blessed with a long life.

1. Staying True to God's Commandments: A Path to a Long and Blessed Life

2. Fearing the LORD and Keeping His Commandments: The Key to a Vibrant and Prolonged Life

1. Proverbs 4:10-13 - "Hear, my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble. Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life."

2. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Deuteronomy 6:3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

This passage highlights the importance of obedience to God's commands, as it is the path to prosperity.

1. "The Path to Prosperity: Obedience to God's Commands"

2. "The Blessings of Following God's Will"

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - "My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you."

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

The Lord is one.

1: Let us be reminded that the Lord is one, and serve him with one heart and one mind.

2: We should dedicate ourselves to the Lord and put our trust in him alone.

1: Matthew 22:37-39 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

2: Ephesians 4:4-6 There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Deuteronomy 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

This passage from Deuteronomy 6:5 emphasizes the importance of loving God with one's entire being.

1. Love God with All Your Heart

2. A Call to Unconditional Love

1. Matthew 22:37-38 - And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

2. 1 John 4:19 - We love because he first loved us.

Deuteronomy 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

God commands us to keep His words close to our hearts.

1: We must obey God's commands with our hearts.

2: Following God's commands brings us closer to Him.

1: Psalm 119:11 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2: Joshua 1:8 - "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Deuteronomy 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Parents should diligently teach the Lord's commandments to their children and talk of them in all areas of life.

1. "Teaching Your Children the Lord's Ways"

2. "Living Out the Lord's Word in Everyday Life"

1. Psalm 78:4-7 - We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He has done.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Deuteronomy 6:8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

God commands His people to bind His words to their hands and wear them in front of their eyes.

1. The Power of God's Word: Why We Should Wear God's Word On Our Sleeves

2. Living Out Our Faith: Putting Our Beliefs Into Action

1. Psalm 119:11 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Deuteronomy 6:9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

God told the Israelites to write His commandments on the posts of their homes and on their gates.

1. The Importance of God's Commandments in Our Lives

2. Living a Life of Obedience to God's Word

1. Mark 12:30-31 - "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

2. Matthew 22:36-40 - "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Deuteronomy 6:10 And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not,

God promised to give the Israelites great and goodly cities when He brought them into the Promised Land.

1. God's promises are true and will come to fruition in His timing.

2. We can trust in God's promises and plan for our future.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Deuteronomy 6:11 And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;

God is providing for the Israelites by giving them houses, wells, vineyards, and olive trees, that they did not create nor fill.

1. God provides for us in abundance.

2. Obedience brings blessing.

1. Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

2. Ephesians 3:20 "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

Deuteronomy 6:12 Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

God warns the Israelites to not forget Him and His deliverance of them from slavery in Egypt.

1. Embracing Gratitude: Remembering God's Faithful Deliverance

2. The Blessing of Remembrance: An Exercise in Faithfulness

1. Psalm 136:1-2 - "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever."

2. Psalm 103:1-2 - "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:"

Deuteronomy 6:13 Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

God commands us to fear Him, serve Him, and swear by His name.

1. God is Worthy of Our Fear and Service

2. Obeying God's Command to Fear and Serve Him

1. Matthew 4:10 - "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

2. Isaiah 8:13 - "Sanctify the Lord of hosts Himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."

Deuteronomy 6:14 Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you;

God commands us not to worship other gods besides Him.

1. "Love the Lord Your God with All Your Heart: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 6:14"

2. "The Lord Alone is God: A Study of Deuteronomy 6:14"

1. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

2. Isaiah 45:5 - "I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me."

Deuteronomy 6:15 (For the LORD thy God is a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth.

God is a jealous God and will become angry if He is not given due reverence, resulting in the destruction of those who do not honor Him.

1. The Danger of Ignoring God's Commandments

2. God's Jealousy and Our Obligation to Follow His Word

1. Exodus 20:5 - "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me"

2. Malachi 3:5 - And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

Deuteronomy 6:16 Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah.

The Israelites were warned not to test God, as they had done so in the past when they tested him at Massah.

1. Learning from the Past: The Israelites' Mistake at Massah

2. The Danger of Testing God's Patience

1. Exodus 17:7 - And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, Is the LORD among us, or not?

2. James 1:13 - Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.

Deuteronomy 6:17 Ye shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies, and his statutes, which he hath commanded thee.

The Lord commands His people to diligently keep His commandments, testimonies, and statutes.

1. Love and Obey God's Commands

2. Keeping God's Word: A Sign of Devotion

1. Psalm 119:4-5 "You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!"

2. James 1:22-25 "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Deuteronomy 6:18 And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers,

God commands His people to do what is right and good in His sight so that they may be blessed and possess the promised land.

1. Obey God and Reap His Blessings

2. Fulfill God's Commandments and Receive His Promises

1. Joshua 1:3-5 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

2. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Deuteronomy 6:19 To cast out all thine enemies from before thee, as the LORD hath spoken.

This passage emphasizes God's promise to remove all enemies from his people as He has promised.

1. God is Faithful: Trusting in His Promises

2. Relying on God's Strength for Victory

1. Isaiah 41:10-13 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Deuteronomy 6:20 And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you?

God commands us to teach our children about His testimonies, statutes, and judgments so that they can learn to follow Him.

1. The importance of teaching our children about God's Word

2. Passing on the faith to the next generation

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Deuteronomy 4:9 - Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons.

Deuteronomy 6:21 Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand:

God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt with his mighty hand.

1. God is always faithful to His promises.

2. We can trust God to be our deliverer.

1. Isaiah 43:2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Deuteronomy 6:22 And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes:

The Lord showed many signs and wonders to the people of Egypt, Pharaoh, and his household.

1. God is Powerful and Deserving of Our Praise

2. Worship God With Your Whole Heart

1. Exodus 15:11 - Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

2. Psalm 66:3-4 - Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee. All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name.

Deuteronomy 6:23 And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers.

God took the Israelites out of Egypt to fulfill His promise of giving them the promised land.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises

2. The importance of following God's commands

1. Romans 4:13-15 "For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression."

2. Psalm 107:1-3 "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south."

Deuteronomy 6:24 And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

God commands us to obey His statutes for our own good.

1. Learning to Fear the Lord: The Benefits of Obeying God's Commandments

2. Reaping the Rewards of Faithfulness: Celebrating God's Protection

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Psalm 34:8 - "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."

Deuteronomy 6:25 And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us.

We will be counted as righteous if we obey all the commandments that God has given us.

1. Obeying God's Commands is Righteous

2. The Blessing of Keeping God's Commandments

1. Matthew 7:21, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

2. James 1:22-25, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Deuteronomy 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 7:1-11 emphasizes the Israelites' unique relationship with God and His command to completely destroy the nations inhabiting the land of Canaan. Moses instructs them not to make treaties or intermarry with these nations because it could lead them astray and compromise their devotion to Yahweh. He reminds them that they are a chosen people, loved by God, and set apart for His purposes. Moses reassures them of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His covenant promises and warns that disobedience will result in consequences, while obedience will bring blessings.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 7:12-26, Moses highlights the blessings that will come upon the Israelites if they obey God's commandments. He assures them of fertility, prosperity, victory over enemies, and protection from disease. Moses encourages their trust in Yahweh as He leads them into the promised land. He also warns against being enticed by the practices and gods of the Canaanite nations they are about to dispossess.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 7 concludes with Moses exhorting the Israelites to remember God's deliverance from Egypt and His mighty acts performed on their behalf. He reminds them of how God brought plagues upon Egypt but preserved His people, demonstrating His power over all other gods. Moses urges strict adherence to God's commandments without compromise or fear of other nations' reactions. He assures them that Yahweh will drive out their enemies little by little until they possess the land completely.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 7 presents:

Unique relationship with God avoiding intermarriage;

Promises of blessings for obedience fertility, prosperity, victory;

Remembering deliverance strict adherence to commandments.

Emphasis on unique relationship with God avoiding intermarriage and treaties;

Promises of blessings for obedience fertility, prosperity, victory over enemies;

Remembering deliverance from Egypt strict adherence to commandments.

The chapter focuses on the Israelites' relationship with God, His command to conquer Canaan, and the promises of blessings for obedience. In Deuteronomy 7, Moses instructs the Israelites not to make treaties or intermarry with the nations inhabiting Canaan. He emphasizes their chosen status as a people loved by God and set apart for His purposes. Moses assures them of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His covenant promises but warns that disobedience will result in consequences while obedience will bring blessings.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 7, Moses highlights the blessings that will come upon the Israelites if they obey God's commandments. He assures them of fertility, prosperity, victory over enemies, and protection from disease as they trust in Yahweh's leadership into the promised land. However, he also warns against being enticed by the practices and gods of the Canaanite nations they are about to dispossess.

Deuteronomy 7 concludes with Moses exhorting the Israelites to remember God's deliverance from Egypt and His mighty acts performed on their behalf. He reminds them of how God brought plagues upon Egypt but preserved His people as a demonstration of His power over all other gods. Moses urges strict adherence to God's commandments without compromise or fear of other nations' reactions. He assures them that Yahweh will drive out their enemies little by little until they possess the land completely according to His promise.

Deuteronomy 7:1 When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou;

The LORD God is bringing the Israelites into the Promised Land and is casting out seven nations that are greater and mightier than them.

1. The power of God to conquer any nation. 2. The importance of trusting in the Lord.

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 2. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Deuteronomy 7:2 And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:

God commands the Israelites to defeat and completely destroy their enemies, without showing any mercy.

1: God's Mercy and Justice: The Balance of Grace and Righteousness

2: The Strength to Do What is Right: Standing Firm in Your Faith

1: Ezekiel 33:11 - Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2: Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Deuteronomy 7:3 Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.

God forbids intermarriage with the nations of Canaan.

1: We must remember that God has established boundaries and we must not transgress them.

2: We must remember to honor and obey God's commands and cherish them above all else.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2: James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Deuteronomy 7:4 For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.

God s wrath will be kindled if His people turn away from Him and serve other gods.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning from Deuteronomy 7:4

2. The Importance of Faithfulness: How Apostasy Breeds Wrath

1. Ephesians 4:17-24 - Do Not Walk As the Gentiles Do

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - Choose Ye This Day Whom Ye Will Serve

Deuteronomy 7:5 But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire.

God commands that the altars, images, and groves of false gods should be destroyed.

1. God's Love for Us: How He Cares Enough to Protect Us from False Gods

2. False Gods: The Danger of Idolatry

1. 1 John 5:21 - "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

2. Romans 1:25 - "They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator who is forever praised! Amen."

Deuteronomy 7:6 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

God has chosen the Israelites to be a holy and special people to Him, above all other people on the earth.

1. "God's Choice: A Call to Holiness"

2. "God's Love: A Special People"

1. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

2. Isaiah 43:20-21 - The beast of the field shall honour me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen.

Deuteronomy 7:7 The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:

The LORD chose the Israelites to be His people even though they were the fewest of all people; it was not because they were more numerous than any other people.

1. God's Love is Unconditional

2. God's Grace is Abundant

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. 1 John 4:10 - This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Deuteronomy 7:8 But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

God's faithful love and covenant promise to the people of Israel resulted in their deliverance from bondage in Egypt.

1: God's Mighty Hand: Remembering God's Deliverance

2: God's Everlasting Love: Experiencing God's Faithfulness

1: Psalm 136:10-12 - "For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham his servant. And he brought forth his people with joy, and his chosen with gladness: And gave them the lands of the heathen: and they inherited the labour of the people."

2: Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee."

Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

God is faithful to keep His covenant and show mercy to those who love Him and obey His commands.

1. God's Infinite Grace: Experiencing the Power of His Unconditional Love

2. The Eternal Covenant: God's Faithfulness to His People

1. Psalm 136:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

2. Exodus 34:6-7 - The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Deuteronomy 7:10 And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face.

God rewards those who love and obey Him, and punishes those who reject and oppose Him.

1. God Is Faithful: He Rewards and Punishes According to His Perfect Will

2. Loving God and Obeying His Commands: The Path to Blessing

1. Romans 2:6-8 - "God will repay each person according to what they have done.

2. James 1:12-13 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Deuteronomy 7:11 Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them.

God commands us to keep His commandments and statutes.

1: The importance of obedience to God's word.

2: Appreciating the blessings from knowing and following God's statutes.

1: James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

2: Psalm 19:7-11 - The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

Deuteronomy 7:12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers:

The LORD will keep his covenant and mercy with those who follow his judgements.

1: The importance of following God's commandments and how that leads to his mercy and blessing.

2: God's faithfulness and how it can be relied upon even when we don't deserve it.

1: Luke 11:28 - "But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."

2: Psalm 119:1-2 - "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."

Deuteronomy 7:13 And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

God will love, bless, and multiply those who follow Him. He will also bless the fruit of their land and livestock.

1. God's Love is Abundant - Deuteronomy 7:13

2. The Blessings of Following God - Deuteronomy 7:13

1. Ephesians 2:4-5 - "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deuteronomy 7:14 Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.

God blesses those who obey him and keep his commandments.

1: Rejoice in God's Blessings

2: Obedience to God brings blessings

1: James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2: Romans 2:7 - To those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.

Deuteronomy 7:15 And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

God promises to protect his people from the diseases of Egypt, and to instead give those diseases to those who hate them.

1. The Lord Will Protect Us From Disease

2. Diseases for the Enemy

1. Psalm 91:3 - For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness is from Me, Says the LORD.

Deuteronomy 7:16 And thou shalt consume all the people which the LORD thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee.

God commands His people to completely destroy the enemies He has given them, not to have pity on them, and not to serve their gods.

1. "Living in Obedience to God s Word"

2. "The Faithfulness of God in Delivering His People"

1. Deuteronomy 7:16

2. Matthew 5:43-48 (Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you)

Deuteronomy 7:17 If thou shalt say in thine heart, These nations are more than I; how can I dispossess them?

The passage talks about how God encourages His people to trust Him in difficult times, even when they feel like they are up against forces too strong for them to overcome.

1. A Call to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming the Fear of the Unknown

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 37:4-5 - Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

Deuteronomy 7:18 Thou shalt not be afraid of them: but shalt well remember what the LORD thy God did unto Pharaoh, and unto all Egypt;

God's faithfulness is seen in his deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt.

1: God is our Deliverer and He will not fail us.

2: We should not fear, but remember God's faithfulness.

1: Exodus 14:13 14 - And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Deuteronomy 7:19 The great temptations which thine eyes saw, and the signs, and the wonders, and the mighty hand, and the stretched out arm, whereby the LORD thy God brought thee out: so shall the LORD thy God do unto all the people of whom thou art afraid.

God's mighty power and protection will shield us from all our fears.

1: God's Promises are True

2: Trust in the Lord's Protection

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Deuteronomy 7:20 Moreover the LORD thy God will send the hornet among them, until they that are left, and hide themselves from thee, be destroyed.

God will use the hornet to destroy those who oppose him.

1: God uses all things to bring about his will.

2: Obey God, or suffer the consequences.

1: Jeremiah 29:11-14 - God knows the plans He has for us, plans for our welfare and not for disaster, to give us a future and a hope.

2: Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Deuteronomy 7:21 Thou shalt not be affrighted at them: for the LORD thy God is among you, a mighty God and terrible.

God is with us and is a mighty and terrible God.

1: Be comforted in the Lord for He is with us and is mighty and powerful.

2: Accept the Lord's strength in us to be courageous and not be afraid.

1: Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

Deuteronomy 7:22 And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.

The Lord will remove nations gradually so that the land is not overrun with wild animals.

1: God is patient and will not rush us as we grow in faith.

2: We must trust in God's timing and be patient in our growth.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

2: 2 Peter 3:8-9 - But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Deuteronomy 7:23 But the LORD thy God shall deliver them unto thee, and shall destroy them with a mighty destruction, until they be destroyed.

God will protect us and destroy our enemies with mighty destruction.

1. The Lord is Our Protector

2. The Power of God's Destruction

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment.

Deuteronomy 7:24 And he shall deliver their kings into thine hand, and thou shalt destroy their name from under heaven: there shall no man be able to stand before thee, until thou have destroyed them.

God will give his people victory over their enemies and no one will be able to stand against them.

1. Overcoming Adversity Through Faith

2. Trusting in God's Promises

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

Deuteronomy 7:25 The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the LORD thy God.

God commands his people not to desire the silver and gold from the idols of other nations, as it is an abomination to the Lord.

1. "The Power of Abstinence: An Examination of Deuteronomy 7:25"

2. "God's Call to Holiness: What the Scriptures Teach Us from Deuteronomy 7:25"

1. Exodus 20:3-5 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

2. Proverbs 15:27 He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

Deuteronomy 7:26 Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.

We should avoid bringing anything that is considered an abomination into our homes, and we should thoroughly detest and abhor it, because it is cursed.

1. "Abominations in the Home: Recognizing and Rejecting the Cursed Things"

2. "The Blessing of Detesting and Abhorring Abominations"

1. Proverbs 22:10, "Drive out the mocker, and out goes strife; Quarrels and insults are ended."

2. Psalm 101:3, "I will not look with approval on anything that is vile. I hate what faithless people do; I will have no part in it."

Deuteronomy 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 8:1-10 emphasizes the importance of remembering and obeying God's commandments. Moses reminds the Israelites of their forty-year journey through the wilderness, during which God humbled and tested them to teach them dependence on Him. He highlights how God provided manna for their sustenance and clothing that did not wear out. Moses warns against forgetting God's provision and becoming proud or attributing their success solely to their own abilities.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 8:11-20, Moses cautions against forgetting Yahweh once they enter the land of Canaan, where they will find abundance and prosperity. He warns against becoming complacent and attributing their wealth to themselves rather than acknowledging that it is God who gives them power to gain wealth. Moses reminds them that disobedience will result in severe consequences, including being uprooted from the land.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 8 concludes with Moses urging the Israelites to remember that it is Yahweh who brought them out of Egypt, led them through the wilderness, and provided for all their needs. He encourages obedience to His commandments as a means of securing blessings for themselves and future generations. Moses warns against turning aside after other gods or worshiping idols, emphasizing that Yahweh is a jealous God who will not tolerate such behavior.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 8 presents:

Importance of remembering and obeying commandments God's provision;

Warning against pride acknowledging dependence on God;

Caution against forgetting Yahweh consequences of disobedience.

Emphasis on remembering and obeying commandments God's humbling and testing;

Warning against pride acknowledging dependence on God's provision;

Caution against forgetting Yahweh consequences of disobedience and idolatry.

The chapter focuses on the importance of remembering and obeying God's commandments, acknowledging His provision, and avoiding pride. In Deuteronomy 8, Moses reminds the Israelites of their forty-year journey through the wilderness, during which God humbled and tested them to teach them dependence on Him. He highlights how God provided manna for their sustenance and clothing that did not wear out. Moses warns against forgetting God's provision and becoming proud or attributing their success solely to their own abilities.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 8, Moses cautions against forgetting Yahweh once they enter the land of Canaan where they will find abundance and prosperity. He warns against becoming complacent or attributing their wealth to themselves rather than acknowledging that it is God who gives them power to gain wealth. Moses reminds them that disobedience will result in severe consequences, including being uprooted from the land promised by God.

Deuteronomy 8 concludes with Moses urging the Israelites to remember that it is Yahweh who brought them out of Egypt, led them through the wilderness, and provided for all their needs. He encourages obedience to His commandments as a means of securing blessings for themselves and future generations. Moses warns against turning aside after other gods or worshiping idols, emphasizing that Yahweh is a jealous God who will not tolerate such behavior but expects wholehearted devotion from His chosen people.

Deuteronomy 8:1 All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers.

Moses instructs the people of Israel to obey God's commandments so that they may live, multiply, and possess the land.

1. God's Promises: Trusting God to Fulfill His Promises

2. Living a Life of Obedience: The Blessings of Obedience to God's Word

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Deuteronomy 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

Remembering God's guidance and testing through the wilderness journey to understand our hearts and whether we keep God's commandments.

1. The Wilderness Journey: Learning to Hear God's Voice

2. God's Testing: A Path to Knowing Our Hearts

1. Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

This passage speaks about how the Lord humbled the Israelites and provided for them by providing manna, which they did not know, to teach them to rely on the Lord's word and not just bread.

1. The Power of the Lord's Word: Learning to Trust in God's Provision

2. Dependence on the Lord: Relying on God's Word Instead of Our Own Strength

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Deuteronomy 8:4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.

God always provides for His people and cares tenderly for them.

1. God s Faithfulness: Experiencing His Provision and Care

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Receiving God s Protection and Endurance

1. Psalm 34:10 - The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 8:5 Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the LORD thy God chasteneth thee.

God chastens those whom He loves in the same way a father chastens his son.

1: God's Discipline is an Expression of His Love

2: Embrace God's Discipline as Proof of His Affection

1: Hebrews 12:5-11

2: Proverbs 3:11-12

Deuteronomy 8:6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.

God commands us to keep His commandments and to walk in His ways.

1. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

2. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessings

1. Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."

2. Psalm 119:1 2, "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart."

Deuteronomy 8:7 For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

God is bringing the Israelites to a land that is full of fresh water and is good.

1. The Lord is our Provider - Deuteronomy 8:7-10

2. The Blessings of Obedience - Deuteronomy 8:1-10

1. Psalm 65:9 - Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

2. Isaiah 41:18 - I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

Deuteronomy 8:8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;

This passage from Deuteronomy describes the land of Israel as a land full of abundance with its wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey.

1. The Abundance of God's Provision: Rediscovering the Blessings of the Promised Land

2. A Harvest of Blessing: Understanding the richness of God's Gift of Grace

1. Psalm 65:9-13

2. Psalm 107:33-38

Deuteronomy 8:9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.

God promised the Israelites that if they followed his commands and kept his covenant, they would be given a land with plenty of food and resources like iron and brass from the hills.

1. God will always provide for us if we obey His commands.

2. We should trust God to provide for our needs.

1. Psalm 34:9-10 - Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing. The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Deuteronomy 8:10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

We should thank God for the good land that he has given us when we are full and satisfied.

1. Appreciate the Blessings God has Given You

2. Don't Take the Good Things in Life for Granted

1. Ephesians 5:20, "Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"

2. Psalm 103:2, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits"

Deuteronomy 8:11 Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

God commands His people in Deuteronomy 8:11 to not forget Him or His commandments, judgments, and statutes.

1. Remembering God's Faithfulness: A Call to Obedience

2. The Forgotten Commandment: Remembering God's Word

1. Psalm 103:17-18 - But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

2. Joshua 1:8 - Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Deuteronomy 8:12 Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein;

The passage from Deuteronomy 8:12 warns against becoming complacent and satisfied with life when one is blessed with abundance.

1. "The Blessing and the Curse of Abundance"

2. "Living with Contentment and Gratitude"

1. Proverbs 30:7-9 - "Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God."

2. Matthew 6:24-25 - "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

Deuteronomy 8:13 And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

God blesses us with material gains when we honor him.

1. God bestows his abundance upon us when we show reverence to him.

2. We should strive to remain humble and grateful for the blessings we receive from God.

1. Deuteronomy 8:13 - "And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;"

2. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Deuteronomy 8:14 Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

This passage emphasizes the importance of not forgetting the Lord and all the good He did in bringing the Israelites out of Egypt.

1. Do Not Forget God's Faithfulness

2. Remembering Our Roots

1. Psalm 105:5 - Remember the marvelous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Deuteronomy 8:15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

God led the Israelites through the wilderness with trials, difficulties, and hardships.

1. God is with Us in Difficult Times

2. Perseverance and Trust in God in Adversity

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Deuteronomy 8:16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

God provided manna to humble and prove the Israelites, and for their ultimate good.

1. God's Testing for Our Benefit

2. Humility and Provision in the Wilderness

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:3-4 - Because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Deuteronomy 8:17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.

The passage speaks of how one should not be proud of his own strength and power when it comes to obtaining wealth.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall: The Dangers of Thinking You Are Self-Sufficient

2. The Blessings of Contentment: How to Be Satisfied with What You Have

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Deuteronomy 8:18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

God has given power to humans to acquire wealth, so that his covenant with their fathers can be established.

1. The Power of God: Remembering the Lord in Times of Wealth

2. Establishing God's Covenant Through Wealth

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

2. Psalm 112:3 - Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

Deuteronomy 8:19 And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish.

The Lord God warns that if we forget Him and serve other gods, we will perish.

1. God's Mercy and Warning: Remembering the Lord's Love and Provision.

2. The Cost of Apostasy: Rejecting the Lord for Other Gods.

1. Deuteronomy 8:19 - "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish."

2. 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 - "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Deuteronomy 8:20 As the nations which the LORD destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God.

The Lord will destroy nations that do not obey His voice.

1. Obey the Voice of the Lord or Face Destruction

2. The Consequence of Disobedience to the Lord

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Deuteronomy 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 9:1-6 recounts Moses' reminder to the Israelites that their possession of the land of Canaan is not due to their righteousness but because of God's faithfulness and the wickedness of the nations inhabiting the land. Moses acknowledges that the Israelites are a stubborn and rebellious people, recounting instances when they provoked God's anger in the wilderness. He reminds them of their idolatry with the golden calf at Horeb and how he interceded on their behalf to prevent their destruction.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 9:7-21, Moses recounts further instances when Israel rebelled against God during their journey through the wilderness. He recalls how they grumbled, complained, and doubted God's ability to bring them into Canaan. Moses emphasizes his role as an intercessor between God and Israel, reminding them of his pleading for mercy when they sinned with the golden calf. He also mentions his breaking of the tablets containing the Ten Commandments out of anger towards their disobedience.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 9 concludes with Moses warning against forgetting past rebellions and taking credit for future victories once they enter Canaan. He reminds them that it is because of God's covenant promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob not because of their righteousness that they will possess the land. Moses cautions against pride or attributing success solely to themselves but encourages humility before Yahweh. He urges obedience to His commandments as a means of avoiding future rebellion.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 9 presents:

Possession of Canaan by God's faithfulness Israel's rebelliousness;

Recollection of idolatry Moses' intercession;

Warning against forgetting past rebellions humility and obedience.

Emphasis on possession of Canaan by God's faithfulness Israel's rebelliousness in the wilderness;

Recollection of idolatry with golden calf Moses' intercession for mercy;

Warning against forgetting past rebellions humility before Yahweh and obedience to His commandments.

The chapter focuses on the Israelites' possession of Canaan, their rebelliousness, and the importance of remembering their past failures. In Deuteronomy 9, Moses reminds the Israelites that their entry into the land is not due to their righteousness but because of God's faithfulness and the wickedness of the nations inhabiting Canaan. He acknowledges that they are a stubborn and rebellious people, recounting instances when they provoked God's anger in the wilderness. Moses reminds them specifically of their idolatry with the golden calf at Horeb and how he interceded on their behalf to prevent their destruction.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 9, Moses recounts further instances when Israel rebelled against God during their journey through the wilderness. He highlights how they grumbled, complained, and doubted God's ability to bring them into Canaan. Moses emphasizes his role as an intercessor between God and Israel, reminding them of his pleading for mercy when they sinned with the golden calf. He also mentions his breaking of the tablets containing the Ten Commandments out of anger towards their disobedience.

Deuteronomy 9 concludes with Moses warning against forgetting past rebellions once they enter Canaan. He cautions against taking credit for future victories or attributing success solely to themselves. Instead, he urges humility before Yahweh and obedience to His commandments as a means of avoiding future rebellion or falling into prideful arrogance. Moses reminds them that it is because of God's covenant promises not because of their righteousness that they will possess the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Deuteronomy 9:1 Hear, O Israel: Thou art to pass over Jordan this day, to go in to possess nations greater and mightier than thyself, cities great and fenced up to heaven,

God commands Israel to possess the Promised Land, despite the nations being greater and mightier.

1: Do Not Fear the Unknown, For God Is With You

2: Trust in the Lord, For He Will Lead You Into His Promises

1: Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Psalm 20:7, Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

Deuteronomy 9:2 A people great and tall, the children of the Anakims, whom thou knowest, and of whom thou hast heard say, Who can stand before the children of Anak!

This passage speaks of the Israelites' fear when facing the Anakims, a powerful and intimidating people.

1. God is Greater than any Fear - Psalm 46:1-3

2. Conquer Fear with Faith - Joshua 1:9

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Deuteronomy 9:3 Understand therefore this day, that the LORD thy God is he which goeth over before thee; as a consuming fire he shall destroy them, and he shall bring them down before thy face: so shalt thou drive them out, and destroy them quickly, as the LORD hath said unto thee.

This passage speaks of God's power and promises to His people, that He will go before them and defeat their enemies.

1. "God's Promise to Fight for Us"

2. "The Power of the Lord Our God"

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

2. Exodus 14:14 - "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Deuteronomy 9:4 Speak not thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee.

God has driven out the wicked nations from before the Israelites, and it should not be thought that it was due to their own righteousness that they possess the land.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever - Luke 1:50

2. The Righteousness of God - Romans 3:21-22

1. Romans 9:14 - What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

2. Deuteronomy 7:7 - The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people.

Deuteronomy 9:5 Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

God is driving out wicked nations in order to fulfill His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1. God is Faithful to His Promises

2. Wickedness Cannot Overcome God's Plans

1. Romans 4:13-17 - For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Deuteronomy 9:6 Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God giveth thee not this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; for thou art a stiffnecked people.

The LORD God did not give the good land to the Israelites because of their righteousness, but instead because of His own grace.

1: The Mercy of God Shines Forth

2: Remembering God s Goodness in Times of Trial

1: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Psalm 107:1 - Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Deuteronomy 9:7 Remember, and forget not, how thou provokedst the LORD thy God to wrath in the wilderness: from the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against the LORD.

The people of Israel had been rebellious against God ever since they left Egypt, and this verse is a reminder to not forget how they provoked God to wrath in the wilderness.

1. The Importance of Remembering Our Past Follies

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Psalm 78:11 - "They forgot his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them."

2. Hebrews 3:12 - "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God."

Deuteronomy 9:8 Also in Horeb ye provoked the LORD to wrath, so that the LORD was angry with you to have destroyed you.

This passage reminds us that it is important to be mindful of our actions and words, for they can have serious consequences.

1. "Be mindful of Your Actions: A Study in Deuteronomy 9:8"

2. "The Danger of Provoking the Lord: A Study in Deuteronomy 9:8"

1. Proverbs 16:32 "Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."

2. James 1:19-20 "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Deuteronomy 9:9 When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the LORD made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water:

Moses ascended Mount Sinai and remained there for forty days and nights without food or water, receiving the Ten Commandments from God.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning from Moses' Unwavering Commitment

2. God's Covenant of Love: The Ten Commandments as a Pledge of Protection

1. Hebrews 11:24-29 - Moses' faith in God's power

2. Romans 13:8-10 - Love as the fulfilling of the law

Deuteronomy 9:10 And the LORD delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the LORD spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly.

The LORD gave Moses two stone tablets inscribed by God's own finger, containing all the words He had spoken to the Israelites when they were gathered at Mount Sinai.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God's Word Transforms Us

2. The Majesty of God's Presence: Experiencing God in the Midst of Fire

1. Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom."

2. Exodus 33:14-15 - "And he said, My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. And he said to him, If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here."

Deuteronomy 9:11 And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, that the LORD gave me the two tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant.

After forty days and forty nights, the Lord gave Moses the two stone tablets containing the covenant.

1. The Power of the Covenant: How God's Promises are Fulfilled

2. Forty Days and Forty Nights: Understanding the Significance of the Number Forty in Scripture

1. Exodus 34:28 - And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

2. Psalm 95:10 - Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways.

Deuteronomy 9:12 And the LORD said unto me, Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted themselves; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image.

This passage speaks of how quickly the Israelites had corrupted themselves and had made a molten image after being brought out of Egypt.

1. God's Word vs. Idolatry: Drawing Near or Falling Away

2. Staying Faithful to God In an Unfaithful World

1. Jeremiah 2:5-7 - Thus says the LORD: "What wrong did your fathers find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?

2. Exodus 20:3-6 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me.

Deuteronomy 9:13 Furthermore the LORD spake unto me, saying, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people:

This passage highlights the people of Israel as a stiffnecked people.

1. The Danger of a Hardened Heart

2. God's Mercy Despite Our Stubbornness

1. Isaiah 48:4-11 - God's willingness to forgive despite our obstinacy

2. Jeremiah 17:5-10 - The consequences of a hardened heart.

Deuteronomy 9:14 Let me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven: and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they.

God instructs Moses to let Him alone so that He can destroy the nation of Israel and make the people of Israel a mightier and greater nation.

1. God's plan for our lives sometimes includes destruction before rebuilding.

2. Even in destruction, God has a greater plan for our lives.

1. Isaiah 54:2-3 "Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left. And your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Deuteronomy 9:15 So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands.

Moses descended from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the Ten Commandments in his hands, and the mountain was on fire.

1. God's Covenant with Us: The Ten Commandments and Our Obligation to Obey

2. The Power of God: A Fire on the Mountain

1. Exodus 20:1-17 - The Ten Commandments

2. Hebrews 12:18-29 - The Burning Fire of God's Presence

Deuteronomy 9:16 And I looked, and, behold, ye had sinned against the LORD your God, and had made you a molten calf: ye had turned aside quickly out of the way which the LORD had commanded you.

The people of Israel had sinned against God by making and worshipping a golden calf, which was contrary to God's command.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Importance of Faithful Obedience

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Lesson from the Israelites

1. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Deuteronomy 9:17 And I took the two tables, and cast them out of my two hands, and brake them before your eyes.

Moses broke the two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments in front of the Israelites.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Law

1. Exodus 20:1-17 - The Ten Commandments

2. Matthew 22:34-40 - The Greatest Commandment

Deuteronomy 9:18 And I fell down before the LORD, as at the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

Moses fasted for 40 days and 40 nights to plead with God for forgiveness of the Israelites' sins.

1. The Power of Fasting: How Fasting Can Lead to Forgiveness and Revival

2. The Importance of Repentance: Why We Must Ask for Forgiveness

1. Jonah 3:10 - "And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not."

2. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

Deuteronomy 9:19 For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure, wherewith the LORD was wroth against you to destroy you. But the LORD hearkened unto me at that time also.

Moses feared the Lord's anger and displeasure, but the Lord heard his pleas and did not destroy the Israelites.

1. Even in our darkest hours, the Lord is always listening and ready to show mercy.

2. When we are afraid, we can turn to the Lord for comfort and protection.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Deuteronomy 9:20 And the LORD was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed him: and I prayed for Aaron also the same time.

Aaron's faithfulness and humility in the face of God's wrath is a lesson for us all.

1. The Power of Humility: How God Responds to Our Humble Faith

2. The Importance of Standing Firm Under Pressure

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Daniel 3:16-18 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow to Nebuchadnezzar, and were not harmed by the fire.

Deuteronomy 9:21 And I took your sin, the calf which ye had made, and burnt it with fire, and stamped it, and ground it very small, even until it was as small as dust: and I cast the dust thereof into the brook that descended out of the mount.

God burned and ground the calf into dust for the sin of the Israelites and cast the dust into a brook that descended from the mount.

1. The Power of Repentance: How God's Forgiveness Transforms our Sin

2. Trusting God's Wisdom in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."

2. Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

Deuteronomy 9:22 And at Taberah, and at Massah, and at Kibrothhattaavah, ye provoked the LORD to wrath.

The Israelites provoked the Lord to wrath at Taberah, Massah, and Kibrothhattaavah.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites

2. The Dangers of Rejecting the Lord's Will

1. Proverbs 14:12: There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. James 4:17: Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Deuteronomy 9:23 Likewise when the LORD sent you from Kadeshbarnea, saying, Go up and possess the land which I have given you; then ye rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God, and ye believed him not, nor hearkened to his voice.

The Israelites rebelled against the Lord when He commanded them to go and take possession of the promised land.

1. Obedience is a Necessary Part of Faith

2. Trusting God is Essential to the Christian Life

1. 2 Corinthians 10:5 - We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Deuteronomy 9:24 Ye have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you.

Summarizing Passage: The LORD has known the Israelites to be rebellious since the day they were known.

1. The Danger of Rebellion Against God

2. Recognizing our Rebellious Nature

1. Isaiah 1:2-20 - God's call for Israel to repent and return to Him.

2. James 4:7-10 - God's call to submit to Him and resist the devil.

Deuteronomy 9:25 Thus I fell down before the LORD forty days and forty nights, as I fell down at the first; because the LORD had said he would destroy you.

Moses fasted for forty days and forty nights before the Lord in order to plead for the Israelites, as the Lord had said he would destroy them.

1. The Power of Faith: A Study of Moses and the Israelites

2. The Strength of Prayer: How God Listens to Our Pleas

1. James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Deuteronomy 9:26 I prayed therefore unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, destroy not thy people and thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed through thy greatness, which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

Moses prays to God, begging Him not to destroy the people of Israel, whom He had delivered from Egypt with a mighty hand.

1. Our God is a God of Mercy - Deuteronomy 9:26

2. Trust in the Lord - Deuteronomy 9:26

1. Exodus 14:31 - And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord, and his servant Moses.

2. Exodus 15:13 - Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

Deuteronomy 9:27 Remember thy servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin:

The passage reminds us to remember our ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and to not be led astray by this people's stubbornness, wickedness, and sin.

1. "The Ancestors: Models of Faith and Virtue"

2. "The Power of Remembrance"

1. Hebrews 11:8-16 - "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going."

2. Genesis 12:1-3 - "The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.'"

Deuteronomy 9:28 Lest the land whence thou broughtest us out say, Because the LORD was not able to bring them into the land which he promised them, and because he hated them, he hath brought them out to slay them in the wilderness.

In Deuteronomy 9:28, Moses warns the Israelites that the land from which they have been brought out of could say the LORD was not able to bring the Israelites into the land he promised them and that he had brought them out to slay them in the wilderness.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Faithfulness

2. The Heart of Obedience

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Deuteronomy 9:29 Yet they are thy people and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest out by thy mighty power and by thy stretched out arm.

God's people are His inheritance, and He has brought them out through His power.

1. The Power of God and His Love for His People

2. God's Arm of Protection for His Inheritance

1. Deuteronomy 4:34-35 - For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God. When you become the father of children and children's children and have remained long in the land, do not corrupt yourselves by making an idol in any form.

2. Psalm 44:3 - For it was not by their own sword that they won the land, nor did their own arm give them victory; but your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you delighted in them.

Deuteronomy 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 10:1-11 describes the making of a second set of stone tablets by Moses after he broke the first set in anger. God instructs Moses to carve out new tablets and bring them up to Mount Sinai, where He writes the Ten Commandments on them once again. Moses recounts how he spent forty days and nights fasting on the mountain, receiving instructions from God. He emphasizes that the Lord's choice of Israel as His treasured possession is not because of their greatness but solely due to His love and faithfulness to fulfill His promises.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 10:12-22, Moses calls upon the Israelites to fear and love God, walking in obedience to Him. He reminds them of what Yahweh requires fear Him, walk in all His ways, love Him, serve Him with all their heart and soul, keep His commandments and that doing so will lead to blessings. Moses highlights God's justice and care for vulnerable groups such as orphans and widows, urging Israel to imitate these qualities.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 10 concludes with Moses emphasizing that Yahweh is supreme over all gods the heavens, earth, and everything within them belong to Him. He reminds the Israelites of their history from seventy individuals who went down into Egypt until they became a numerous nation and how God delivered them from slavery with mighty signs and wonders. Moses encourages circumcision of their hearts a symbol of inner devotion to love Yahweh wholeheartedly and follow His ways faithfully.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 10 presents:

Making of second set of stone tablets God's faithfulness;

Call for fear and obedience blessings for following God's ways;

Supremacy of Yahweh circumcision of hearts and devotion.

Emphasis on making of second set of stone tablets God's faithfulness to His covenant;

Call for fear, obedience, and love for God blessings for following His ways;

Supremacy of Yahweh over all gods circumcision of hearts and devotion to Him.

The chapter focuses on the making of a second set of stone tablets, the call for fear and obedience to God, and the supremacy of Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 10, Moses describes how he carved out new stone tablets after breaking the first set in anger. He recounts how God instructed him to bring these new tablets up Mount Sinai, where He rewrote the Ten Commandments on them. Moses emphasizes that Israel's chosen status as God's treasured possession is not due to their greatness but solely because of His love and faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 10, Moses calls upon the Israelites to fear and love God while walking in obedience to Him. He reminds them that Yahweh requires their wholehearted devotion to fear Him, walk in all His ways, love Him, serve Him with all their heart and soul, and keep His commandments. Moses assures them that following these instructions will lead to blessings. He also highlights God's justice and care for vulnerable groups such as orphans and widows, urging Israel to imitate these qualities.

Deuteronomy 10 concludes with Moses emphasizing that Yahweh is supreme over all gods the heavens, earth, and everything within them belong to Him alone. He reminds the Israelites of their history from being a small group who went down into Egypt until they became a numerous nation and how God delivered them from slavery through mighty signs and wonders. Moses encourages circumcision of their hearts a symbol representing inner devotion to love Yahweh wholeheartedly and follow His ways faithfully, acknowledging His supremacy and responding with genuine devotion.

Deuteronomy 10:1 At that time the LORD said unto me, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first, and come up unto me into the mount, and make thee an ark of wood.

God instructs Moses to carve two stone tablets like the first ones and to build an ark out of wood.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commandments, Even When Unclear.

2. Faith in a Higher Power: Understanding and Trusting God's Plan.

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Deuteronomy 10:2 And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark.

God commands Moses to write words on new stone tablets and place them in the ark.

1. God's Commandments: Obeying God's Instructions

2. The Ark: A Symbol of Faith and Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 10:2

2. Exodus 34:27-28 - Then the Lord said to Moses, Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel. Moses was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant the Ten Commandments.

Deuteronomy 10:3 And I made an ark of shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount, having the two tables in mine hand.

This passage describes how Moses created an ark of acacia wood and hewed two tables of stone, then ascended the mountain with the two tables in hand.

1. God's divine plan for our lives: Learn from the example of Moses to trust in God's plan and purpose for our lives.

2. The importance of obedience: Obedience to God's commands requires us to humble ourselves and trust in His will.

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

2. Exodus 24:15-18 -Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days. On the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Deuteronomy 10:4 And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me.

This passage describes the writing of the Ten Commandments by God on stone tablets, which were given to Moses at the mountain of assembly.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

2. Listening to and Following God's Guidance

1. Exodus 20:1-17 - The Ten Commandments

2. John 14:15 - Jesus' Commandment to Love God and Neighbor

Deuteronomy 10:5 And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me.

Moses placed the stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments in the ark of the covenant, as instructed by God.

1. Our Obedience to God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Obedience in Our Lives

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Luke 6:46-49 - Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders.

Deuteronomy 10:6 And the children of Israel took their journey from Beeroth of the children of Jaakan to Mosera: there Aaron died, and there he was buried; and Eleazar his son ministered in the priest's office in his stead.

God's love is demonstrated in his commitment to the Israelites even after death.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in his devotion to his people even in death.

2: Death does not separate us from God's love.

1: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Deuteronomy 10:7 From thence they journeyed unto Gudgodah; and from Gudgodah to Jotbath, a land of rivers of waters.

God cares for us even when we are journeying through difficult times and provides us with sustenance.

1. Journey of Faith: Finding Strength and Comfort in Difficult Times

2. The Lord Is Our Provider: Experiencing God's Provision During Life's Challenges

1. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Deuteronomy 10:8 At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day.

The LORD chose the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant and to serve and bless Him.

1. The Call to Serve: How We Are Called to Be God's Light in the World

2. The Blessing of Serving: Reaping the Benefits of Faithful Service

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Deuteronomy 10:9 Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him.

The LORD is the inheritance of the Levites as promised by God.

1: We should all be thankful for what the Lord has given to us, and trust in him for our provision.

2: As the Levites were promised an inheritance from the Lord, so are we promised his everlasting love and grace.

1: Psalm 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

2: Isaiah 26:3-4 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength."

Deuteronomy 10:10 And I stayed in the mount, according to the first time, forty days and forty nights; and the LORD hearkened unto me at that time also, and the LORD would not destroy thee.

God listened to Moses and spared the Israelites from destruction after Moses stayed in the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: Understanding God's Willingness to Spare Us

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Leads to His Protection

1. Isaiah 1:18-19 - Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.

2. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 9 He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. 13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. 14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Deuteronomy 10:11 And the LORD said unto me, Arise, take thy journey before the people, that they may go in and possess the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give unto them.

The LORD commands Moses to lead the people of Israel into the land of Canaan, which God promised to their fathers.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Trusting in God's Promises

2. Obedience in the Face of Uncertainty: Following God's Commands

1. Genesis 15:7 - And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Deuteronomy 10:12 And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,

God requires that we fear Him, walk in His ways, love Him, and serve Him with all our heart and soul.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to The Lord

2. Loving The Lord With All Our Heart and Soul

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13

2. Mark 12:30-31 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

Deuteronomy 10:13 To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?

This passage encourages us to obey God's commands and statutes for our own good.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing

2. Living a Life of Obedience

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Psalm 19:7-11 - "The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous."

Deuteronomy 10:14 Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD's thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.

God is the ultimate authority over the heavens and the earth and all that is within them.

1: We should recognize and appreciate the greatness of God, and trust in His goodness and care for us.

2: We should strive to live a life that reflects God's authority over us and all of creation.

1: Isaiah 40:26 - Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

2: Colossians 1:16-17 - For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Deuteronomy 10:15 Only the LORD had a delight in thy fathers to love them, and he chose their seed after them, even you above all people, as it is this day.

God loves us unconditionally and has chosen us above all others.

1: God's everlasting love for us.

2: The power of God's special love for us.

1: Romans 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 1 John 4:7-8 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Deuteronomy 10:16 Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

God commands us to remove the hardness of our hearts and show obedience to His word.

1. "God's Love and How it Desires Our Obedience"

2. "Breaking Free From the Chains of Disobedience"

1. Jeremiah 4:4 - "Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings."

2. Romans 2:29 - "But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God."

Deuteronomy 10:17 For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward:

God is above all and shows no partiality.

1. God is the Ultimate Authority, Who Deserves to be Obeyed and Revered

2. Loving God Without Prejudice

1. James 2:1-13

2. Romans 2:11-16

Deuteronomy 10:18 He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.

God's love for strangers is demonstrated through actions of providing food and clothing.

1: We are called to love our neighbor, no matter their background or heritage, just as God loves us.

2: We can show love to strangers through providing them with basic necessities to help meet their needs.

1: Leviticus 19:33-34, When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

2: Matthew 25:35-36 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Deuteronomy 10:19 Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

God commands His people to love the stranger, because they themselves were once strangers in the land of Egypt.

1. "Love Ye the Stranger: A Study on Deuteronomy 10:19"

2. "Strangers No More: God's Call to Welcome the Sojourner"

1. Leviticus 19:34, "But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

2. Matthew 25:35, "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:"

Deuteronomy 10:20 Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God; him shalt thou serve, and to him shalt thou cleave, and swear by his name.

We should fear and serve the Lord, and be devoted to Him, acknowledging Him in our words.

1. The Fear of the Lord: How to Live in Righteous Devotion

2. Cleaving to the Lord: The Power of Dedication

1. Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. Psalm 34:11 Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is thy praise, and he is thy God, that hath done for thee these great and terrible things, which thine eyes have seen.

God is worthy of praise and has done amazing things.

1: Let us give thanks to God for all of the wonderful things he has done.

2: We should always remember to give God the praise and glory he deserves.

1: Psalm 145:3 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Deuteronomy 10:22 Thy fathers went down into Egypt with threescore and ten persons; and now the LORD thy God hath made thee as the stars of heaven for multitude.

God has blessed the Israelites with a great multitude, as numerous as the stars in the sky, despite the fact that their ancestors had gone down into Egypt with only seventy people.

1. God's Blessing in Multitude - Deuteronomy 10:22

2. God's Miraculous Provision - Deuteronomy 10:22

1. Psalm 147:4 - He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

2. Romans 5:17 - For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Deuteronomy 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 11:1-12 emphasizes the importance of wholehearted love and obedience to God's commandments. Moses urges the Israelites to observe and do all the statutes and judgments he is commanding them, reminding them of the mighty acts they witnessed during their time in Egypt and in the wilderness. He emphasizes that it is their children who have seen these wonders firsthand and encourages them to teach future generations about God's faithfulness.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 11:13-25, Moses speaks of blessings for obedience and consequences for disobedience. He assures them that if they diligently obey God's commandments, they will experience abundant blessings rain for their crops, fertile land, provision for their livestock, victory over enemies. Moses reminds them that these blessings are contingent upon their love for Yahweh and adherence to His commands.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 11 concludes with Moses urging the Israelites to choose between life or death, blessing or curse. He sets before them a clear choice to love Yahweh, walk in His ways, hold fast to Him or turn aside after other gods and face destruction. Moses emphasizes that following God's commandments will result in a long life for both themselves and future generations in the land promised by God.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 11 presents:

Importance of wholehearted love teaching future generations;

Blessings for obedience rain, fertility, victory;

Choice between life or death following Yahweh's ways.

Emphasis on wholehearted love teaching future generations about God's faithfulness;

Blessings for obedience abundance through rain, fertility, victory over enemies;

Choice between life or death commitment to Yahweh's ways for a long life.

The chapter focuses on the importance of wholehearted love and obedience to God's commandments, blessings for obedience, and the choice between life or death. In Deuteronomy 11, Moses urges the Israelites to observe and do all the statutes and judgments he is commanding them. He emphasizes the importance of teaching future generations about God's faithfulness, reminding them of the mighty acts witnessed during their time in Egypt and in the wilderness.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 11, Moses speaks of blessings that will come upon them if they diligently obey God's commandments. He assures them of abundant blessings such as rain for their crops, fertile land, provision for their livestock, and victory over enemies. However, he emphasizes that these blessings are contingent upon their love for Yahweh and adherence to His commands.

Deuteronomy 11 concludes with Moses presenting a clear choice before the Israelites life or death, blessing or curse. He sets before them a decision to love Yahweh, walk in His ways, hold fast to Him or turn aside after other gods. Moses emphasizes that following God's commandments will result in a long life not only for themselves but also for future generations in the land promised by God. The choice is presented as one between commitment to Yahweh's ways leading to life or turning away from Him resulting in destruction.

Deuteronomy 11:1 Therefore thou shalt love the LORD thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, alway.

Love the Lord and follow His commands.

1. "Living a Life of Obedience to the Lord"

2. "The Love of God as Evidenced by Obedience"

1. Psalm 119:2 - "Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Deuteronomy 11:2 And know ye this day: for I speak not with your children which have not known, and which have not seen the chastisement of the LORD your God, his greatness, his mighty hand, and his stretched out arm,

The Lord has shown his greatness, power, and strength to the Israelites.

1. "God's Unfailing Strength"

2. "The Lord's Chastisement: A Sign of His Love"

1. Isaiah 40:28-29 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Psalm 62:11 - God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.

Deuteronomy 11:3 And his miracles, and his acts, which he did in the midst of Egypt unto Pharaoh the king of Egypt, and unto all his land;

This passage speaks of the miracles and acts of God in Egypt during the time of Pharaoh.

1) God's Miracles: A Study in Faith and Providence

2) The Power of God: A Study in His Miracles

1) Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2) Exodus 14:15-17 - And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

Deuteronomy 11:4 And what he did unto the army of Egypt, unto their horses, and to their chariots; how he made the water of the Red sea to overflow them as they pursued after you, and how the LORD hath destroyed them unto this day;

God demonstrated His power and faithfulness by destroying Pharaoh's army in the Red Sea as they were pursuing the Israelites.

1. God is faithful and will protect us from our enemies.

2. We must trust in God's power and providence even when we face difficult odds.

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - Moses said to the people, Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Deuteronomy 11:5 And what he did unto you in the wilderness, until ye came into this place;

God's faithfulness in leading and providing for the Israelites throughout their journey in the wilderness.

1: We can trust in God's faithfulness, even when our circumstances seem difficult.

2: God's faithfulness is powerful and capable of providing for us in the most challenging of times.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Deuteronomy 11:6 And what he did unto Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of Reuben: how the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their households, and their tents, and all the substance that was in their possession, in the midst of all Israel:

God will punish those who disobey him.

1. Obedience is the Path to God's Favor

2. God's Judgement is Swift and Just

1. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Hebrews 12:28- 29 - "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire."

Deuteronomy 11:7 But your eyes have seen all the great acts of the LORD which he did.

God has done great works for his people which they have seen with their own eyes.

1. God's Great Works - Celebrating the Miracles of the LORD

2. God's Faithfulness - Seeing His Hand at Work in Our Lives

1. Psalm 22:30 - "A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Deuteronomy 11:8 Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it;

God commands the Israelites to obey all His commandments so that they may be strong and possess the land He has promised them.

1. God's Promises Are Dependent On Our Obedience

2. The Strength To Possess Our Land Is Found In God's Word

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 119:11 - I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Deuteronomy 11:9 And that ye may prolong your days in the land, which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

This passage speaks of God's promise to give the Israelites a land filled with abundance and prosperity.

1. God's Promises are Reliable and Lasting

2. Fulfilling the Covenant through Obedience

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. Titus 1:2 - In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Deuteronomy 11:10 For the land, whither thou goest in to possess it, is not as the land of Egypt, from whence ye came out, where thou sowedst thy seed, and wateredst it with thy foot, as a garden of herbs:

The land of Israel is different from Egypt, and requires diligent care and effort from the Israelites.

1. Don't Take Anything for Granted - Deuteronomy 11:10

2. The Value of Diligence - Deuteronomy 11:10

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

2. Proverbs 12:11 - Whoever works his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows worthless pursuits will have plenty of poverty.

Deuteronomy 11:11 But the land, whither ye go to possess it, is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven:

This passage speaks of the land of Israel, which is a land filled with hills and valleys that receive water from the rain of heaven.

1. God's Promises: A Blessing of Abundant Water

2. The Land of Israel: A Gift of God's Provision

1. Psalm 104:10-11 - He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills.

2. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater.

Deuteronomy 11:12 A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year.

The LORD God cares deeply for the land of Israel, and His eyes are ever-watchful over the land from the start of the year to the end.

1. God s Unfailing Care for His People

2. The Everlasting Watcher: God s Constancy Over All

1. Psalm 121:3 - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

2. Isaiah 40:28 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Deuteronomy 11:13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,

God commands us to love Him and to serve Him with all our heart and soul.

1. Learning to Love the Lord with All of Our Hearts and Souls

2. Serving God with Dedication and Devotion

1. Matthew 22:37-39 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Deuteronomy 11:14 That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

This passage emphasizes God's provision of rain for the gathering of crops such as corn, wine, and oil.

1. "The Bountiful Blessings of God"

2. "God's Abundant Care for His People"

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us not to worry but to trust in God's provision.

2. Psalm 65:9-13 - God's faithful provision of rain and abundance of harvest.

Deuteronomy 11:15 And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.

God's promise of provision for his people.

1: God will provide for all our needs in life.

2: Rely on God for all of our sustenance.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages his followers to not worry but to trust in God's provision.

2: Philippians 4:19 - God will supply all our needs according to his riches in glory.

Deuteronomy 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

God warns us not to be deceived and to remain faithful to Him.

1. The Danger and Consequences of Idolatry

2. The Power of a Deceived Heart

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

2. James 1:16 - "Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers."

Deuteronomy 11:17 And then the LORD's wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you.

This passage emphasizes the importance of obeying God's commandments, as it warns against the consequences of disobeying God and the danger of perishing quickly from the land He has given us.

1. Obedience Is Key: The Danger of Disobeying God

2. God's Wrath: Yielding the Fruits of Obedience

1. James 4:17 - Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2. Proverbs 12:13 - The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble.

Deuteronomy 11:18 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

God encourages His people to keep His words in their hearts and souls and to bind them to their hands.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Keeping God's Words in our Hearts and Souls Can Strengthen our Faith

2. The Significance of Obedience: How Following God's Commandments Brings Blessings

1. Matthew 4:4, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

2. Psalm 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Deuteronomy 11:19 And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Parents are instructed to continuously teach their children God's laws while at home, in public, while going to bed, and while waking up.

1. The Power of Parental Influence: Teaching God s Laws to Our Children

2. Teaching Our Children God s Ways: The Parent s Responsibility

1. Psalm 78:5-7 - For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 11:20 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:

God commands us to write his laws on the doorposts and gates of our homes, as a reminder of His presence and protection.

1. The Power of God's Presence: How Writing His Laws on the Doorposts and Gates of Our Homes Reminds Us of His Protective Love

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Why Following the Commandment to Write God's Laws Is Rewarded

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2. Psalm 91:1-3 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust. For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

Deuteronomy 11:21 That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

This verse from Deuteronomy encourages people to obey God's commands so that their days may be multiplied.

1. Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. Reaping the Benefits of Obedience

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Deuteronomy 11:22 For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;

God commands us to obey His commandments, to love Him, to follow His ways, and to cling to Him.

1. Loving God with All Our Heart, Soul, and Mind: The Call to Total Devotion.

2. Cleaving to God: Finding Joy and Strength in a Faithful Walk.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Deuteronomy 11:23 Then will the LORD drive out all these nations from before you, and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves.

The Lord will drive out all nations from before His people and they will possess greater nations.

1. God's Promises are Fulfilled for His People

2. Possessing Greater Nations Through Faith

1. Deuteronomy 11:23

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Deuteronomy 11:24 Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

God has promised His people a land of abundance and prosperity.

1. God's Promises are Unconditional and Unfailing

2. The Blessings of Following God's Commandments

1. Joshua 1:3-5 - "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, just as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

Deuteronomy 11:25 There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you.

God promises that no one will be able to stand against those who follow Him and obey His commands.

1. "The Power of Obedience"

2. "Standing Firm in Your Faith"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 28:20 - "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Deuteronomy 11:26 Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;

God gives us the choice of a blessing or a curse.

1: Choose the Blessing - Deuteronomy 11:26

2: The Power of Choice - Deuteronomy 11:26

1: Joshua 24:15 - "Choose you this day whom ye will serve".

2: Proverbs 11:21 - "Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished".

Deuteronomy 11:27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day:

The passage speaks of the blessing that comes from obedience to the Lord's commandments.

1: Obedience to the Lord brings us blessings.

2: Keeping God's commandments brings us joy and peace.

1: James 1:25 - "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

2: Psalm 119:1-2 - "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."

Deuteronomy 11:28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

This verse from Deuteronomy 11:28 warns against disobedience to the Lord by following false gods.

1. "God's Commandments: Obey or Face a Curse"

2. "True Devotion: Staying True to the Lord's Way"

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Deuteronomy 11:29 And it shall come to pass, when the LORD thy God hath brought thee in unto the land whither thou goest to possess it, that thou shalt put the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal.

God commanded the Israelites to bless Mount Gerizim and curse Mount Ebal when they entered the Promised Land.

1. The Power of Blessing and Cursing: Exploring the Meaning of Deuteronomy 11:29

2. Living Into the Promise: Obedience and Blessing in Deuteronomy 11:29

1. Deuteronomy 27:12-13 - The Israelites followed God's command to bless Mount Gerizim and curse Mount Ebal.

2. James 3:9-12 - The power of blessing and cursing and how we should use our words.

Deuteronomy 11:30 Are they not on the other side Jordan, by the way where the sun goeth down, in the land of the Canaanites, which dwell in the champaign over against Gilgal, beside the plains of Moreh?

God is reminding the Israelites of the land of Canaan that lies on the other side of the Jordan River, and is near Gilgal and the Plains of Moreh.

1. Understanding Our Place in God s Plan

2. The Promise of New Beginnings

1. Joshua 1:1-9

2. Ezekiel 36:24-27

Deuteronomy 11:31 For ye shall pass over Jordan to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God giveth you, and ye shall possess it, and dwell therein.

God is calling his people to take possession of the land which he has promised.

One: When God Promises, He Provides

Two: We Are Blessed When We Obey God

One: Joshua 1:2-3 - Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel.

Two: Isaiah 43:19-21 - Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people.

Deuteronomy 11:32 And ye shall observe to do all the statutes and judgments which I set before you this day.

God commands the Israelites to obey all of His statutes and judgments.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Path to Righteousness

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Following God's Will

1. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Deuteronomy 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 12:1-14 emphasizes the centralization of worship and the proper place for offering sacrifices. Moses instructs the Israelites to completely destroy the altars, pillars, and sacred trees of the Canaanite nations they are about to dispossess. He commands them to seek out the place where Yahweh will choose to establish His name for worship and sacrifice. Moses warns against offering sacrifices anywhere else and emphasizes that they should bring their offerings only to this designated place.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 12:15-28, Moses provides guidelines for eating meat as part of their sacrificial system. He permits them to slaughter animals for food within their own towns but warns against consuming blood, which represents life. Moses emphasizes that they should pour out blood on the ground like water and only eat meat after presenting it as an offering at the designated place of worship.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 12 concludes with Moses warning against following pagan practices or being enticed by false prophets who promote idolatry. He urges them not to inquire about how these nations served their gods but instead remain faithful to Yahweh's commandments. Moses encourages obedience, emphasizing that it is through obedience that they will possess and enjoy the land promised by God.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 12 presents:

Centralization of worship destroying Canaanite altars;

Guidelines for sacrificial system proper place for offerings;

Warning against idolatry obedience leads to possession of land.

Emphasis on centralization of worship destroying Canaanite altars and seeking designated place;

Guidelines for eating meat slaughtering within towns, avoiding consumption of blood;

Warning against idolatry faithfulness to Yahweh's commandments and possession of the promised land.

The chapter focuses on the centralization of worship, guidelines for the sacrificial system, and a warning against idolatry. In Deuteronomy 12, Moses instructs the Israelites to completely destroy the altars, pillars, and sacred trees of the Canaanite nations they are about to dispossess. He commands them to seek out the place where Yahweh will choose to establish His name for worship and sacrifice. Moses warns against offering sacrifices anywhere else and emphasizes that they should bring their offerings only to this designated place.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 12, Moses provides guidelines for eating meat as part of their sacrificial system. He permits them to slaughter animals for food within their own towns but warns against consuming blood, which represents life. Moses emphasizes that they should pour out blood on the ground like water and only eat meat after presenting it as an offering at the designated place of worship.

Deuteronomy 12 concludes with Moses warning against following pagan practices or being enticed by false prophets who promote idolatry. He urges them not to inquire about how these nations served their gods but instead remain faithful to Yahweh's commandments. Moses encourages obedience as a means of possessing and enjoying the land promised by God, emphasizing that it is through obedience that they will secure their inheritance in accordance with His covenant promises.

Deuteronomy 12:1 These are the statutes and judgments, which ye shall observe to do in the land, which the LORD God of thy fathers giveth thee to possess it, all the days that ye live upon the earth.

This passage encourages the people to obey the commands of the Lord and to live according to His will.

1. Obeying God's Will: Living According to His Commandments

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Finding Joy in Following God's Ways

1. Joshua 1:8 - "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be

Deuteronomy 12:2 Ye shall utterly destroy all the places, wherein the nations which ye shall possess served their gods, upon the high mountains, and upon the hills, and under every green tree:

God commands the Israelites to destroy all places where the nations they conquer worship their gods.

1. God's command to destroy false worship

2. The importance of obedience to God

1. Joshua 24:15-16 - Choose you this day whom ye will serve; as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Deuteronomy 12:3 And ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; and ye shall hew down the graven images of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place.

The Israelites are instructed to destroy any idols or symbols of false gods in their land.

1. "The Power of Putting Away False Idols"

2. "The Call to Commitment: Rejecting False Gods"

1. 1 Corinthians 10:14-15 - "Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say."

2. Revelation 2:14-15 - "But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality."

Deuteronomy 12:4 Ye shall not do so unto the LORD your God.

The passage warns against the practice of idolatry and commands obedience to God.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning to Worship God Alone

2. The Power of Obedience: Trusting in God's Love and Care

1. Isaiah 44:6-8 - Worshiping God Alone

2. Romans 8:28 - Trusting in God's Love and Care

Deuteronomy 12:5 But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:

God has chosen a place to put his name and we should seek out and go to that place.

1. Seek and Follow the Will of God

2. Finding and Accepting God's Place of Dwelling

1. Deuteronomy 12:5

2. Joshua 24:15-16 But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Deuteronomy 12:6 And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks:

The Israelites are instructed to bring their burnt offerings, sacrifices, tithes, heave offerings, vows, freewill offerings, and firstlings of their herds and flocks to the place the Lord chooses.

1. God's plan for our offerings: Obedience and Sacrifice

2. Giving to the Lord: Honoring God with our Tithes and Offerings

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Deuteronomy 12:7 And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.

The passage encourages the Israelites to rejoice in the blessing God has given them, by eating in the Lord's presence with their families.

1. The Joy of God's Blessing - Celebrating the gifts that God has bestowed upon us

2. Rejoicing with Family - Cherishing the moments to gather and share with those we love

1. Psalm 28:7 - The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Deuteronomy 12:8 Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes.

This passage reminds us not to follow our own judgement or desires, but to seek God's will.

1. "Our Own Way is Not Always God's Way"

2. "The Danger of Self-Righteousness"

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Deuteronomy 12:9 For ye are not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance, which the LORD your God giveth you.

God's people have not yet come to the land of promise that is promised to them by the Lord.

1. God's Faithfulness: Trusting in the Lord's Promises

2. A Call to Pursue Rest: Finding Contentment in God's Provision

1. Hebrews 4:3-5 - For we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, As I swore in my wrath, they shall not enter my rest, although his works were finished from the foundation of the world.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Deuteronomy 12:10 But when ye go over Jordan, and dwell in the land which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit, and when he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety;

When the Israelites cross the Jordan River and settle in the land promised to them by God, they will have rest from their enemies and peace.

1. God's Promises of Rest and Safety

2. God's Protection and Blessing

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

2. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

Deuteronomy 12:11 Then there shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD:

God commands his people to bring their offerings of burnt offerings, sacrifices, tithes, heave offering, and vows to the place of His choosing.

1. Learning to live by the Lord s Commandments

2. Living a life of gratitude and obedience

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Deuteronomy 12:12 And ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God, ye, and your sons, and your daughters, and your menservants, and your maidservants, and the Levite that is within your gates; forasmuch as he hath no part nor inheritance with you.

This passage instructs the people of Israel to rejoice before the Lord and to include all members of their household, including servants and the Levites.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Why We Should Celebrate Together

2. Living Generously: The Benefits of Sharing with Others

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Deuteronomy 12:13 Take heed to thyself that thou offer not thy burnt offerings in every place that thou seest:

This passage urges people to be mindful of where they offer their burnt offerings, and to not offer them in just any place they see.

1. Offer Your Gifts to God with Care and Intention

2. Where You Offer Will Reflect Your Devotion to God

1. Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Deuteronomy 12:14 But in the place which the LORD shall choose in one of thy tribes, there thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, and there thou shalt do all that I command thee.

God commands His people to offer their burnt offerings in the place He chooses, which is within one of their tribes.

1. How Obedience to God s Commands Brings Blessing

2. Dedicating Our Offerings to the Lord

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Deuteronomy 12:15 Notwithstanding thou mayest kill and eat flesh in all thy gates, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee: the unclean and the clean may eat thereof, as of the roebuck, and as of the hart.

This passage calls on believers to enjoy all of the blessings God has given them, while being mindful of what is clean and unclean.

1. Rejoice in the Blessings of the Lord

2. Living a Clean and Holy Life

1. Ephesians 5:3-5 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God s holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person such a person is an idolater has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

2. Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Deuteronomy 12:16 Only ye shall not eat the blood; ye shall pour it upon the earth as water.

God's people should not eat the blood of animals, but rather pour it on the ground like water.

1: Our relationship with God should be based on respect for His commandments, including not eating the blood of animals.

2: We must be mindful of the sanctity of all life and show reverence even in the smallest of actions.

1: Leviticus 17:12 "Therefore I said to the people of Israel, No person among you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger who sojourns among you eat blood."

2: Genesis 9:4 "But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood."

Deuteronomy 12:17 Thou mayest not eat within thy gates the tithe of thy corn, or of thy wine, or of thy oil, or the firstlings of thy herds or of thy flock, nor any of thy vows which thou vowest, nor thy freewill offerings, or heave offering of thine hand:

God commands that the tithe of corn, wine, oil, herds, flock, vows, freewill offerings, and heave offerings should not be eaten within the gates.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Word

2. The Blessings of Giving to God

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Malachi 3:10 - "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Deuteronomy 12:18 But thou must eat them before the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD thy God shall choose, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that is within thy gates: and thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God in all that thou puttest thine hands unto.

This passage encourages us to be thankful and to rejoice before the Lord by eating the food He has provided us with in the place He chooses.

1: Rejoicing in the Lord's Provision

2: Giving Thanks to the Lord

1: Matthew 6:31-33 - Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

2: Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Deuteronomy 12:19 Take heed to thyself that thou forsake not the Levite as long as thou livest upon the earth.

God warns the Israelites to not forget the Levites and to continue to support them as long as they live.

1. God's Warning: Remembering the Levites

2. The Responsibility of the Israelites to Care for the Levites

1. Deuteronomy 10:19 - "Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt."

2. Galatians 6:10 - "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Deuteronomy 12:20 When the LORD thy God shall enlarge thy border, as he hath promised thee, and thou shalt say, I will eat flesh, because thy soul longeth to eat flesh; thou mayest eat flesh, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after.

God promises to expand the borders of his people and allows them to eat whatever their soul desires.

1. The Lord's Promise: God's Provision for His People

2. Satisfying Our Souls: Longing for the Lord's Provision

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Psalm 107:9 - "For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things."

Deuteronomy 12:21 If the place which the LORD thy God hath chosen to put his name there be too far from thee, then thou shalt kill of thy herd and of thy flock, which the LORD hath given thee, as I have commanded thee, and thou shalt eat in thy gates whatsoever thy soul lusteth after.

This passage from Deuteronomy 12:21 teaches us that if the place God has chosen is too far away, we are free to eat of the flock and herd as He has commanded.

1. God's Provision: How to Reap the Benefits of His Generous Gifts

2. Obedience: The Key to Experiencing God's Best

1. Psalm 34:8 - "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 12:22 Even as the roebuck and the hart is eaten, so thou shalt eat them: the unclean and the clean shall eat of them alike.

God allows for the consumption of both clean and unclean animals.

1. The Grace of God in Allowing Us to Eat: A look at Deuteronomy 12:22 and how it speaks to God's love for us.

2. The Differing Standards: Exploring the differences between clean and unclean animals and how Deuteronomy 12:22 speaks to this.

1. Romans 14:14-15 - "I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died."

2. Leviticus 11:1-47 - "And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying to them, Speak to the people of Israel, saying, These are the living things that you may eat among all the animals that are on the earth. Whatever parts the hoof and is cloven-footed and chews the cud, among the animals, you may eat. Nevertheless, among those that chew the cud or part the hoof, you shall not eat these: The camel, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you. And the rock badger, because it chews the cud but does not part the hoof, is unclean to you."

Deuteronomy 12:23 Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood is the life; and thou mayest not eat the life with the flesh.

Eating the blood of an animal is prohibited in the Bible.

1. The Lifeblood of God: The Significance of Not Eating Blood

2. God's Covenant: The Sanctity of Life and the Abstinence of Blood

1. Leviticus 17:12-14 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

2. Romans 14:14-15 - I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean. But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably.

Deuteronomy 12:24 Thou shalt not eat it; thou shalt pour it upon the earth as water.

The passage states that God commands people not to consume sacrificial offerings, but instead pour them on the earth as water.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commands Even When They Don't Make Sense

2. The Gift of Sacrifice: Taking the Time to Make Sacrifices to God

1. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Deuteronomy 12:25 Thou shalt not eat it; that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, when thou shalt do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

God commands us not to eat certain things so that we and our children may have a good life.

1. Doing what is right in the eyes of the Lord brings blessings to us and our families.

2. It is important to follow God's commands so that we can have a good life.

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Deuteronomy 12:26 Only thy holy things which thou hast, and thy vows, thou shalt take, and go unto the place which the LORD shall choose:

God commands us to bring our holy offerings and fulfill our vows at the place He has chosen.

1. Obeying God's Call: Learning to Follow His Directions

2. The Importance of Keeping Promises: Our Vows to God

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Malachi 3:10 - "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need."

Deuteronomy 12:27 And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of the LORD thy God: and the blood of thy sacrifices shall be poured out upon the altar of the LORD thy God, and thou shalt eat the flesh.

God commands the Israelites to offer their burnt offerings on the altar of the Lord, and to pour out the blood of their sacrifices on the altar and to eat the flesh.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: The Role of Obedience in Worship

2. A Life of Devotion: The Significance of Burnt Offerings

1. Leviticus 1:2-9 The Lord speaks to Moses regarding the burnt offerings of Israel.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 Encouragement to offer spiritual sacrifices to God, through Jesus Christ.

Deuteronomy 12:28 Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, when thou doest that which is good and right in the sight of the LORD thy God.

God commands us to obey His words and to do what is good and right in the sight of Him so that it may be well with us and our children.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Provides Guidance and Protection

2. Doing Good and Right in the Sight of the Lord: The Importance of Living Out Our Faith

1. Ephesians 5:1-2 - "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Deuteronomy 12:29 When the LORD thy God shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land;

God promised the Israelites that He would give them the land of their enemies if they followed His commandments.

1. Obeying God Brings Blessings

2. Rely on God to Fulfill His Promises

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

2. Joshua 1:8 - This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Deuteronomy 12:30 Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise.

We should not follow the practices of other nations after they have been destroyed, nor should we inquire into their gods or imitate their practices.

1. Beware of Imitating the Practices of Nations That Have Been Destroyed

2. Seek God's Way, Not the Ways of Other Nations

1. Proverbs 19:2 - "Desire without knowledge is not good, and whoever makes haste with his feet misses his way."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - "Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry."

Deuteronomy 12:31 Thou shalt not do so unto the LORD thy God: for every abomination to the LORD, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods.

We should not treat God the same way that other people treat their false gods, even if it means sacrificing our children.

1. Choosing the Right God: Why We Should Follow the Lord

2. The Danger of Idolatry: Why We Should Reject False Gods

1. Deuteronomy 12:31

2. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Deuteronomy 12:32 What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

God commands us to obey his instructions without adding or taking away from them.

1. The Importance of Obeying God s Commands

2. The Power of Complying with God s Instructions

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!

Deuteronomy 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 13:1-5 warns against false prophets and dreamers who may arise among the Israelites, performing signs and wonders to lead them astray from Yahweh. Moses emphasizes that even if their predictions come true, if they advocate following other gods or worshiping idols, they are to be rejected. He commands the Israelites to remain loyal to Yahweh alone and not be swayed by deceptive signs or persuasive words.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 13:6-11, Moses instructs the Israelites on how to deal with individuals whether family members or close friends who entice them to worship other gods. He emphasizes that such individuals should be put to death without pity as a means of purging evil from their midst. Moses underscores the seriousness of idolatry and warns against showing any tolerance or compromise in matters of faithfulness to Yahweh.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 13 concludes with Moses emphasizing the importance of maintaining loyalty solely to Yahweh. He instructs the Israelites not to rebuild or restore any city where idolatry was practiced after it has been destroyed but instead dedicate it completely for destruction as an offering to God. Moses reiterates that they are a holy people set apart for Yahweh's purposes and must walk in His ways without turning aside after false gods.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 13 presents:

Warning against false prophets rejecting idolatrous teachings;

Dealing with those who entice idolatry purging evil without pity;

Maintaining loyalty solely to Yahweh dedicating destroyed cities completely.

Emphasis on warning against false prophets rejecting teachings promoting other gods;

Instructions for dealing with those who entice idolatry purging evil without pity;

Maintaining loyalty solely to Yahweh dedicating destroyed cities completely as an offering.

The chapter focuses on the warning against false prophets, instructions for dealing with those who entice idolatry, and the importance of maintaining loyalty solely to Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 13, Moses warns the Israelites about false prophets and dreamers who may arise among them, performing signs and wonders to lead them astray from Yahweh. He emphasizes that even if these individuals' predictions come true, if they advocate following other gods or worshiping idols, they are to be rejected. Moses commands the Israelites to remain loyal to Yahweh alone and not be swayed by deceptive signs or persuasive words.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 13, Moses provides instructions on how to deal with individuals whether family members or close friends who entice them to worship other gods. He emphasizes that such individuals should be put to death without pity as a means of purging evil from their midst. Moses underscores the seriousness of idolatry and warns against showing any tolerance or compromise in matters of faithfulness to Yahweh.

Deuteronomy 13 concludes with Moses emphasizing the importance of maintaining loyalty solely to Yahweh. He instructs the Israelites not to rebuild or restore any city where idolatry was practiced after it has been destroyed but instead dedicate it completely for destruction as an offering to God. Moses reiterates that they are a holy people set apart for Yahweh's purposes and must walk in His ways without turning aside after false gods or compromising their devotion.

Deuteronomy 13:1 If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,

God commands us to test prophets and dreams to discern truth from falsehood.

1. True Prophets vs False Prophets: How to Discern the Difference

2. Trust in God, Not in Signs and Wonders

1. Jeremiah 29:8-9, For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, nor listen to the dreams which they dream. For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says the LORD.

2. 1 John 4:1, Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Deuteronomy 13:2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;

God commands against following other gods and serving them, and warns of signs and wonders as test of faith.

1. The Danger of Falling Prey To False Gods

2. Obeying God's Commandments For Our Own Benefit

1. Deuteronomy 13:2-4

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Deuteronomy 13:3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

God tests us to discover if we love Him with all our heart and soul.

1. The Test of Our Love: God's Revealing of Our Hearts

2. The Unshakable Foundation of Our Faith: Proving Our Love for God

1. Romans 8:28-29 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

2. 1 John 4:19 - We love him, because he first loved us.

Deuteronomy 13:4 Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.

This passage speaks of the importance of following the Lord and keeping His commandments.

1. The Power of Obedience: A Call to Follow God s Commandments

2. The Joy of Serving God: Cleaving to Him and Obeying His Voice

1. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Deuteronomy 13:5 And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

The Lord commands that false prophets who lead people away from Him should be put to death.

1. "The Lord's Warning for False Prophets"

2. "Heeding the Lord's Commandments"

1. Matthew 10:28 - "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Deuteronomy 13:6 If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;

God commands his people to not follow other gods that their family, friends, or close associates may entice them to worship.

1. The Power of Peer Pressure: How to Stand Firm for God in the Face of Temptation

2. The Power of Covenant Relationships: How Our Closest Relationships Can Either Draw Us Closer to God or Lead Us Astray

1. Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

2. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

Deuteronomy 13:7 Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth;

God commands the Israelites not to worship the gods of other nations, no matter how close or far away they are.

1. God's Holiness: God calls us to be holy, just like He is holy.

2. The Power of Worship: We must be careful with whom and what we worship.

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Deuteronomy 13:8 Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:

Do not show mercy to false prophets or those who lead people away from God.

1. The Danger of False Prophets: Don't be fooled by those who preach a false gospel.

2. The Call to Follow God: Be faithful to God and reject false prophets.

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - Thus says the Lord of hosts: Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; they speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits.

Deuteronomy 13:9 But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

God commands that sinners must be put to death, and all the people should participate in the execution.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commandments.

2. The severity of God's justice.

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

2. James 4:12 - "There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"

Deuteronomy 13:10 And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

The passage emphasizes that those who attempt to lead others away from God should be severely punished.

1. God's Love Is Unconditional, But His Punishments Are Just

2. Be Faithful To God, Even In Temptation

1. Joshua 23:16 - "When ye have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed yourselves to them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he hath given unto you."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Deuteronomy 13:11 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.

This passage from Deuteronomy commands the Israelites to obey God's laws, and to not do any wickedness.

1. "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom"

2. "Choosing Obedience Over Wickedness"

1. Psalm 111:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!"

2. Joshua 24:15 - "But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Deuteronomy 13:12 If thou shalt hear say in one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there, saying,

13 Certain men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known;

The passage talks about people within one of the cities given to the Israelites by God, who are leading the inhabitants of their city to serve other gods.

1. We must not be deceived by those who lead us astray.

2. We must always remain faithful and devoted to God and His word.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other."

Deuteronomy 13:13 Certain men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known;

Belial's children have persuaded the people of a city to abandon their faith and worship foreign gods.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Power of Temptation and Deception

1. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 - See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, 16 in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Deuteronomy 13:14 Then shalt thou enquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, if it be truth, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought among you;

God commands us to investigate and search diligently for truth.

1. Relying on God to Reveal the Truth

2. Finding the Truth in a World of Lies

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2. Psalm 119:45 - I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.

Deuteronomy 13:15 Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that is therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword.

God commands that the inhabitants of a city should be destroyed completely along with their property and animals.

1. God's Judgment and Justice

2. Obeying God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 13:15

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

Deuteronomy 13:16 And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, for the LORD thy God: and it shall be an heap for ever; it shall not be built again.

This passage from Deuteronomy emphasizes God's judgement and commands to completely burn a city as an everlasting reminder of his power.

1. The Power of God's Judgement

2. Obeying God's Commands

1. Joshua 6:17-21

2. Isaiah 26:5-6

Deuteronomy 13:17 And there shall cleave nought of the cursed thing to thine hand: that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and shew thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee, and multiply thee, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers;

The Lord commands that no cursed thing should be kept, so that He can show mercy and compassion, and fulfill His promise of multiplying His people.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion - How we can be blessed through obedience

2. Blessing through Obedience - A lesson from Deuteronomy 13:17

1. Romans 8:28 (And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.)

2. Psalm 112:1 (Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.)

Deuteronomy 13:18 When thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep all his commandments which I command thee this day, to do that which is right in the eyes of the LORD thy God.

We should listen to the Lord and obey His commandments in order to do what is right in His eyes.

1. "Living Righteously in God's Eyes"

2. "The Importance of Obeying God's Commands"

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said, Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

2. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Deuteronomy 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 14:1-21 begins with Moses reminding the Israelites that they are God's chosen people and therefore must not engage in practices associated with mourning for the dead or self-inflicted wounds. He then provides guidelines on clean and unclean animals for food. Moses lists various animals, distinguishing between those that are permissible to eat (such as cattle, sheep, goats) and those that are forbidden (such as pigs, camels, eagles). He emphasizes the importance of being a holy people set apart for Yahweh's purposes.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 14:22-29, Moses instructs the Israelites regarding tithes and offerings. He commands them to set aside a tenth of their produce each year and bring it to the designated place of worship. If the journey is too far, they can exchange their tithe for money and use it to buy whatever their hearts desire food, drink, or other provisions for a joyful celebration before Yahweh. Moses also reminds them to provide for the Levites who have no inheritance among them.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 14 concludes with Moses emphasizing charitable acts towards those in need. He encourages generosity towards foreigners, orphans, widows within their towns so that they may eat and be satisfied. Moses assures them that God watches over these vulnerable groups and will bless them when they extend compassion towards them. He reminds Israel of their own experience as foreigners in Egypt and urges them to remember this when interacting with others.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 14 presents:

Being a holy people guidelines on clean and unclean animals;

Tithes and offerings setting aside a tenth for worship;

Charitable acts generosity towards foreigners, orphans, widows.

Emphasis on being a holy people distinction between clean and unclean animals;

Instructions on tithes and offerings setting aside a tenth for worship at designated place;

Encouragement for charitable acts generosity towards foreigners, orphans, widows.

The chapter focuses on being a holy people, instructions regarding tithes and offerings, and the importance of charitable acts. In Deuteronomy 14, Moses reminds the Israelites that they are God's chosen people and therefore must not engage in practices associated with mourning for the dead or self-inflicted wounds. He then provides guidelines regarding clean and unclean animals for food. Moses lists various animals, distinguishing between those that are permissible to eat (such as cattle, sheep, goats) and those that are forbidden (such as pigs, camels, eagles). He emphasizes the importance of being a holy people set apart for Yahweh's purposes.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 14, Moses instructs the Israelites regarding tithes and offerings. He commands them to set aside a tenth of their produce each year and bring it to the designated place of worship. If the journey is too far, they can exchange their tithe for money and use it to buy whatever their hearts desire food, drink or other provisions for a joyful celebration before Yahweh. Moses also reminds them to provide for the Levites who have no inheritance among them but serve in religious duties.

Deuteronomy 14 concludes with Moses emphasizing charitable acts towards those in need within their towns. He encourages generosity towards foreigners, orphans, widows so that they may eat and be satisfied. Moses assures them that God watches over these vulnerable groups and will bless them when they extend compassion towards them. He reminds Israel of their own experience as foreigners in Egypt an experience marked by hardship and urges them to remember this when interacting with others who find themselves in similar circumstances.

Deuteronomy 14:1 Ye are the children of the LORD your God: ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead.

You are God's children and must not hurt yourselves in remembrance of the dead.

1: We are God's children, and through Him we can find peace and comfort even in the face of death.

2: We are called to honour the dead, and must do so in a way that is pleasing to God.

1: Romans 8:15-17 - For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

2: Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

Deuteronomy 14:2 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.

God chose the Israelites to be a special people to himself and to be distinct from all other nations on earth.

1. God has made us special and chosen us to be His own

2. Living as God's peculiar people - God's chosen ones

1. Ephesians 2:8-10 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Titus 3:4-7 - But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Deuteronomy 14:3 Thou shalt not eat any abominable thing.

This passage warns against the consumption of abominable things.

1. Learning to Abide by God's Laws: The Abominable Things We Should Avoid

2. The Power of God's Word: Abstaining from Abominable Things

1. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

2. Proverbs 4:20-23 - "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

Deuteronomy 14:4 These are the beasts which ye shall eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat,

God commands us to only eat certain types of animals.

1. The Holiness of Eating: How God's Word Instructs Us on What We Should Put in Our Bodies

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Can Bring Blessings

1. Romans 14:17-19 - For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

2. Leviticus 11:3-8 - Of the animals that are on the earth, these are the ones you may eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat, the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the wild goat, the ibex, the antelope, and the mountain sheep.

Deuteronomy 14:5 The hart, and the roebuck, and the fallow deer, and the wild goat, and the pygarg, and the wild ox, and the chamois.

This passage describes seven animals that are allowed to be eaten by the Israelites.

1. Abiding by God's dietary laws will bring us closer to Him.

2. God's wisdom can be seen in the food He provides for us.

1. Leviticus 11:2-3 - "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, These are the living things that you may eat among all the animals that are on the earth. Whatever parts the hoof and is cloven-footed and chews the cud, among the animals, you may eat.

2. Psalm 104:14 - You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth.

Deuteronomy 14:6 And every beast that parteth the hoof, and cleaveth the cleft into two claws, and cheweth the cud among the beasts, that ye shall eat.

This passage from Deuteronomy 14:6 states that animals that chew the cud and divide their hoofs into two are permitted to be eaten.

1. The Lord's Provision: God has provided us with many blessings, including the food we eat.

2. God's Commandments: God has given us the commandment to eat certain animals that meet His criteria.

1. 1 Timothy 4:3-4 - "Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving."

2. Psalm 136:25 - "Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy endureth for ever."

Deuteronomy 14:7 Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; as the camel, and the hare, and the coney: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; therefore they are unclean unto you.

God has commanded His people not to eat animals which chew the cud but do not have a divided hoof, such as camels, hares, and coneys.

1. "God's Command and Our Obedience"

2. "Unclean and Clean: Spiritual Guidance for Everyday Living"

1. Leviticus 11:2-4

2. Romans 12:1-2

Deuteronomy 14:8 And the swine, because it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud, it is unclean unto you: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcase.

God commands the Israelites to refrain from eating pork and touching dead pig carcasses.

1. God s Word provides us with clear instruction for how we are to live our lives.

2. We must be careful to follow God s commands even when they may seem difficult or strange.

1. 1 Timothy 4:4-5 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

2. Romans 14:14 I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

Deuteronomy 14:9 These ye shall eat of all that are in the waters: all that have fins and scales shall ye eat:

This passage states that God allows the Israelites to eat any fish with fins and scales.

1. Rejoice in the Lord's Abundance - How God provides us with sustenance through his creatures.

2. Be Obedient to the Lord's Commands - Why it is important to follow God's laws.

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

2. Revelation 19:9 - And he said to me, Write: Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb! And he said to me, These are the true sayings of God.

Deuteronomy 14:10 And whatsoever hath not fins and scales ye may not eat; it is unclean unto you.

God commanded the Israelites not to eat animals without fins and scales.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to God's Word

2. The Holiness of God's Commandments

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Deuteronomy 14:11 Of all clean birds ye shall eat.

This passage from Deuteronomy encourages us to eat clean animals and birds.

1. The Importance of Eating Clean - Learning to Follow God's Diet

2. Abiding by God's Instructions - Eating Clean and Living Righteous Lives

1. Leviticus 11:1-47 - The Lord's Instructions for Eating Clean

2. Psalm 103:1-5 - Praising God for His Blessings and Guidance

Deuteronomy 14:12 But these are they of which ye shall not eat: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray,

God instructs the Israelites to not eat certain birds.

1: We should respect God s commands, even when it is not clear why He wants us to obey.

2: We must have faith that God s commands are always for our good, even if we don t understand them.

1: Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2: Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Deuteronomy 14:13 And the glede, and the kite, and the vulture after his kind,

God commands His people to tithe.

1. The Importance of Tithing: Living a Life of Generosity and Gratitude

2. A Biblical Perspective on Money: God's Provision and Our Responsibility

1. Malachi 3:10-12 - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Deuteronomy 14:14 And every raven after his kind,

and the strong among the fowls, after their kind, and every beast of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

God commanded Noah to take two of every type of animal on board the ark to keep them alive.

1. God's Faithfulness: God's faithfulness stands in spite of the difficulty of the task He gave Noah.

2. Obedience in Difficult Times: We must be obedient to God even when it may seem difficult.

1. Hebrews 11:7 - "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

2. 2 Peter 2:5 - "And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly."

Deuteronomy 14:15 And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckow, and the hawk after his kind,

God's provision of birds as food for his people.

1. God's Provision: Trust in the Lord for All Your Needs

2. Appreciating the Beasts of the Earth: A Look at Deuteronomy 14:15

1. Psalm 8:6-8 - O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

2. Psalm 145:15-16 - The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Deuteronomy 14:16 The little owl, and the great owl, and the swan,

and the pelican, and the gier eagle,

God commands us to use the animals of the land to sustain ourselves.

1: We should be thankful to God for providing us with the resources to sustain ourselves.

2: We should use the animals of the land responsibly and with care.

1: Genesis 9:3 - Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

2: Leviticus 11:2-4 - Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat. Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

Deuteronomy 14:17 And the pelican, and the gier eagle, and the cormorant,

The Lord commanded the Israelites to not eat certain birds.

1. God has a plan and purpose for all of creation.

2. We must take care to consider our actions and how they affect even the smallest of creatures.

1. Genesis 1:26-28

2. Psalm 104:24-25

Deuteronomy 14:18 And the stork, and the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat.

This passage from the book of Deuteronomy mentions four birds: the stork, heron, lapwing, and bat.

1. The Beauty of Creation: Appreciating the Diversity of God's Creatures

2. The Meaning of Flight: Exploring the Spiritual Significance of Birds

1. Genesis 9:12-13 - God's Covenant with Noah and Every Living Creature

2. Psalm 104:12-15 - God's Care for All Creatures Great and Small

Deuteronomy 14:19 And every creeping thing that flieth is unclean unto you: they shall not be eaten.

The Lord instructs the Israelites to not eat any flying insects as they are unclean.

1. A Closer Look at the Israelites' Dietary Laws

2. What Does it Mean to be Unclean?

1. Leviticus 11:41-45

2. Leviticus 20:25-26

Deuteronomy 14:20 But of all clean fowls ye may eat.

The passage explains that it is permissible to eat clean birds.

1. The importance of following the dietary laws laid out in the Bible.

2. The blessing of being able to enjoy the bounty of God's creation.

1. Leviticus 11:1-47 - A passage that describes the clean and unclean animals that the Israelites were allowed to eat.

2. Genesis 1:29-30 - A passage that describes God's command for mankind to eat of all the creatures of the earth.

Deuteronomy 14:21 Ye shall not eat of anything that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.

God commands His people to share food with foreigners, and not to cook a kid in its mother's milk.

1. The Generosity of God - How We Can Follow His Example

2. The Importance of Respect - How We Can Honor Creation

1. Matthew 5:43-44 - Love your neighbor as yourself

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Present your bodies as a living sacrifice

Deuteronomy 14:22 Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

God commands his people to set aside a tenth of their harvest each year as a tithe.

1. "Living a Life of Blessing: Tithing as a Demonstration of Obedience"

2. "Giving Generously with a Grateful Heart: The Significance of Tithing"

1. Malachi 3:10 - "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

2. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Deuteronomy 14:23 And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always.

This passage speaks of how to honor God by offering the tithe of one's crops, wine, oil, and herds and flocks.

1. Living a Life of Generosity: Honoring God with Your Tithes

2. A Heart of Gratitude: Learning to Fear the Lord Always

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Deuteronomy 14:24 And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which the LORD thy God shall choose to set his name there, when the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:

God instructed the Israelites to bring an offering to the place He chose to set His name, even if the journey was too long or the place too far.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: An Encouragement to Follow God s Commands

2. The Power of Faith: Putting Our Trust in God s Plans

1. Deuteronomy 14:24

2. Matthew 17:20 - And He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

Deuteronomy 14:25 Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose:

This passage encourages the reader to give to God what He has provided and to be willing to go to the place God has chosen.

1. "The Blessing of Obedience: Giving to God What He Has Provided"

2. "Willingness to Follow the Lord's Lead"

1. Malachi 3:10 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

2. Proverbs 3:9 10 Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Deuteronomy 14:26 And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household,

God commands that the tithe be used to purchase items that bring joy and satisfaction to oneself and one's household.

1. Live life to the fullest by trusting in God's provision.

2. Invest in those around you by using your tithe to bring joy to your household.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will be enriched, and the one who gives a drink of water will receive a water of blessing.

Deuteronomy 14:27 And the Levite that is within thy gates; thou shalt not forsake him; for he hath no part nor inheritance with thee.

The Levites should not be forsaken by the people of Israel, as they do not have a portion of the inheritance like the other tribes.

1. The Importance of Caring for the Levites

2. The Meaning of Inheritance in the Bible

1. Ruth 4:10 - Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance.

2. Ephesians 1:11 - In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will.

Deuteronomy 14:28 At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates:

Tithing provides financial resources to sustain the work of God.

1. God's promise of abundance - how our faithfulness to tithe reveals His faithfulness to provide

2. The importance of tithing - a call to become faithful stewards of God's blessings

1. Malachi 3:10 - "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Deuteronomy 14:29 And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

This passage reminds us that we should take care of those in need, such as the Levite, strangers, orphans, and widows.

1. Caring for the Needy - Giving to those in need is a way to honor God and bless His people.

2. The Widows and the Orphans - We should be generous and compassionate towards those who are in need and vulnerable.

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

2. James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Deuteronomy 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 15:1-11 introduces the concept of the Sabbatical Year and the Year of Release. Moses instructs the Israelites that every seventh year shall be a Sabbatical Year, during which they must cancel debts owed by their fellow Israelites. He emphasizes that this release should not be withheld due to the approaching Sabbatical Year. Moses also commands them to be generous towards those in need, lending to them without expecting repayment as the Lord will bless them for their generosity.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 15:12-18, Moses addresses the issue of Hebrew slaves. He outlines regulations concerning their release and treatment. After serving for six years, a Hebrew slave is to be set free in the seventh year without any financial burden. If a slave willingly chooses to stay with his master out of love and loyalty, an ear-piercing ceremony is performed as a sign of permanent servitude. However, masters are instructed to treat their slaves kindly and provide for their needs upon release.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 15 concludes with Moses emphasizing offerings and firstborn animals. He instructs the Israelites regarding presenting offerings before Yahweh at the designated place of worship with a joyful heart. Moses reminds them that they are not to eat their firstborn animals but instead bring them before Yahweh as an offering or redeem them if necessary using silver or money equivalent.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 15 presents:

Sabbatical Year canceling debts and being generous;

Regulations concerning Hebrew slaves release after six years;

Offerings and firstborn animals presenting before Yahweh.

Emphasis on Sabbatical Year canceling debts owed by fellow Israelites;

Regulations concerning Hebrew slaves release after six years, treating them kindly;

Instructions regarding offerings and firstborn animals presenting before Yahweh with a joyful heart.

The chapter focuses on the Sabbatical Year, regulations concerning Hebrew slaves, and instructions regarding offerings and firstborn animals. In Deuteronomy 15, Moses introduces the concept of the Sabbatical Year a year of release. He instructs the Israelites that every seventh year, they must cancel debts owed by their fellow Israelites. Moses emphasizes that this release should not be withheld due to the approaching Sabbatical Year but rather they should be generous towards those in need, lending to them without expecting repayment as the Lord will bless them for their generosity.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 15, Moses addresses the issue of Hebrew slaves. He outlines regulations concerning their release and treatment. After serving for six years, a Hebrew slave is to be set free in the seventh year without any financial burden. If a slave willingly chooses to stay with his master out of love and loyalty, an ear-piercing ceremony is performed as a sign of permanent servitude. However, masters are instructed to treat their slaves kindly and provide for their needs upon release.

Deuteronomy 15 concludes with Moses emphasizing offerings presented before Yahweh at the designated place of worship with a joyful heart. He reminds the Israelites that they are not to eat their firstborn animals but instead bring them before Yahweh as an offering or redeem them if necessary using silver or money equivalent. These instructions serve as reminders of honoring God's provisions and dedicating what belongs to Him in worshipful obedience.

Deuteronomy 15:1 At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release.

This passage instructs that every seven years a release should be made.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: The Importance of Making a Release Every Seven Years

2. The Blessing of Generosity: The Significance of Practicing Release in Our Lives

1. Luke 6:36-38 - "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you."

2. Matthew 18:21-22 - "Then Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.'"

Deuteronomy 15:2 And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD's release.

This passage teaches us to forgive those who are indebted to us and to not exact payment from our neighbor or brother.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Live a Life of Grace

2. Generosity and Compassion: How to Follow God s Example

1. Ephesians 4:32 And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

2. Luke 6:35-36 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

Deuteronomy 15:3 Of a foreigner thou mayest exact it again: but that which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release;

Release any debt owed to you by your fellow Israelites but be sure to collect any debt owed to you by foreigners.

1: We are called to provide grace and mercy to our brethren, by releasing any debt owed to us.

2: God is just and we must be sure to collect any debt owed to us by foreigners.

1: Luke 6:35-36 - "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful."

2: Matthew 18:23-35 - "Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt."

Deuteronomy 15:4 Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it:

God's commandment to take care of the poor.

1. "Serving God by Serving the Poor"

2. "Love Your Neighbor: Caring for the Needy"

1. James 1:27 "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?"

Deuteronomy 15:5 Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day.

God commands us to carefully obey His voice and to keep all His commandments.

1. Obeying God's Voice: A Path to True Fulfillment

2. The Promises of Obedience: A Blessing from God

1. Matthew 7:24-25 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

2. Joshua 1:8 - "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Deuteronomy 15:6 For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee.

The LORD will bless those who lend to many nations without borrowing in return, and will reign over many nations but not be ruled by them.

1: Trust in the Lord and he will provide.

2: God will be faithful and keep His promises.

Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Isaiah 25:1 O Lord, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

Deuteronomy 15:7 If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:

God commands us not to be selfish and to be generous towards those in need in our own communities.

1. Generosity: The Heart of God

2. Compassion: Fulfilling the Will of God

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

2. 1 John 3:17 18 - "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

Deuteronomy 15:8 But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth.

God commands us to be generous and lend to those in need.

1: God's Generosity and Our Obligation: Living a Generous Life.

2: Sharing Our Blessings: Meeting the Needs of Others.

1: Acts 20:35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

2: Ephesians 4:28 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Deuteronomy 15:9 Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

God warns us against withholding help from those in need, as such an act is a sin.

1. The Power of Compassion: How to Show God's Love Through Helping Others

2. The Danger of Selfishness: Why We Should Put Others Before Ourselves

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

2. James 2:15-17 - "If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, Depart in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

Deuteronomy 15:10 Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.

God commands us to give generously and with an open heart, as he will bless us for doing so.

1. Generosity: A Heart for Giving

2. God Rewards Generosity

1. Matthew 6:21-24 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.

Deuteronomy 15:11 For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

This verse from Deuteronomy emphasizes the importance of generosity towards those in need.

1. "The Power of Generosity: Caring for Those in Need"

2. "Living a Life of Compassion: Practicing Generosity"

1. Matthew 19:21 - Jesus said, If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.

2. Isaiah 58:10 - If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.

Deuteronomy 15:12 And if thy brother, an Hebrew man, or an Hebrew woman, be sold unto thee, and serve thee six years; then in the seventh year thou shalt let him go free from thee.

This passage from Deuteronomy speaks of the importance of treating others fairly and with kindness.

1. "The Value of Kindness and Compassion: A Look at Deuteronomy 15:12"

2. "Caring for All People: The Message of Deuteronomy 15:12"

1. Proverbs 3:27-28 - "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it when you have it with you.

2. Matthew 7:12 - "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Deuteronomy 15:13 And when thou sendest him out free from thee, thou shalt not let him go away empty:

The passage encourages us to be generous and not allow anyone to leave us empty-handed.

1. The Blessing of Generosity

2. The Power of Giving

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2. Proverbs 22:9 - "A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor."

Deuteronomy 15:14 Thou shalt furnish him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy floor, and out of thy winepress: of that wherewith the LORD thy God hath blessed thee thou shalt give unto him.

God commands us to give liberally from our blessings to those in need.

1. "Love Thy Neighbor: The Call to Generosity"

2. "From Blessing to Blessing: Sharing God's Gifts"

1. Matthew 25:35-40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

Deuteronomy 15:15 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee: therefore I command thee this thing to day.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to remember their time in slavery in Egypt and how He had redeemed them.

1. The Lord's Redemptive Love: Learning from the Israelites' Story

2. The Power of Remembering: Strengthening Our Faith with the Israelites' Legacy

1. Exodus 14:30-31 - Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

Deuteronomy 15:16 And it shall be, if he say unto thee, I will not go away from thee; because he loveth thee and thine house, because he is well with thee;

The passage speaks of loving someone and being content with them.

1. The Power of Love: How to Cultivate Lasting and Meaningful Relationships

2. Staying True: Remaining Committed to Relationships Despite Difficulties

1. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Deuteronomy 15:17 Then thou shalt take an aul, and thrust it through his ear unto the door, and he shall be thy servant for ever. And also unto thy maidservant thou shalt do likewise.

God commands us to treat our servants with respect and kindness.

1) The Impact of Kindness: How our Treatment of Others Reflects God's Love

2) The Power of Compassion: Letting Love Guide Our Relationships

1) Ephesians 6:5-9 - The importance of respecting and honoring masters

2) Matthew 7:12 - Doing unto others as we would have them do unto us

Deuteronomy 15:18 It shall not seem hard unto thee, when thou sendest him away free from thee; for he hath been worth a double hired servant to thee, in serving thee six years: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all that thou doest.

God encourages us to be generous to those in need.

1. The Power of Generosity: An Exploration of Deuteronomy 15:18

2. The Blessings of Giving: The Encouragement of God in Deuteronomy 15:18

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2. Proverbs 11:25 - "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Deuteronomy 15:19 All the firstling males that come of thy herd and of thy flock thou shalt sanctify unto the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work with the firstling of thy bullock, nor shear the firstling of thy sheep.

All the firstborn male animals of a person's herd and flock must be set apart for the Lord. These animals must not be used for work or shearing.

1. The Sanctity of Life: Appreciating the Gift of God's Creation

2. The Heart of the Law: Obedience and Sacrifice to the Lord

1. Leviticus 27:26-28 - The Guiding Principles of Dedication to the Lord

2. Malachi 3:10 - The Blessing of Tithing to God

Deuteronomy 15:20 Thou shalt eat it before the LORD thy God year by year in the place which the LORD shall choose, thou and thy household.

Deuteronomy 15:20 instructs the Israelites to eat before the LORD each year in the place He has chosen.

1. The Blessings of Gratitude - How a thankful heart brings joy and blessing to our lives.

2. The Place of Worship - An exploration of the importance of coming to the Lord in a specific place He has chosen.

1. Luke 17:11-19 - The Ten Lepers who were healed but only one returned to give thanks.

2. Psalm 100:4 - Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.

Deuteronomy 15:21 And if there be any blemish therein, as if it be lame, or blind, or have any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the LORD thy God.

God commanded the Israelites not to sacrifice any animal with a blemish such as lameness, blindness, or any other ill blemish to the Lord.

1. The Holiness of God: A Call to Worship with Perfection

2. The Compassion of God: Caring for All Creatures

1. Leviticus 22:20-25 - The LORD's instructions for offering perfect animals as sacrifices

2. Psalm 51:17 - A plea for God to accept a broken and contrite heart as a sacrifice.

Deuteronomy 15:22 Thou shalt eat it within thy gates: the unclean and the clean person shall eat it alike, as the roebuck, and as the hart.

This passage encourages generosity and hospitality as it discusses the sharing of food among both the clean and unclean.

1. The Power of Generosity: Learning to Share with Unbelievers

2. A Heart of Hospitality: Welcoming the Stranger

1. Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus encourages hospitality towards guests

2. Isaiah 58:7 - God commands us to share our food with the hungry

Deuteronomy 15:23 Only thou shalt not eat the blood thereof; thou shalt pour it upon the ground as water.

The passage instructs that animals should not be eaten with their blood, but that the blood should be poured onto the ground.

1. God's Law: Honoring God's Instructions for Eating

2. Life's Blessings: The Gift of Abundance in Our Lives

1. Leviticus 17:14 For the life of every creature is its blood: its blood is its life. Therefore I have said to the people of Israel, You shall not eat the blood of any creature, for the life of every creature is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off.

2. Psalm 24:1 The earth is the Lord s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

Deuteronomy 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 16:1-8 focuses on the observance of the Passover festival. Moses instructs the Israelites to celebrate it in the month of Abib (later known as Nisan) as a commemoration of their liberation from Egypt. He emphasizes that they are to sacrifice the Passover lamb at the designated place of worship and eat unleavened bread for seven days. Moses also encourages them to gather together for a sacred assembly, refraining from work on the first and seventh days.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 16:9-17, Moses introduces the Feast of Weeks (also known as Pentecost). He instructs them to count seven weeks from when they begin reaping their harvest and then celebrate this festival with offerings and joyful celebration before Yahweh at the designated place. Moses emphasizes that everyone should give according to their ability, rejoicing together with their households, including Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 16 concludes with instructions regarding the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths). In Deuteronomy 16:13-17, Moses commands them to observe this festival for seven days after gathering their produce from threshing floors and winepresses. They are to rejoice before Yahweh along with their families, servants, Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows at the designated place of worship. Moses emphasizes that this celebration is a reminder of how God brought them out of Egypt and dwelled among them in temporary shelters during their wilderness journey.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 16 presents:

Observance of Passover celebrating liberation from Egypt;

Feast of Weeks counting seven weeks, joyful celebration;

Feast of Tabernacles rejoicing and remembering God's provision.

Emphasis on Passover sacrificing the lamb, eating unleavened bread;

Instructions for Feast of Weeks counting seven weeks, giving offerings, rejoicing together;

Observance of Feast of Tabernacles rejoicing with families and various groups before Yahweh.

The chapter focuses on the observance of the Passover festival, the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths). In Deuteronomy 16, Moses instructs the Israelites to celebrate the Passover in the month of Abib as a commemoration of their liberation from Egypt. He emphasizes sacrificing the Passover lamb at the designated place and eating unleavened bread for seven days. Moses encourages them to gather together for a sacred assembly, refraining from work on specific days.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 16, Moses introduces the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost). He instructs them to count seven weeks from when they begin reaping their harvest and then celebrate this festival with offerings and joyful celebration before Yahweh at the designated place. Moses emphasizes that everyone should give according to their ability and rejoice together with their households, including Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows.

Deuteronomy 16 concludes with instructions regarding the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths). Moses commands them to observe this festival for seven days after gathering their produce from threshing floors and winepresses. They are to rejoice before Yahweh along with their families, servants, Levites foreigners orphans widows at the designated place. This celebration serves as a reminder of how God brought them out of Egypt and dwelled among them in temporary shelters during their wilderness journey.

Deuteronomy 16:1 Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover unto the LORD thy God: for in the month of Abib the LORD thy God brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

This passage reminds us that God brought the Israelites out of Egypt in the month of Abib.

1. The Power of God to Deliver Us from Bondage

2. Remembering Our Deliverance from Slavery

1. Exodus 12:1-20; The Lord gave instructions for the keeping of the Passover

2. Exodus 14:13-31; The Lord miraculously delivered the Israelites from Egypt.

Deuteronomy 16:2 Thou shalt therefore sacrifice the passover unto the LORD thy God, of the flock and the herd, in the place which the LORD shall choose to place his name there.

The Israelites were commanded to offer the Passover sacrifice to the Lord in the place He has chosen.

1. The Lord's Gracious Provision: Sacrifice and Salvation

2. The Choice of God: A Call to Obedience

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Hebrews 10:12 - But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.

Deuteronomy 16:3 Thou shalt eat no leavened bread with it; seven days shalt thou eat unleavened bread therewith, even the bread of affliction; for thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt in haste: that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life.

The Israelites are instructed to eat unleavened bread for seven days in remembrance of their escape from Egypt.

1. The Power of Remembrance: How We Can Use the Past to Transform Our Lives

2. From Bondage to Freedom: The Journey of the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land

1. Exodus 12:17-20 - The instructions to the Israelites for the Passover meal and their exodus from Egypt.

2. Psalm 78:12-16 - A reflection on the faithfulness of God in leading the Israelites out of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 16:4 And there shall be no leavened bread seen with thee in all thy coast seven days; neither shall there any thing of the flesh, which thou sacrificedst the first day at even, remain all night until the morning.

The Lord commands us to observe seven days of unleavened bread and to finish consuming all meat from sacrifices by morning.

1: We must be mindful of the Lord's commands and show our obedience through our actions.

2: We can show our faithfulness to the Lord by being attentive to His word and honoring His commands.

1: John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

2: 1 John 5:3 - "This is love for God: to keep His commands. And His commands are not burdensome."

Deuteronomy 16:5 Thou mayest not sacrifice the passover within any of thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee:

The Lord commands that the Passover offering be made outside of any of the gates of the city He has given us.

1. The Blessing of Following God's Commands

2. The Necessity of Obedience to God

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Deuteronomy 16:6 But at the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name in, there thou shalt sacrifice the passover at even, at the going down of the sun, at the season that thou camest forth out of Egypt.

The Israelites were instructed to sacrifice the passover at the place where the Lord places His name, at even, when the sun has gone down, and when the Israelites came out of Egypt.

1.God has a special place for us to call home.

2.We can draw strength and hope from our shared past.

1. Deuteronomy 16:6

2. Exodus 12:14-20 (And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.)

Deuteronomy 16:7 And thou shalt roast and eat it in the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: and thou shalt turn in the morning, and go unto thy tents.

God commands the Israelites to roast and eat a sacrifice in the place that He chooses, and then to return to their tents in the morning.

1. The Lord's Provision: Learning to Rely on God for Our Needs

2. God's Guidance: Following His Direction in Faith

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Deuteronomy 16:8 Six days thou shalt eat unleavened bread: and on the seventh day shall be a solemn assembly to the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work therein.

Six days of the week should be spent eating unleavened bread and the seventh day should be dedicated to the Lord as a day of rest.

1. The Importance of Resting in the Lord

2. Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy

1. Exodus 20:8-11 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates.

2. Hebrews 4:10-11 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Deuteronomy 16:9 Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee: begin to number the seven weeks from such time as thou beginnest to put the sickle to the corn.

The passage instructs to count seven weeks from when harvesting begins.

1. Living with Patience: The Example of the Harvest

2. Gratitude in the Harvest: A Lesson from Deuteronomy

1. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

2. James 5:7-8 - Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

Deuteronomy 16:10 And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto the LORD thy God, according as the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:

In Deuteronomy 16:10, God commands the Israelites to celebrate the Feast of Weeks and to give a freewill offering to God in accordance with the blessings He has bestowed on them.

1. God's Blessing Demand Our Gratitude and Generosity

2. The Power of a Freewill Offering

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. Acts 20:35 - I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Deuteronomy 16:11 And thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that is within thy gates, and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are among you, in the place which the LORD thy God hath chosen to place his name there.

This passage instructs believers to rejoice before the Lord with their family, servants, Levite, strangers, fatherless, and widows.

1. Remember to Rejoice in the Lord: The Power of Unity in Faith

2. Embrace the Stranger and the Fatherless: A Call to Compassion

1. Psalm 100:1-5

2. James 1:27

Deuteronomy 16:12 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt: and thou shalt observe and do these statutes.

God commands us to remember that we were once slaves in Egypt and to obey His commandments.

1. The Power of Remembering: Learning from Our Past

2. Overcoming Bondage Through Obedience

1. John 8:36 - So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

2. Colossians 2:6-7 - So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Deuteronomy 16:13 Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine:

The passage speaks of observing the feast of tabernacles for seven days after gathering one's corn and wine.

1. Rejoicing in the Harvest: Celebrating God's Provision in Times of Abundance

2. Cultivating an Attitude of Gratitude: A Study of Deuteronomy 16:13

1. Psalm 65:11 - Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

2. Luke 12:16-21 - And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Deuteronomy 16:14 And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates.

God commands the Israelites to rejoice in their feasts, and to include the Levites, strangers, fatherless, and widows in their celebration.

1. God's Abundant Love for the Marginalized - Exploring how the God of Israel provided for those on the margins of society

2. Fostering Joy through Generosity - Exploring how we can share God's joy through generous hospitality to others.

1. Galatians 6:10 - Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

2. Luke 14:13-14 - But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.

Deuteronomy 16:15 Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD shall choose: because the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.

The people of God are instructed to celebrate a seven-day feast in the place that God has chosen, as God has blessed them in all their increase and works.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: A Reflection on God's Blessings

2. Giving Thanks to God: The Meaning of the Seven-Day Feast

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Deuteronomy 16:16 Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

All males should appear before the LORD three times a year for the feasts of Unleavened Bread, Weeks, and Tabernacles, and should not come empty-handed.

1. The Power of Obedience: Why We Must Follow God's Commands

2. Celebrating God's Provision: How Gratitude Changes Our Lives

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Deuteronomy 16:17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

God commands us to give as we are able, with the blessings God has given us.

1. Giving out of Gratefulness: Giving as a response to the blessings God has given us

2. The Joy of Giving: The joy that comes from giving out of our blessings

1. Ephesians 4:28 - Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Deuteronomy 16:18 Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment.

This passage encourages us to appoint judges and officers to administer justice with fairness and integrity.

1. "The Power of Integrity: Why We Must Seek Justice with Fairness"

2. "A Call to Serve: The Responsibility of Ruling Justly"

1. Proverbs 16:8-9 - Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Deuteronomy 16:19 Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.

We are commanded to judge fairly and not be swayed by people of influence or gifts.

1. The Danger of Bias: Learning to Judge Righteously

2. The Power of Integrity: Seeing Through Deception

1. Proverbs 17:15 - He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.

2. James 2:1-9 - My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

Deuteronomy 16:20 That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Live justly in order to inherit the land promised by God.

1. The Promise of Inheritance: How Living Justly Can Bring Blessing

2. The Blessing of Righteousness: An Invitation to Receive God's Gift

1. 1 John 3:7 - Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

2. Psalm 15:2 - He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart.

Deuteronomy 16:21 Thou shalt not plant thee a grove of any trees near unto the altar of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee.

It is forbidden to plant a grove of trees near the altar of the Lord.

1. A Place of Worship: Understanding the Significance of the Altar of the Lord

2. The Holiness of God: The Importance of Keeping a Sacred Space

1. Exodus 20:24-26; Make an altar of earth unto me, and sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.

2. 1 Kings 18:30-31; And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name.

Deuteronomy 16:22 Neither shalt thou set thee up any image; which the LORD thy God hateth.

The Lord hates images and idols of any kind.

1: God's Love for His People: The importance of not setting up any image that God hates.

2: The Inseparable Nature of God and His People: How worship of false idols separates us from God.

1: Exodus 20:3-5 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God."

2: Isaiah 44:15-17 "Then shall it be for a man to burn: for he will take thereof, and warm himself; yea, he kindleth it, and baketh bread; yea, he maketh a god, and worshippeth it; he maketh it a graven image, and falleth down thereto. He burneth part thereof in the fire; with part thereof he eateth flesh; he roasteth roast, and is satisfied: yea, he warmeth himself, and saith, Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire: And the residue thereof he maketh a god, even his graven image: he falleth down unto it, and worshippeth it, and prayeth unto it, and saith, Deliver me; for thou art my god.

Deuteronomy 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 17:1-7 focuses on the punishment for idolatry and false worship. Moses instructs the Israelites that if there is found among them a man or woman who has committed idolatry or worshiped other gods, they are to be put to death by stoning. The execution should take place based on the testimony of multiple witnesses, ensuring a fair and just judgment. This severe punishment serves as a deterrent against turning away from Yahweh and emphasizes the importance of remaining faithful to Him alone.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 17:8-13, Moses establishes guidelines for legal matters and disputes. He commands the Israelites to bring their cases before the Levitical priests or judges who will render decisions based on God's law. They are instructed to follow these judgments without deviation, showing respect for the authority of those appointed by God. Failure to obey their rulings would be considered rebellion against Yahweh.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 17 concludes with instructions regarding kingship in Israel. In Deuteronomy 17:14-20, Moses anticipates that the Israelites will eventually desire a king like other nations around them. He provides regulations for selecting a king, emphasizing that he must be chosen by Yahweh Himself and from among their fellow Israelites. The king should not accumulate excessive wealth or horses nor take many wives, as these actions may lead him astray from following Yahweh's commandments.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 17 presents:

Punishment for idolatry death by stoning;

Guidelines for legal matters bringing cases before priests, judges;

Instructions regarding kingship selecting a king according to God's choice.

Emphasis on punishment for idolatry death by stoning based on multiple witnesses;

Guidelines for legal matters bringing cases before priests, judges, obeying their decisions;

Instructions regarding kingship selecting a king chosen by Yahweh, avoiding excessive wealth and wives.

The chapter focuses on the punishment for idolatry and false worship, guidelines for legal matters and disputes, and instructions regarding kingship. In Deuteronomy 17, Moses instructs the Israelites that anyone found guilty of idolatry or worshiping other gods should be put to death by stoning. This severe punishment serves as a deterrent against turning away from Yahweh and emphasizes the importance of remaining faithful to Him alone. The execution should take place based on the testimony of multiple witnesses, ensuring a fair and just judgment.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 17, Moses establishes guidelines for legal matters and disputes. He commands the Israelites to bring their cases before the Levitical priests or judges who will render decisions based on God's law. They are instructed to follow these judgments without deviation, showing respect for the authority of those appointed by God. Failure to obey their rulings would be considered rebellion against Yahweh.

Deuteronomy 17 concludes with instructions regarding kingship in Israel. Moses anticipates that in the future, the Israelites will desire a king like other nations around them. He provides regulations for selecting a king, emphasizing that he must be chosen by Yahweh Himself from among their fellow Israelites. The king should not accumulate excessive wealth or horses nor take many wives as these actions may lead him astray from following Yahweh's commandments. These guidelines aim to ensure that future kings govern with humility and remain obedient to God's laws.

Deuteronomy 17:1 Thou shalt not sacrifice unto the LORD thy God any bullock, or sheep, wherein is blemish, or any evilfavouredness: for that is an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

God commands against offering sacrifices with any blemish or deformity because it is an abomination.

1. The Holiness of God: How We Honor Him Through Our Sacrifices

2. The Perfection of God: Living and Giving with Excellence

1. Leviticus 22:17-25 - The Lord s instructions on acceptable sacrifices

2. Isaiah 1:11-17 - God's rebuke of Israel's hollow sacrifices

Deuteronomy 17:2 If there be found among you, within any of thy gates which the LORD thy God giveth thee, man or woman, that hath wrought wickedness in the sight of the LORD thy God, in transgressing his covenant,

This passage talks about how the Lord punishes those who break his covenant.

1. "Walking in Covenant with God"

2. "The Blessing and Curse of Breaking God's Covenant"

1. Psalm 25:10 - "All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep his covenant and his testimonies."

2. Isaiah 24:5 - "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant."

Deuteronomy 17:3 And hath gone and served other gods, and worshipped them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which I have not commanded;

The passage warns against worshiping other gods besides the one true God.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. Keeping Our Eyes on the Lord

1. Exodus 20:3-4 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Deuteronomy 17:4 And it be told thee, and thou hast heard of it, and enquired diligently, and, behold, it be true, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought in Israel:

The passage discusses the law of God in Israel, and how one must take action if they hear of an abomination being committed.

1. The Importance of Living a Godly Life According to the Law of Moses

2. The Necessity of Taking Action When We Hear of Abominations

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2. Psalm 15:1-5 - O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

Deuteronomy 17:5 Then shalt thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, unto thy gates, even that man or that woman, and shalt stone them with stones, till they die.

God commands that those who have committed wickedness should be stoned to death.

1: God's Justice - Deuteronomy 17:5 shows us how important it is to uphold God's laws and to demonstrate justice in our lives.

2: The Danger of Sin - Deuteronomy 17:5 serves as a reminder to us of the consequences of sin and the importance of living a life of holiness.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Deuteronomy 17:6 At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.

This passage from Deuteronomy 17:6 states that the death penalty can only be used if two or three witnesses agree that a person is deserving of it.

1. The Power of Testimony: A Study of Deuteronomy 17:6

2. The Value of Witnesses in Biblical Times and Now

1. Matthew 18:16 "But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established."

2. Hebrews 10:28 "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses."

Deuteronomy 17:7 The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So thou shalt put the evil away from among you.

The passage emphasizes the importance of witnesses in condemning a person to death and highlights the importance of removing evil from society.

1. God calls us to be witnesses of righteousness and to stand up against evil.

2. We must all take an active role in condemning wickedness in our communities.

1. Deuteronomy 17:7

2. Matthew 18:15-20 ( If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. )

Deuteronomy 17:8 If there arise a matter too hard for thee in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within thy gates: then shalt thou arise, and get thee up into the place which the LORD thy God shall choose;

When faced with a difficult legal case, the Israelites were instructed to go to the place chosen by the Lord for resolution.

1. Relying on God in Difficult Situations

2. The Importance of Seeking Godly Wisdom in Decision Making

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 1:5-6 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

Deuteronomy 17:9 And thou shalt come unto the priests the Levites, and unto the judge that shall be in those days, and enquire; and they shall shew thee the sentence of judgment:

The Israelites were instructed to seek out the priests, Levites, and judges in order to be guided by their wisdom and direction in judgment.

1. Following Wisdom: Seeking God's Guidance in Decisions

2. Authority: Accepting the Guidance of God's Chosen Leaders

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Deuteronomy 17:10 And thou shalt do according to the sentence, which they of that place which the LORD shall choose shall shew thee; and thou shalt observe to do according to all that they inform thee:

God commands that one must follow the judgement of the priests at the place chosen by the Lord.

1. "Obey God's Commands: Following the Judgement of the Priests"

2. "Submitting to Authority: Following the Decrees of the Priests"

1. Matthew 22:21 - "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's"

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well."

Deuteronomy 17:11 According to the sentence of the law which they shall teach thee, and according to the judgment which they shall tell thee, thou shalt do: thou shalt not decline from the sentence which they shall shew thee, to the right hand, nor to the left.

This verse from Deuteronomy 17:11 emphasizes the importance of following the teachings and judgments of appointed leaders in the community.

1. Obeying Leaders: Our Duty to Follow the Teachings and Judgments of Appointed Leaders.

2. Keeping to the Law: The Importance of Upholding the Sentence of the Law.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

Deuteronomy 17:12 And the man that will do presumptuously, and will not hearken unto the priest that standeth to minister there before the LORD thy God, or unto the judge, even that man shall die: and thou shalt put away the evil from Israel.

This verse from Deuteronomy warns against disobeying the instructions of a priest or judge, as this will result in death.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Importance of Listening to Those in Authority

2. The Consequences of Disobeying Authority: How to Follow God's Laws

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

2. Proverbs 13:1 - A wise son hears his father s instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

Deuteronomy 17:13 And all the people shall hear, and fear, and do no more presumptuously.

People should fear God and not act presumptuously.

1. The Power of Fear in Achieving Righteousness

2. Recognizing the Consequences of Presumptuous Living

1. Proverbs 1:7-9 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

Deuteronomy 17:14 When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me;

The people of Israel are instructed to set a king over them when they enter the land given to them by God.

1. Trusting in God: How to Follow God's Command to Set a King

2. The Gift of God's Land: Learning to Receive and Appreciate What We Have

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's Blessings for Obedience

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is My Shepherd

Deuteronomy 17:15 Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother.

God commands that the Israelites are only to choose a king from among their own people, and not a foreigner.

1. The Call for Loyalty to Our Own People

2. The Power of Unity and Faithfulness

1. Matthew 22:21 - Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's

2. Romans 13:1 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers

Deuteronomy 17:16 But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way.

God has commanded the Israelites not to return to Egypt or acquire a large number of horses.

1. We must obey God's commands even if it is difficult to do so.

2. The great strength of faith is to trust in God's will even when it is hard to understand.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Deuteronomy 17:17 Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.

He must not have multiple wives or accumulate excessive amounts of wealth.

1: We must guard our hearts against materialism and guard our relationships against unfaithfulness.

2: We must stay true to our commitments and honor God with our finances.

1: Proverbs 18:22, He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord.

2: 1 Timothy 6:6-10, But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Deuteronomy 17:18 And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites:

A king should write a copy of the law in a book from the priests and Levites when they take the throne of their kingdom.

1. God's Law: The Foundation of Good Leadership

2. God's Word: The Standard of Godly Rule

1. Psalm 119:9-11 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

2. Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

Deuteronomy 17:19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:

Moses instructs the Israelites to ensure that the king they choose reads from the law and follows it in order to learn to fear the Lord and keep his commands.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Laws

2. Living a Life of Devotion and Respect for God

1. Proverbs 28:7 - "Whoever keeps the law is a discerning son, but a companion of gluttons shames his father."

2. Psalm 119:2 - "Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart."

Deuteronomy 17:20 That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.

This verse encourages us to be humble and obedient to God so that we can lead long and prosperous lives.

1. The Blessing of Humility and Obedience

2. The Importance of Following God s Commandments

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.

Deuteronomy 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 18:1-8 addresses the provision for the Levites and their role in Israel. Moses reminds the Israelites that the Levites have no inheritance of their own but are to be supported by the offerings and sacrifices brought to Yahweh. They are given a portion of the people's offerings as their inheritance. Moses emphasizes that they should not engage in other occupations but devote themselves fully to serving Yahweh and ministering to the people.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 18:9-14, Moses warns against various forms of divination, sorcery, witchcraft, interpreting omens, casting spells, consulting mediums or spiritists. He emphasizes that these practices are detestable to Yahweh and were among the abominations practiced by the nations they were about to dispossess. Instead, Moses encourages them to listen to and follow God's appointed prophets who will speak on His behalf.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 18 concludes with a promise regarding a future prophet. In Deuteronomy 18:15-22, Moses prophesies that God will raise up a prophet like him from among their fellow Israelites. This prophet will speak God's words, and whoever does not listen or obey this prophet will be held accountable by Yahweh Himself. Moses warns against presumptuously speaking in God's name but assures them that if a prophet speaks accurately in God's name and his words come true, it is a sign that he has been truly sent by Yahweh.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 18 presents:

Provision for Levites supported by offerings and sacrifices;

Warning against divination detestable practices of other nations;

Promise of a future prophet listening and obeying God's appointed spokesperson.

Emphasis on provision for Levites supported by offerings, devoted to serving Yahweh;

Warning against divination detestable practices of other nations, listening to God's appointed prophets;

Promise of a future prophet speaking God's words, accountability for disobedience.

The chapter focuses on the provision for the Levites, warnings against divination and detestable practices, and the promise of a future prophet. In Deuteronomy 18, Moses reminds the Israelites that the Levites have no inheritance of their own but are to be supported by the offerings and sacrifices brought to Yahweh. They are given a portion of these offerings as their inheritance and are expected to devote themselves fully to serving Yahweh and ministering to the people.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 18, Moses warns against various forms of divination such as sorcery, witchcraft, interpreting omens, casting spells, consulting mediums or spiritists. He emphasizes that these practices are detestable to Yahweh and were among the abominations practiced by the nations they were about to dispossess. Instead of turning to these detestable practices, Moses encourages them to listen to and follow God's appointed prophets who will speak on His behalf.

Deuteronomy 18 concludes with a promise regarding a future prophet. Moses prophesies that God will raise up a prophet like him from among their fellow Israelites. This prophet will speak God's words directly, and whoever does not listen or obey this prophet will be held accountable by Yahweh Himself. Moses warns against presumptuously speaking in God's name but assures them that if a prophet speaks accurately in God's name and his words come true, it is a sign that he has been truly sent by Yahweh as His spokesperson.

Deuteronomy 18:1 The priests the Levites, and all the tribe of Levi, shall have no part nor inheritance with Israel: they shall eat the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and his inheritance.

The tribe of Levi shall have no inheritance with Israel, but shall be sustained by the offerings of the LORD.

1. God's provision for the Levites is a reminder of his faithfulness and care.

2. We can trust in the Lord's provision, even when our circumstances seem uncertain.

1.Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on taking no thought for the morrow.

2.Psalm 37:25 - The Lord's goodness and provision for those who trust in Him.

Deuteronomy 18:2 Therefore shall they have no inheritance among their brethren: the LORD is their inheritance, as he hath said unto them.

The LORD is the inheritance of the Levites, as promised to them.

1: We should trust in the Lord, for he is our true inheritance.

2: We should not be jealous of the blessings of our brethren, for the Lord is our inheritance.

1: Psalm 16:5-6 "The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; thou holdest my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage."

2: Matthew 6:19-21 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Deuteronomy 18:3 And this shall be the priest's due from the people, from them that offer a sacrifice, whether it be ox or sheep; and they shall give unto the priest the shoulder, and the two cheeks, and the maw.

The priest's portion of a sacrifice is the shoulder, two cheeks, and the maw of the ox or sheep.

1. The Priest's Portion: Giving to the Lord's Work

2. The Significance of Sacrifices: A Call to Devotion

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase. So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Deuteronomy 18:4 The firstfruit also of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the first of the fleece of thy sheep, shalt thou give him.

This passage from Deuteronomy encourages the Israelites to give the best of their crops, wine, oil, and sheep as an offering to the Lord.

1. The Blessings of Giving: How Being Generous is Rewarded by God

2. The Lord's Provision: How God's Gifts are to be Shared

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - "One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Deuteronomy 18:5 For the LORD thy God hath chosen him out of all thy tribes, to stand to minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons for ever.

The LORD has chosen a servant from among all tribes to serve Him and his sons for eternity.

1. The importance of being chosen by the LORD to serve Him.

2. The lasting nature of the covenant between God and His chosen servants.

1. Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 42:1 - Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

Deuteronomy 18:6 And if a Levite come from any of thy gates out of all Israel, where he sojourned, and come with all the desire of his mind unto the place which the LORD shall choose;

The LORD is calling for all Levites from all of Israel to come to the place chosen by Him.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Making an effort to follow God's will

2. The Privilege of Serving God: Understanding the blessings of being a Levite

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Deuteronomy 18:7 Then he shall minister in the name of the LORD his God, as all his brethren the Levites do, which stand there before the LORD.

The Levites are instructed to minister in the name of the LORD their God.

1. We are Called to Serve the Lord

2. Ministering to God with a Pure Heart

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 12:28 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

Deuteronomy 18:8 They shall have like portions to eat, beside that which cometh of the sale of his patrimony.

The Israelites were to receive an equal portion of the inheritance, regardless of their family size.

1: We are all equal in God's eyes and deserving of the same rights and privileges, regardless of our differences.

2: God does not value some people more than others, and we should strive to be just and fair to all.

1: Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2: James 2:1-9 - My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Deuteronomy 18:9 When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

This passage from Deuteronomy 18:9 teaches us that we should not follow the practices of other nations who are contrary to God's will.

1. The Danger of Following Bad Examples

2. The Blessing of Following God's Ways

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

Deuteronomy 18:10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.

God forbids the practice of divination, witchcraft, and other forms of sorcery among His people.

1. The Power of God Over Superstition - 1 Corinthians 10:19-21

2. The Dangers of Witchcraft - Galatians 5:19-21

1. Isaiah 8:19-20 - And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

2. Leviticus 19:26 - Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

Deuteronomy 18:11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

God forbids consulting with familiar spirits and wizards. 1: We must obey God and not consult with spirits or wizards. 2: We should not be deceived by false prophets who claim to have special knowledge from the spirits.

1: Isaiah 8:19 20 And when they say to you, Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? 2: Jeremiah 23:23 24 Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.

Deuteronomy 18:12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

The Lord abhors those that practice abominations and drives them out of His presence.

1: Abide in the Lord and Forsake Abominations

2: The Lord's Displeasure in Abominations

1: Proverbs 15:9-10 - The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

2: Leviticus 18:24-30 - Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you: And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants.

Deuteronomy 18:13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

This passage emphasizes the importance of living a life of holiness and being devoted to God.

1. Living a Perfect Life With God: How to Live a Holy and Devoted Life

2. Perfection with God: A Call to Be Holy and Righteous

1. 1 John 3:3 - "And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure."

2. James 1:4 - "Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Deuteronomy 18:14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.

The LORD does not allow his people to observe times or to practice divination like other nations do.

1. God's Word is Clear - We Obey Him and Not Man

2. The Sovereignty of God - We Trust In His Ways and Not Our Own

1. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Deuteronomy 18:15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

God will raise up a prophet from among the Israelites that they are to listen to.

1. Hear and Obey: God's Call to Follow a Prophet

2. The Prophet Like Moses: Listening to God's Chosen One

1. Deuteronomy 13:4 - "You shall follow the Lord your God and fear him; keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

Deuteronomy 18:16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.

The Lord commanded the people of Israel not to approach the mountain of Horeb, out of fear of a great fire that could cause death.

1. Obey the Lord's commands and be wise in the fear of the Lord.

2. Do not be tempted to worship false gods and turn away from the Lord.

1. Isaiah 8:13 - "Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."

2. Romans 13:4, "For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil."

Deuteronomy 18:17 And the LORD said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken.

God approves of the words spoken by the people.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Impact Our Lives

2. The Weight of Words: Learning to Speak Godly Wisdom

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

2. Colossians 4:6 - Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Deuteronomy 18:18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

This passage speaks of God raising up a prophet from among the people to speak His words.

1. "A Prophet Among Us: The Importance of Listening to God's Voice"

2. "The Call of God: Our Obedience to His Word"

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Jeremiah 1:7-9 - "But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth."

Deuteronomy 18:19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.

God commands people to listen to and obey His words, and will hold them accountable for not doing so.

1. Obeying God's Words: The Obligation of Discipleship

2. The Call to Hear and Obey: The Choice of a Disciple

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

Deuteronomy 18:20 But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die.

The prophet who speaks in God's name without being commanded by him or speaks in the name of other gods will die.

1. Obey God and be faithful to Him in all matters.

2. Do not follow false prophets or worship false idols.

1. Deuteronomy 13:1-5 - If a prophet or dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, 2 and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, Let us go after other gods, which you have not known, and let us serve them, 3 you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the Lord your God is testing you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 4 You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him. 5 But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to make you leave the way in which the Lord your God commanded you to walk.

2. Exodus 20:3-6 - You shall have no other gods before me. 4 You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Deuteronomy 18:21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?

The passage is about discerning between God's commands and the words of false prophets.

1. Don't be afraid to question and discern between God's commands and the words of false prophets.

2. Trusting in God's wisdom and discernment, use your own judgement to separate truth from lies.

1. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2. 1 John 4:1 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Deuteronomy 18:22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

The Bible states that if a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord and their words do not come to pass, then the Lord has not spoken through them.

1) "The Lord is the only source of truth".

2) "Do not be afraid of false prophets".

1) Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no truth in them.

2) Jeremiah 23:16 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 19:1-13 focuses on the establishment of cities of refuge. Moses instructs the Israelites to set aside three cities of refuge within their land. These cities would serve as safe havens for those who unintentionally cause the death of another person. If someone accidentally kills another without prior malice or intent, they can flee to one of these cities for protection from avengers seeking vengeance. However, deliberate murderers are not eligible for this protection and must face justice.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 19:14-21, Moses emphasizes the importance of maintaining honest and just measures within society. He warns against moving boundary markers set by previous generations, which would result in unfair distribution of land inheritance. Moses also commands them to have honest witnesses who testify truthfully in legal matters, ensuring that innocent people are not wrongly convicted or punished.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 19 concludes with instructions regarding dealing with false witnesses and false accusations. In Deuteronomy 19:15-21, Moses establishes a strict standard for testimony and warns against bearing false witness against someone else. If a witness is found to have testified falsely, they should receive the punishment they intended for the accused person, ensuring justice prevails within the community.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 19 presents:

Establishment of cities of refuge safe havens for unintentional killers;

Importance of honest measures maintaining fair distribution;

Dealing with false witnesses strict standards for testimony.

Emphasis on cities of refuge protection for unintentional killers;

Maintaining honest measures avoiding unfair distribution and bearing false witness;

Punishing false witnesses receiving intended punishment if found guilty.

The chapter focuses on the establishment of cities of refuge, the importance of maintaining honest measures within society, and instructions regarding dealing with false witnesses. In Deuteronomy 19, Moses instructs the Israelites to set aside three cities of refuge within their land. These cities would serve as safe havens for those who unintentionally cause the death of another person. If someone accidentally kills another without prior malice or intent, they can flee to one of these cities for protection from avengers seeking vengeance. However, deliberate murderers are not eligible for this protection and must face justice.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 19, Moses emphasizes the importance of maintaining honest and just measures within society. He warns against moving boundary markers set by previous generations, which would result in an unfair distribution of land inheritance among the tribes. Moses also commands them to have honest witnesses who testify truthfully in legal matters, ensuring that innocent people are not wrongly convicted or punished.

Deuteronomy 19 concludes with instructions regarding dealing with false witnesses and false accusations. Moses establishes a strict standard for testimony and warns against bearing false witness against someone else. If a witness is found to have testified falsely with malicious intent, they should receive the punishment they intended for the accused person. This ensures that justice prevails within the community and discourages false accusations that could harm innocent individuals or disrupt societal harmony.

Deuteronomy 19:1 When the LORD thy God hath cut off the nations, whose land the LORD thy God giveth thee, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their cities, and in their houses;

God commands us to take possession of the land He has given us.

1. Possession: Claiming What God Has Promised

2. God's Promises: An Invitation to Take Hold

1. Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Deuteronomy 19:2 Thou shalt separate three cities for thee in the midst of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.

God commands the Israelites to set aside three cities in the midst of the land He has given them to possess.

1. The Lord Commands Us to Follow His Will

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Law

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Matthew 22:37-40 - And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Deuteronomy 19:3 Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to inherit, into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither.

This passage speaks of the importance of dividing land into three parts, in order to provide a safe haven for those who have taken a life.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How We Can Create a Refuge for Those in Need

2. The Blessing of Compassion: How We Can Show Mercy to the Penitent

1. Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

2. Luke 6:36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Deuteronomy 19:4 And this is the case of the slayer, which shall flee thither, that he may live: Whoso killeth his neighbour ignorantly, whom he hated not in time past;

This passage describes the case of an unintentional murderer who must flee to a designated city of refuge in order to live.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion in the Face of Unexpected Tragedy

2. A Call to Reckon with our Actions and their Consequences

1. Exodus 21:12-15 - Laws regarding unintentional manslaughter

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - Reflection on the consequences of rashness and carelessness

Deuteronomy 19:5 As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbour to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the axe to cut down the tree, and the head slippeth from the helve, and lighteth upon his neighbour, that he die; he shall flee unto one of those cities, and live:

The Lord commands people to flee to one of the cities of refuge if they have accidentally caused the death of another person.

1. The Lord's Mercy and Provision: Finding Refuge in Times of Trouble

2. The True Nature of Justice: Understanding Our Responsibility to Others

1. Exodus 21:12-13 - The Lord's commandment for accidental manslaughter

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy"

Deuteronomy 19:6 Lest the avenger of the blood pursue the slayer, while his heart is hot, and overtake him, because the way is long, and slay him; whereas he was not worthy of death, inasmuch as he hated him not in time past.

This passage warns that if someone kills someone else, the avenger of the blood may pursue the slayer, and if the way is long, he may catch up and kill the slayer even if the slayer was not deserving of death.

1. The Strength of Our Resolve: A Discussion on Deuteronomy 19:6

2. The Power of Forgiveness: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 19:6

1. Romans 12:17-19 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 24:17-18 - Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles, lest the Lord see it and be displeased, and turn away his anger from him.

Deuteronomy 19:7 Wherefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt separate three cities for thee.

This passage from Deuteronomy commands that three cities should be set apart.

1: Our lives should be set apart for God, not given over to the world.

2: We should make room for God in our lives, setting aside places for Him to be Lord.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2: Colossians 3:1-2 - Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Deuteronomy 19:8 And if the LORD thy God enlarge thy coast, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, and give thee all the land which he promised to give unto thy fathers;

God promises to enlarge our coast if we remain obedient and faithful.

1: Obedience and Faithfulness bring Blessings

2: Relying on God's Promises

1: Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you.

2: Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Deuteronomy 19:9 If thou shalt keep all these commandments to do them, which I command thee this day, to love the LORD thy God, and to walk ever in his ways; then shalt thou add three cities more for thee, beside these three:

God promises that if the Israelites follow His commandments and walk in His ways, He will add three more cities to their land.

1. Walking in the Ways of the Lord: The Blessings of Obedience

2. The Promise of Provision: Trusting in God s Promises

1. Psalm 37:23 - "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

Deuteronomy 19:10 That innocent blood be not shed in thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and so blood be upon thee.

God commands us to protect innocent blood and to not cause it to be shed in the land He has given us.

1: We must be vigilant in protecting the innocent and ensuring justice is served.

2: We must not take it upon ourselves to avenge wrongs and seek revenge, but rather leave judgment to God.

1: Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2: Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Deuteronomy 19:11 But if any man hate his neighbour, and lie in wait for him, and rise up against him, and smite him mortally that he die, and fleeth into one of these cities:

1. Love and Forgiveness towards Others

2. Consequences of Unforgiveness

1. Matthew 5:44-45 "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Deuteronomy 19:12 Then the elders of his city shall send and fetch him thence, and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.

The elders of the city must take responsibility for delivering a murderer to the avenger of blood, so that he can be punished with death.

1. Living in Justice: Our Responsibility to Uphold the Law

2. God's Commandments: The Need for Justice and Righteousness

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Exodus 21:13-14

Deuteronomy 19:13 Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with thee.

This passage from Deuteronomy 19:13 states that innocent blood should not be spared, but should be put away from Israel in order for them to be blessed.

1. The Power of Mercy: How God Wants Us to Show Compassion to Others

2. The Need for Justice: How God Calls Us to Uphold Righteousness

1. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Deuteronomy 19:14 Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.

God instructs us not to move our neighbor's boundary markers which have been set by previous generations in the land given to us by God.

1. God's Instructions for Right Living

2. The Importance of Respecting Boundaries

1. Proverbs 22:28 - Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

2. Exodus 20:17 - Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Deuteronomy 19:15 One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.

This passage emphasizes the importance of having multiple witnesses in order to establish a claim.

1. "The Power of Witnesses: How Our Testimonies Help to Establish Truth"

2. "God's Justice: The Responsibility of Bearing Testimony"

1. Matthew 18:16 - "But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established."

2. John 8:17 - "It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true."

Deuteronomy 19:16 If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him that which is wrong;

The passage highlights the importance of telling the truth and not bearing false witness against another.

1: A False Witness Shall Not Go Unpunished

2: The Power of Truthfulness

1: Matthew 5:33-37 - "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King."

2: Proverbs 12:17 - "Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit."

Deuteronomy 19:17 Then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;

The passage from Deuteronomy 19:17 outlines a process of resolving disputes in which two people must stand before the LORD, priests, and judges.

1. "God Asks Us to Seek Just Resolutions: A Study of Deuteronomy 19:17"

2. "The Power of Submission to Godly Authority: Examining Deuteronomy 19:17"

1. Proverbs 18:17, "The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him."

2. James 4:7, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Deuteronomy 19:18 And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, if the witness be a false witness, and hath testified falsely against his brother;

Judges are instructed to make careful inquiry into a case if someone is accused of bearing false witness against another.

1. The Danger of Bearing False Witness

2. The Importance of Diligent Inquiry

1. Proverbs 19:5 - A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will not escape.

2. Exodus 20:16 - You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Deuteronomy 19:19 Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you.

This passage emphasizes the importance of treating others the way we would want to be treated.

1. "Living by the Golden Rule", focusing on Deuteronomy 19:19 and its implications for how we should treat others.

2. "The Power of Forgiveness: Letting Go of Resentment and Releasing the Past".

1. Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

2. Colossians 3:13, "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

Deuteronomy 19:20 And those which remain shall hear, and fear, and shall henceforth commit no more any such evil among you.

This verse from Deuteronomy encourages people to fear the Lord and not commit evil.

1. "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom"

2. "The Consequences of Evil and the Rewards of Righteousness"

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deuteronomy 19:21 And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

This passage from Deuteronomy 19:21 teaches us the importance of justice and that retribution is necessary for justice to be served.

1. Justice Must Be Served: Examining Deuteronomy 19:21

2. The Need for Retribution: A Study of Deuteronomy 19:21

1. Exodus 21:24-25 - Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

2. Leviticus 24:19-20 - And if a man cause a blemish in his neighbour; as he hath done, so shall it be done to him; Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth: as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him again.

Deuteronomy 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 20:1-9 addresses the regulations for going to war. Moses reassures the Israelites that when they go into battle against their enemies, they should not fear or be discouraged. He reminds them that Yahweh is with them and will fight on their behalf. Before engaging in battle, certain exemptions are given to those who have recently built a house, planted a vineyard, or become engaged but have not yet married. Such individuals are allowed to return home and not participate in the war.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 20:10-15, Moses provides instructions regarding warfare against cities outside of Canaan. If a city offers terms of peace and surrender, the Israelites are to accept those terms and make the inhabitants their subjects by imposing tribute and labor upon them. However, if a city does not offer peace but chooses to resist, the Israelites are to besiege it until it falls under their control.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 20 concludes with instructions regarding warfare against cities within Canaan itself. In Deuteronomy 20:16-18, Moses commands the Israelites to completely destroy the inhabitants of certain cities within Canaan those belonging to nations that practiced abominable idolatry and wickedness. No survivors should be left behind; everything is devoted to destruction as an offering to Yahweh.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 20 presents:

Regulations for going to war fear not, exemptions for certain individuals;

Warfare against cities outside Canaan accepting terms of peace or besieging resisting cities;

Warfare against cities within Canaan complete destruction of idolatrous nations.

Emphasis on regulations for going to war fear not, exemptions for recent endeavors;

Instructions for warfare against cities outside Canaan accepting peace or besieging resisting cities;

Warfare against cities within Canaan complete destruction of idolatrous nations.

The chapter focuses on the regulations for going to war, warfare against cities outside of Canaan, and warfare against cities within Canaan. In Deuteronomy 20, Moses reassures the Israelites that when they go into battle against their enemies, they should not fear or be discouraged because Yahweh is with them and will fight on their behalf. Certain exemptions are given to those who have recently built a house, planted a vineyard, or become engaged but have not yet married. Such individuals are allowed to return home and not participate in the war.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 20, Moses provides instructions regarding warfare against cities outside of Canaan. If a city offers terms of peace and surrender, the Israelites are to accept those terms and make the inhabitants their subjects by imposing tribute and labor upon them. However, if a city does not offer peace but chooses to resist, the Israelites are to besiege it until it falls under their control.

Deuteronomy 20 concludes with instructions regarding warfare against cities within Canaan itself. Moses commands the Israelites to completely destroy certain idolatrous nations within these cities nations that practiced abominable idolatry and wickedness. No survivors should be left behind; everything is devoted to destruction as an offering to Yahweh. These instructions serve as a means of purging idolatry from the land that God has promised them as their inheritance.

Deuteronomy 20:1 When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God is with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

God is with us in times of difficulty and fear.

1. "Be Not Afraid: God is with Us"

2. "God's Power for His People"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Deuteronomy 20:2 And it shall be, when ye are come nigh unto the battle, that the priest shall approach and speak unto the people,

The priest shall speak to the people before they go into battle.

1: God gives strength to those who are brave and have faith.

2: Fight the good fight with courage and trust in God.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2: 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Deuteronomy 20:3 And shall say unto them, Hear, O Israel, ye approach this day unto battle against your enemies: let not your hearts faint, fear not, and do not tremble, neither be ye terrified because of them;

God commands the Israelites to remain strong and not be afraid as they face their enemies in battle.

1. Overcoming Fear and Anxiety in Times of Struggle

2. Trust in God and Rely on His Strength in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

Deuteronomy 20:4 For the LORD your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

This passage reminds us of God's promise to be with us in battle and save us from our enemies.

1: Through God's Strength, We Can Overcome.

2: Trust in God's Protection in Times of Trouble.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Deuteronomy 20:5 And the officers shall speak unto the people, saying, What man is there that hath built a new house, and hath not dedicated it? let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man dedicate it.

The officers should encourage those who have built a house but not yet dedicated it to go home and not risk dying in battle.

1. The importance of dedicating our homes to God.

2. The value of staying safe by avoiding unnecessary risks.

1. Luke 14:28-30 - "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?"

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Deuteronomy 20:6 And what man is he that hath planted a vineyard, and hath not yet eaten of it? let him also go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man eat of it.

This passage speaks of God's faith and mercy towards us, emphasizing that no one should be forced into battle if they have planted a vineyard and have not yet eaten of it.

1. "The Power of God's Faith and Mercy"

2. "The Blessings of God's Provision"

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 25:2 O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

Deuteronomy 20:7 And what man is there that hath betrothed a wife, and hath not taken her? let him go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man take her.

This verse from Deuteronomy 20:7 explains that a man who has betrothed a wife, but has not yet taken her, should go and return to his house before going to war, or risk another man taking her if he dies in battle.

1. "A Call to Faithful Commitment" - A discussing the importance of remaining committed to one's spouse and of honoring the marriage covenant.

2. "Living for God in Times of Conflict" - A exploring the importance of living for God in times of trial and temptation, and how faithfulness to God can lead to blessed and honorable outcomes.

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - A passage that speaks to the importance of mutual submission and respect within marriage.

2. Proverbs 18:22 - A verse that speaks to the importance of finding a spouse who is a true companion and friend.

Deuteronomy 20:8 And the officers shall speak further unto the people, and they shall say, What man is there that is fearful and fainthearted? let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart.

The passage speaks of officers encouraging those who are fearful and fainthearted to return to their own homes, so that their hearts remain strong and their brethren's hearts remain strong too.

1. "Find Strength in Empathy: The Power of Caring for Others"

2. "God's Encouragement for the Fearful and Fainthearted"

1. 1 John 4:18 - "There is no fear in love. But perfect love casts out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 20:9 And it shall be, when the officers have made an end of speaking unto the people, that they shall make captains of the armies to lead the people.

The officers in Deuteronomy 20 speak to the people and then appoint captains to lead them.

1. The Power of Leadership: How God Uses People to Lead

2. Working Together: The Value of Community and Teamwork

1. Matthew 28:18 20 - Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12 20 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body, that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body, that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

Deuteronomy 20:10 When thou comest nigh unto a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace unto it.

God commands us to proclaim peace when going to fight a city.

1. Proclaiming Peace: The Importance of a Non-Violent Approach

2. Making Peace: The Commandment of God

1. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

Deuteronomy 20:11 And it shall be, if it make thee answer of peace, and open unto thee, then it shall be, that all the people that is found therein shall be tributaries unto thee, and they shall serve thee.

This passage discusses how peace treaties can be made with cities and the people within them, with the result that they must become tributaries and serve those with whom they made the peace agreement.

1. "Trust in the Lord and Seek Peace: Reflections on Deuteronomy 20:11"

2. "Serving Others: The Lessons of Deuteronomy 20:11"

1. Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

2. Romans 12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Deuteronomy 20:12 And if it will make no peace with thee, but will make war against thee, then thou shalt besiege it:

The passage states that if peace cannot be made with an enemy, then the enemy must be besieged.

1. The Power of Patience: How to Overcome Warfare With Peace

2. The Strength of Forgiveness: How to Achieve Victory Without Violence

1. Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

2. Romans 12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Deuteronomy 20:13 And when the LORD thy God hath delivered it into thine hands, thou shalt smite every male thereof with the edge of the sword:

The LORD commands us to smite the enemies with the sword.

1: God commands us to protect ourselves against our enemies by any means necessary.

2: We must be willing to fight for what is right and be ready to stand up for our beliefs.

1: Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2: Exodus 17:11 - Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed.

Deuteronomy 20:14 But the women, and the little ones, and the cattle, and all that is in the city, even all the spoil thereof, shalt thou take unto thyself; and thou shalt eat the spoil of thine enemies, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

This passage from Deuteronomy encourages the Israelites to take the spoils of war from their enemies and to use it for their own needs.

1: God rewards the faith of his people by providing for their needs.

2: We should be humble and thankful for God's provision in times of difficulty.

1: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2: Psalm 37:25 - I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

Deuteronomy 20:15 Thus shalt thou do unto all the cities which are very far off from thee, which are not of the cities of these nations.

The cities of nations far away from the Israelites are to be treated the same as those closer by.

1: Do Unto Others - The importance of treating all people with respect, no matter their location.

2: The Power of Unity - How we can come together and support each other, regardless of distance.

1: Luke 10:27-37 - The parable of the Good Samaritan.

2: Romans 12:18 - To live in harmony with one another.

Deuteronomy 20:16 But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee for an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:

God commanded the Israelites to destroy all living things in the cities they were inheriting.

1. The Power of Obedience - Learning to obey God's commands, even when they are difficult.

2. The Importance of Complete Surrender - Taking God at His word and trusting Him to make the right decisions.

1. Joshua 11:20 - For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Deuteronomy 20:17 But thou shalt utterly destroy them; namely, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee:

God commanded the Israelites to destroy the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.

1. The Power of Obedience: The Israelites and their Obedience to God's Command

2. The Importance of Discipleship: Learning to Follow God's Commands

1. John 14:15-16 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever"

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Deuteronomy 20:18 That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.

God warns us against following the abominable practices of other nations and encourages us to stay true to Him.

1: Do Not Follow the Ways of the World - Deuteronomy 20:18

2: Keeping True to God - Deuteronomy 20:18

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Ephesians 4:17-19 - This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Deuteronomy 20:19 When thou shalt besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, thou shalt not destroy the trees thereof by forcing an axe against them: for thou mayest eat of them, and thou shalt not cut them down (for the tree of the field is man's life) to employ them in the siege:

The passage emphasizes the importance of preserving the trees during a siege, as they are essential for sustaining life.

1. "The Trees of Life: Why We Should Respect Nature"

2. "The Value of Life: Lessons from Deuteronomy 20:19"

1. Genesis 2:9 - "And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil."

2. Psalm 1:3 -"And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Deuteronomy 20:20 Only the trees which thou knowest that they be not trees for meat, thou shalt destroy and cut them down; and thou shalt build bulwarks against the city that maketh war with thee, until it be subdued.

God instructs to destroy trees that are not useful as food and build bulwarks against cities that make war.

1. "The Strength of Our Walls: How to Stand Firm during Times of Conflict"

2. "The Power of Choice: Making Wise Decisions in Times of War"

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Matthew 5:38-39 - "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also."

Deuteronomy 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 21:1-9 addresses the procedures for dealing with unsolved murders. Moses instructs the Israelites that if a murder victim is found lying in an open field and the perpetrator is unknown, the elders and judges of the nearest city must measure the distance to surrounding cities. The elders of the closest city are then required to take a heifer and perform a ritual to atone for the bloodshed. This act serves as a plea for forgiveness from Yahweh and symbolizes their innocence in this matter.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 21:10-14, Moses provides guidelines regarding marriage to female captives during wartime. If an Israelite soldier desires to marry a captive woman, certain procedures must be followed. The woman should be given time to mourn her family before marrying her captor, and she should also have her head shaved and nails trimmed as signs of mourning. If after living together they no longer find favor with each other, she should be allowed to go free without being sold or mistreated.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 21 concludes with various laws related to family relationships and societal order. In Deuteronomy 21:15-23, Moses addresses issues such as inheritance rights among children born from multiple wives or concubines, giving preference to firstborn sons regardless of their mother's status. He also commands that rebellious sons who persistently disobey their parents should be brought before the elders for judgment, potentially facing capital punishment by stoning.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 21 presents:

Procedures for unsolved murders ritual atonement for unknown perpetrators;

Guidelines for marriage to female captives mourning period, respect;

Laws related to family and societal order inheritance, rebellious sons.

Emphasis on procedures for unsolved murders ritual atonement, plea for forgiveness;

Guidelines for marriage to female captives mourning period, respect in wartime;

Laws related to family and societal order inheritance rights, consequences for rebellious sons.

The chapter focuses on the procedures for dealing with unsolved murders, guidelines for marriage to female captives during wartime, and various laws related to family relationships and societal order. In Deuteronomy 21, Moses instructs the Israelites that if a murder victim is found lying in an open field and the perpetrator is unknown, the elders and judges of the nearest city must perform a ritual of atonement using a heifer. This act serves as a plea for forgiveness from Yahweh and symbolizes their innocence in this matter.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 21, Moses provides guidelines regarding marriage to female captives during wartime. If an Israelite soldier desires to marry a captive woman, certain procedures must be followed. The woman should be given time to mourn her family before marrying her captor. She should also have her head shaved and nails trimmed as signs of mourning. If after living together they no longer find favor with each other, she should be allowed to go free without being sold or mistreated.

Deuteronomy 21 concludes with various laws related to family relationships and societal order. Moses addresses issues such as inheritance rights among children born from multiple wives or concubines, giving preference to firstborn sons regardless of their mother's status. He also commands that rebellious sons who persistently disobey their parents should be brought before the elders for judgment and potentially face capital punishment by stoning. These laws aim at establishing order within families and society while emphasizing respect for parental authority.

Deuteronomy 21:1 If one be found slain in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it, lying in the field, and it be not known who hath slain him:

If a dead body is found in the land given to Israel by the Lord, and the cause of death is unknown, instructions are given on how to handle the situation.

1. "A Call to Action: Understanding Our Responsibility to Care for the Dead"

2. "The Power of Bearing Witness: Examining Our Role in Justice"

1. Amos 5:15 - "Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate..."

2. Matthew 25:35-36 - "...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."

Deuteronomy 21:2 Then thy elders and thy judges shall come forth, and they shall measure unto the cities which are round about him that is slain:

The elders and judges of Israel were to measure the distance from the slain person to the nearby cities.

1. "God's Justice: The Responsibility of the Elders and Judges of Israel"

2. "A Call to Holiness: The Significance of the Measurement of Distance"

1. Matthew 5:21-22, You have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment. But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment.

2. Exodus 23:2-3, You shall not follow the crowd in doing evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, siding with the many, so as to pervert justice, nor shall you be partial to a poor man in his lawsuit.

Deuteronomy 21:3 And it shall be, that the city which is next unto the slain man, even the elders of that city shall take an heifer, which hath not been wrought with, and which hath not drawn in the yoke;

The elders of a city must take a heifer for sacrifice when a man is killed.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Recognizing the need to seek forgiveness from God and others

2. The Purpose of Sacrifice - Sacrifices given to show reverence and devotion to God

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.

Deuteronomy 21:4 And the elders of that city shall bring down the heifer unto a rough valley, which is neither eared nor sown, and shall strike off the heifer's neck there in the valley:

The elders of a city must bring a heifer to a valley and execute it by cutting its neck.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands

2. The Sacrifice of Obedience: Giving Up Our Will for God's Plan

1. John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Deuteronomy 21:5 And the priests the sons of Levi shall come near; for them the LORD thy God hath chosen to minister unto him, and to bless in the name of the LORD; and by their word shall every controversy and every stroke be tried:

The LORD has chosen the Levite priests to minister and bless in his name, and they will resolve all disputes and disputes.

1. God's chosen priests are called to bless in his name and resolve all conflicts.

2. God has appointed the Levite priests to minister in his name and decide all matters of dispute.

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

2. Matthew 5:25-26 - Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

Deuteronomy 21:6 And all the elders of that city, that are next unto the slain man, shall wash their hands over the heifer that is beheaded in the valley:

The elders of a city wash their hands over a beheaded heifer in a valley to purify themselves.

1. The Power of Rituals: Examining the Significance of Purification Rituals in Ancient Times

2. The Power of Obedience: Understanding the Significance of Following God's Commandments

1. Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

2. Mark 7:14-15 - And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.

Deuteronomy 21:7 And they shall answer and say, Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen it.

The Israelites declare their innocence in a crime by claiming they did not shed or see the blood of the victim.

1. We are accountable for our actions and must be honest about them.

2. We must show compassion and understanding when responding to those who have wronged us.

1. Matthew 5:39 - "But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also."

2. Proverbs 24:11-12 - "Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, But we knew nothing about this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay everyone according to what they have done?"

Deuteronomy 21:8 Be merciful, O LORD, unto thy people Israel, whom thou hast redeemed, and lay not innocent blood unto thy people of Israel's charge. And the blood shall be forgiven them.

This passage encourages us to turn to God in mercy and to forgive the innocent.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Love Like God

2. Redeemed by Mercy: Experiencing the Grace of God

1. Matthew 18:21-35 - The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

2. Luke 6:37 - Judge Not, and You Will Not Be Judged.

Deuteronomy 21:9 So shalt thou put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you, when thou shalt do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

This passage is about putting away the guilt of innocent blood when we do what is right in God's sight.

1. Righteousness Before God: Living a Life of Obedience

2. The Guilt of Innocent Blood: Living a Life of Justice

1. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

2. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Deuteronomy 21:10 When thou goest forth to war against thine enemies, and the LORD thy God hath delivered them into thine hands, and thou hast taken them captive,

When going into battle, if the enemies are defeated and taken captive, Deuteronomy 21:10 applies.

1. Christ: Our True Warrior - Romans 8:37

2. The Lord's Strength in Battle - Isaiah 59:19

1. Psalm 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2. Psalm 18:39 - For you equipped me with strength for the battle; you made those who rise against me sink under me.

Deuteronomy 21:11 And seest among the captives a beautiful woman, and hast a desire unto her, that thou wouldest have her to thy wife;

The passage speaks of God's command not to covet what belongs to someone else, specifically referring to captives.

1: "The Danger of Coveting"

2: "The Importance of Contentment"

1: Philippians 4:11-12 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

2: James 4:1-2 - "What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel."

Deuteronomy 21:12 Then thou shalt bring her home to thine house; and she shall shave her head, and pare her nails;

A woman who has been captured in battle must have her head shaved and her nails pared when brought home.

1. The Captive Woman: A Picture of Redemption

2. The Meaning of Head Shaving and Nail Paring in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 61:4 - They shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

2. Galatians 6:15 - For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Deuteronomy 21:13 And she shall put the raiment of her captivity from off her, and shall remain in thine house, and bewail her father and her mother a full month: and after that thou shalt go in unto her, and be her husband, and she shall be thy wife.

A woman taken captive in battle must mourn her parents for a month before being allowed to marry her captor.

1. The Power of Mourning: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 21:13

2. To Love and to Cherish: A Deuteronomy 21:13 Marriage

1. Isaiah 61:3 - "To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 - "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus."

Deuteronomy 21:14 And it shall be, if thou have no delight in her, then thou shalt let her go whither she will; but thou shalt not sell her at all for money, thou shalt not make merchandise of her, because thou hast humbled her.

This passage highlights the importance of showing respect toward women and not taking advantage of them.

1. The Dignity of Women: Showing Respect and Honor.

2. Dealing Justly with Others in Accordance with God's Word.

1. Ephesians 5:25-33 Husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the church.

2. 1 Peter 3:7 Husbands should treat their wives with respect.

Deuteronomy 21:15 If a man have two wives, one beloved, and another hated, and they have born him children, both the beloved and the hated; and if the firstborn son be hers that was hated:

A man with two wives has children by both of them, and if the firstborn is of the one he hates, the law of Moses states that the rights of the firstborn must still be observed.

1. "The Value of Unconditional Love"

2. "Honoring Those We Struggle To Love"

1. Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Deuteronomy 21:16 Then it shall be, when he maketh his sons to inherit that which he hath, that he may not make the son of the beloved firstborn before the son of the hated, which is indeed the firstborn:

1: God values fairness and justice; He expects us to do the same in our relationships especially with our family.

2: We should not let our emotions cloud our judgement when making decisions; God desires us to be just and fair in all our dealings.

1: James 2:8-9 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

2: Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Deuteronomy 21:17 But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated for the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his.

The father is obligated to acknowledge the son of the hated as the firstborn and grant him a double portion of all he has. This is because the firstborn is the beginning of his strength.

1. Acknowledging God's Plan: Embracing the Uncomfortable

2. Recognizing Our Responsibility: Honoring the Unloved

1. Genesis 49:3-4 - "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor, excelling in power. Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel, for you went up onto your father s bed, onto my couch and defiled it."

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."

Deuteronomy 21:18 If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them:

The passage talks about a man's stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his parents, even when they have disciplined him.

1. The Power of Authority in Parenting

2. The Role of Discipline in Raising Respectful Children

1. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Deuteronomy 21:19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place;

The parents of a rebellious son must take him to the elders of their city and the gate of their place.

1. Respecting Authority: The Importance of Submitting to Proper Authority

2. The Power of Parents: How to Raise Responsible Children

1. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Deuteronomy 21:20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard.

A son is described as being stubborn, rebellious, gluttonous, and a drunkard.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience

2. The Power of Good Habits

1. Proverbs 28:1 - "The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

2. Proverbs 23:20-21 - "Do not be among drunkards or among gluttonous eaters of meat, for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and slumber will clothe them with rags."

Deuteronomy 21:21 And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

If someone commits a crime, all the people in the city should stone them to death in order to remove evil from their midst, and all of Israel should be made aware so they can fear.

1. The Power of Unity - How working together can remove evil from our society.

2. The Consequences of Sin - Why we must take a strong stance against crime and wickedness.

1. Psalm 34:14 - Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Deuteronomy 21:22 And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree:

God commanded that men who had committed a sin worthy of death should be put to death by hanging on a tree.

1. The Gravity of Sin and the Consequences of Disobeying God

2. The Price of Disobedience: The Unacceptable Cost of Disregarding Authority

1. Galatians 3:13 - Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Deuteronomy 21:23 His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

God's commandment to bury those hung on a tree is a sign of respect for the deceased and God's view of life as sacred.

1. We must show respect for life, as God commanded us to do.

2. By burying those hung on a tree, we honor God's view of life as sacred.

1. Genesis 9:6 - "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image."

2. Ezekiel 18:4 - "Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die."

Deuteronomy 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 22:1-12 addresses various laws related to personal property and care for others. Moses instructs the Israelites to help their fellow countrymen when they come across lost animals or belongings. They are not to ignore them but must make efforts to return them to their rightful owners. Moses also commands that diverse aspects of life should be kept distinct, such as not plowing with an ox and a donkey together or wearing clothing made of mixed fabrics.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 22:13-30, Moses provides regulations regarding sexual morality and marriage. He outlines the procedure for dealing with accusations of a newly married woman's virginity. If a husband accuses his wife of not being a virgin at the time of marriage, evidence is presented before the elders, and if it is found that the accusation is false, severe penalties are imposed on the husband. Various scenarios related to sexual immorality, including adultery and rape, are also addressed.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 22 concludes with miscellaneous laws concerning societal order and compassion towards animals. In Deuteronomy 22:23-30, Moses establishes penalties for engaging in sexual relations with someone who is betrothed or married. Both parties involved in adultery should be put to death according to God's law. Additionally, laws regarding forbidden marriages within close family relations are outlined, emphasizing purity within familial relationships.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 22 presents:

Laws related to personal property returning lost items;

Regulations regarding sexual morality dealing with accusations, addressing adultery;

Miscellaneous laws prohibitions against mixed fabrics, penalties for forbidden marriages.

Emphasis on laws related to personal property returning lost items;

Regulations regarding sexual morality dealing with accusations, addressing adultery and rape;

Miscellaneous laws prohibitions against mixed fabrics, penalties for forbidden marriages.

The chapter focuses on laws related to personal property, regulations regarding sexual morality and marriage, and miscellaneous laws concerning societal order. In Deuteronomy 22, Moses instructs the Israelites to be diligent in helping their fellow countrymen by returning lost animals or belongings to their rightful owners. They are not to ignore these items but must make efforts to restore them. Moses also commands that various aspects of life should be kept distinct, such as not plowing with an ox and a donkey together or wearing clothing made of mixed fabrics.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 22, Moses provides regulations regarding sexual morality and marriage. He outlines the procedure for dealing with accusations of a newly married woman's virginity. If a husband accuses his wife of not being a virgin at the time of marriage, evidence is presented before the elders. If it is found that the accusation is false, severe penalties are imposed on the husband for making false claims. Various scenarios related to sexual immorality, including cases of adultery and rape, are also addressed with corresponding penalties.

Deuteronomy 22 concludes with miscellaneous laws concerning societal order and compassion towards animals. Moses establishes penalties for engaging in sexual relations with someone who is betrothed or married; both parties involved in adultery should be put to death according to God's law. Additionally, laws regarding forbidden marriages within close family relations are outlined as a means of preserving purity within familial relationships.

Deuteronomy 22:1 Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep go astray, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt in any case bring them again unto thy brother.

It is commanded that if one sees their brother s livestock wandering, they should not ignore them, but instead bring them back to their brother.

1. The importance of showing kindness to our brothers.

2. Fulfilling God's commands through practical actions.

1. Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

2. Matthew 5:17-19 - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished."

Deuteronomy 22:2 And if thy brother be not nigh unto thee, or if thou know him not, then thou shalt bring it unto thine own house, and it shall be with thee until thy brother seek after it, and thou shalt restore it to him again.

This passage highlights the importance of looking after and restoring items that belong to your brother.

1. "Caring for Your Brother's Possessions: The Example of Deuteronomy 22:2"

2. "A Lesson in Responsibility: The Call of Deuteronomy 22:2"

1. Matthew 22:39 - "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

2. Proverbs 19:17 - "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."

Deuteronomy 22:3 In like manner shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his raiment; and with all lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found, shalt thou do likewise: thou mayest not hide thyself.

God commands us to help those in need by returning lost items.

1 - Love One Another: Practicing Compassion to Help Those in Need

2 - The Responsibility of Serving God: Honoring His Commandments

1 - Matthew 7:12 - Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

2 - Galatians 6:2 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Deuteronomy 22:4 Thou shalt not see thy brother's ass or his ox fall down by the way, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt surely help him to lift them up again.

This passage instructs us to help our brothers and sisters in need.

1: We Must Assist Our Brothers and Sisters in Need

2: The Importance of Lifting Each Other Up

1: Galatians 6:2-3 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

2: James 2:15-16 - "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"

Deuteronomy 22:5 The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

This passage emphasizes that God disapproves of men and women wearing clothing meant for the opposite gender.

1. "The Wisdom of God's Word: Dressing According to Gender"

2. "The Power of God's Holiness: Why We Should Avoid Blurring Gender Roles"

1. Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. 1 Corinthians 11:14-15, "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering."

Deuteronomy 22:6 If a bird's nest chance to be before thee in the way in any tree, or on the ground, whether they be young ones, or eggs, and the dam sitting upon the young, or upon the eggs, thou shalt not take the dam with the young:

Do not take the mother bird and its young from a nest.

1. The Importance of Caring for Creation

2. The Value of Compassion

1. Matthew 12:11-12 - "And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days."

2. Proverbs 12:10 - "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel."

Deuteronomy 22:7 But thou shalt in any wise let the dam go, and take the young to thee; that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days.

God encourages us to show kindness and mercy to living creatures.

1: Let Us Show Mercy and Compassion to All Creatures

2: Let Us Follow the Lord's Command to Show Kindness and Love

1: Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

2: James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

Deuteronomy 22:8 When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence.

God commands the Israelites to build parapets around the roof of their house to prevent any accidents that may lead to bloodshed.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Value of Human Life

1. Proverbs 24:3-4 "By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

2. Psalm 127:1 "Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain."

Deuteronomy 22:9 Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled.

God commands his people not to mix different types of seed when planting vineyards.

1. The importance of honoring God's commands in all aspects of life.

2. The consequences of disregarding God's instructions.

1. James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word and not hearers only.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - Blessing and curses of keeping or not keeping the Lord's commandments.

Deuteronomy 22:10 Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together.

This verse speaks against the practice of mixing different kinds of animals when plowing a field.

1: We must not mix and match when it comes to our work, but rather use the tools and talents that God has given us specifically for the task at hand.

2: We should not try to force two different things together to make something effective, but rather use what God has already given us to work with.

1: Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

2: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

Deuteronomy 22:11 Thou shalt not wear a garment of divers sorts, as of woollen and linen together.

This passage reminds us that we should not mix different fabrics when making a garment.

1. God's commands are wise and beneficial: following them will bring us joy and blessing.

2. There is beauty in simplicity: let us not be drawn away by the allure of materialism.

1. Proverbs 3:13-15 - Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Deuteronomy 22:12 Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four quarters of thy vesture, wherewith thou coverest thyself.

God commanded the Israelites to have tassels on the four corners of their cloaks.

1. "Living In Obedience to God's Commands"

2. "The Significance of Tassels for the People of Israel"

1. Matthew 5:17-19 - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

2. Romans 8:1-4 - "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."

Deuteronomy 22:13 If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her,

This passage highlights that a man should not hate his wife after marrying her.

1. Loving your spouse unconditionally despite differences

2. The importance of respecting and cherishing your partner

1. Ephesians 5:25-33 - Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the church

2. 1 Peter 3:7 - Husbands should live with their wives in an understanding way

Deuteronomy 22:14 And give occasions of speech against her, and bring up an evil name upon her, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I found her not a maid:

The passage outlines a law from the book of Deuteronomy that prohibits men from slandering a woman s character by claiming that she was not a virgin when they married her.

1. God's Command to Protect a Woman's Honor

2. The Consequences of Slandering a Woman's Character

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

2. 1 Peter 2:11-12 Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Deuteronomy 22:15 Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth the tokens of the damsel's virginity unto the elders of the city in the gate:

The parents of a bride must bring the tokens of her virginity to the city elders at the gate.

1. The Importance of Waiting for Marriage

2. The Blessing of Marriage

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So, glorify God in your body.

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...

Deuteronomy 22:16 And the damsel's father shall say unto the elders, I gave my daughter unto this man to wife, and he hateth her;

A father must bring a case to the elders if his daughter's husband hates her.

1: Love is patient and kind, never hateful.

2: Marriage is a commitment to love and respect, even in difficult times.

1: Colossians 3:14 - And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

2: Ephesians 5:25 - Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Deuteronomy 22:17 And, lo, he hath given occasions of speech against her, saying, I found not thy daughter a maid; and yet these are the tokens of my daughter's virginity. And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city.

In Deuteronomy 22:17, an instance is given where a father can present evidence of his daughter's virginity before the elders of the city.

1. The importance of maintaining one's virginity before marriage.

2. Honoring the role of fathers in the protection of their daughters.

1. Matthew 19:8-9; "He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."

2. Proverbs 6:23-24; "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman."

Deuteronomy 22:18 And the elders of that city shall take that man and chastise him;

The elders of a city shall chastise a man who has committed a wrong.

1. The Power of Accountability: How Everyone Plays a Part in Restoring Society

2. The Role of Elders in Society: Establishing Justice and Righteousness

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"

2. Proverbs 24:11-12 - "Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, Behold, we did not know this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?

Deuteronomy 22:19 And they shall amerce him in an hundred shekels of silver, and give them unto the father of the damsel, because he hath brought up an evil name upon a virgin of Israel: and she shall be his wife; he may not put her away all his days.

This passage speaks of a man who has impugned the reputation of a virgin and is required to pay a hundred shekels of silver to her father and then take her as his wife.

1. The Cost of Disrespect: The Consequences of Slander

2. Living With Integrity: Choosing to Honor Others

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

2. James 3:5-10 - So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

Deuteronomy 22:20 But if this thing be true, and the tokens of virginity be not found for the damsel:

The passage states that if the tokens of virginity are not found for a damsel, the truth must be determined.

1. "Living with Integrity: The Challenge of Honesty"

2. "The Sanctity of Commitment: Keeping Promises"

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. Isaiah 33:15-16 - He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking on evil, he will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him; his water will be sure.

Deuteronomy 22:21 Then they shall bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because she hath wrought folly in Israel, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you.

This passage speaks of the punishment of a woman who has committed adultery in her father's house.

1. The Dangers of Adultery and How to Avoid Them

2. Living a Life of Purity and Holiness

1. Proverbs 6:32 - But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

Deuteronomy 22:22 If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, both the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel.

This passage emphasizes God's justice and the importance of living in accordance with His commands.

1. "Righteousness is God's Standard"

2. "The Consequences of Disobedience"

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

Deuteronomy 22:23 If a damsel that is a virgin be betrothed unto an husband, and a man find her in the city, and lie with her;

A man should not take advantage of a betrothed woman.

1. Don t take advantage of someone else s vulnerability.

2. Respect the boundaries of relationships.

1. Ephesians 5:3-4 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

Deuteronomy 22:24 Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not, being in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you.

This passage from Deuteronomy 22:24 speaks of the consequences of a man humbling his neighbor's wife.

1. The Danger of Sin: Learning from the Consequences of Humiliating Your Neighbor's Wife

2. The Covenant of Marriage: Respecting and Protecting Each Other

1. Proverbs 6:27-29 - Referencing the dangers of immoral and adulterous relationships.

2. Malachi 2:14-16 - Referencing God's view of marriage and the importance of respect in relationships.

Deuteronomy 22:25 But if a man find a betrothed damsel in the field, and the man force her, and lie with her: then the man only that lay with her shall die:

A man who forces a betrothed damsel and lies with her is condemned to death.

1. The Consequences of Sin - Exposing the consequences of succumbing to temptation and how it affects us and those around us.

2. A Shepherd's Heart: The Power of Love - Exploring how unconditional love can protect and empower us in a world full of sin.

1. Proverbs 6:27-29 - "Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? 28 Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? 29 So is he who sleeps with another man s wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished."

2. Ephesians 5:3-5 - "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God s holy people. 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. 5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person such a person is an idolater has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God."

Deuteronomy 22:26 But unto the damsel thou shalt do nothing; there is in the damsel no sin worthy of death: for as when a man riseth against his neighbour, and slayeth him, even so is this matter:

This passage speaks of the protection of a woman from violence, punishing the one who committed the crime rather than the victim.

1. We must protect the vulnerable from violence and oppression.

2. No one is above the law and all must be held accountable for their actions.

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

2. Luke 10:30-33 Jesus replied, A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

Deuteronomy 22:27 For he found her in the field, and the betrothed damsel cried, and there was none to save her.

The passage speaks of a man finding a betrothed damsel in the field and her crying out with nobody to save her.

1. God is a rescuer in times of distress

2. The importance of protecting the vulnerable

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Exodus 3:7-10 - "Then the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them."

Deuteronomy 22:28 If a man find a damsel that is a virgin, which is not betrothed, and lay hold on her, and lie with her, and they be found;

A man who has sexual relations with a woman who is not betrothed will be held accountable.

1. The Sanctity of Marriage: Understanding the Importance of Commitment

2. Abstinence: Being Faithful to God's Plan for Sexuality

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 Marriage as a Symbol of Christ and the Church

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 Flee Sexual Immorality and Honor God with Your Body

Deuteronomy 22:29 Then the man that lay with her shall give unto the damsel's father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife; because he hath humbled her, he may not put her away all his days.

This verse shows God's commandment that a man who has taken a woman's virginity must pay her father a fine and then marry her.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness in the Face of Sin

2. The Sanctity of Marriage According to Scripture

1. Matthew 5:17-20 - Jesus' teaching on the importance of obeying the Law of Moses

2. Hebrews 13:4 - The command to remain faithful in marriage

Deuteronomy 22:30 A man shall not take his father's wife, nor discover his father's skirt.

A man is forbidden from marrying or uncovering his father's wife.

1. Respect Your Parents: The importance of honoring our fathers and mothers in accordance with Deuteronomy 22:30.

2. The Sanctity of Marriage: God s design for marriage and His prohibition of inappropriate behavior as found in Deuteronomy 22:30.

1. Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

2. Leviticus 18:8 The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness.

Deuteronomy 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 23:1-8 addresses various exclusions and restrictions from the assembly of Yahweh. Moses lists several individuals who are excluded from entering the assembly, including those with physical deformities or certain lineage backgrounds. He also declares that Ammonites and Moabites are to be excluded from the assembly because they did not provide assistance to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness. However, Moses clarifies that this exclusion does not apply to future generations of Ammonites and Moabites.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 23:9-14, Moses provides instructions regarding cleanliness and hygiene within the camp. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining cleanliness by disposing of waste outside of the camp area. Additionally, he instructs them to practice proper hygiene during times of ceremonial impurity, such as using designated areas for relieving oneself and carrying a shovel for covering waste.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 23 concludes with regulations concerning vows and oaths made to Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 23:21-23, Moses emphasizes that when making a vow or oath to God, it must be fulfilled promptly without delay. Breaking a vow or failing to fulfill an oath is considered sinful in God's sight. However, he warns against making hasty vows but encourages careful consideration before making commitments to avoid potential violations.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 23 presents:

Exclusions from the assembly individuals with deformities, certain lineages;

Instructions regarding cleanliness proper disposal of waste, hygiene practices;

Regulations concerning vows fulfilling commitments made to Yahweh.

Emphasis on exclusions from the assembly physical deformities, lineage restrictions;

Instructions regarding cleanliness proper disposal of waste, hygiene practices;

Regulations concerning vows fulfilling commitments made to Yahweh.

The chapter focuses on exclusions from the assembly, instructions regarding cleanliness and hygiene within the camp, and regulations concerning vows and oaths made to Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 23, Moses lists several individuals who are excluded from entering the assembly of Yahweh, including those with physical deformities or certain lineage backgrounds. He also declares that Ammonites and Moabites are to be excluded because they did not provide assistance to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness. However, Moses clarifies that this exclusion does not apply to future generations of Ammonites and Moabites.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 23, Moses provides instructions regarding cleanliness and hygiene within the camp. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining cleanliness by disposing of waste outside of the camp area. Additionally, he instructs them to practice proper hygiene during times of ceremonial impurity by using designated areas for relieving oneself and carrying a shovel for covering waste.

Deuteronomy 23 concludes with regulations concerning vows and oaths made to Yahweh. Moses emphasizes that when making a vow or oath to God, it must be fulfilled promptly without delay. Breaking a vow or failing to fulfill an oath is considered sinful in God's sight. However, he warns against making hasty vows but encourages careful consideration before making commitments in order to avoid potential violations

Deuteronomy 23:1 He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his privy member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD.

No one with a physical disability is allowed to enter the congregation of the Lord.

1. God's Love is Unconditional - John 3:16

2. All are Welcome in God's House - Romans 8:31-34

1. Leviticus 21:17-23

2. Exodus 4:10-12

Deuteronomy 23:2 A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the LORD.

The Lord does not accept bastards into his congregation, even up to the tenth generation.

1. God's Love is Unconditional for All Believers

2. Rejecting Sinful Behaviour and Living a Life of Holiness

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Deuteronomy 23:3 An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever:

The Ammonites and Moabites were forbidden from entering the congregation of the LORD, even to the tenth generation.

1. The Blessing of Obeying God's Commandments

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Instructions

1. Exodus 20:3-17 - God's Ten Commandments

2. Romans 3:23-24 - All Have Sinned and Fall Short of the Glory of God

Deuteronomy 23:4 Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee.

This passage from Deuteronomy 23:4 speaks about how the Israelites were not welcomed with food and water on their journey from Egypt and were instead cursed by Balaam the son of Beor.

1. The importance of hospitality and how it can bring blessing instead of a curse.

2. God's unwavering protection and provision for His people even in the face of adversity.

1. Luke 6:31-35 - "Do to others as you would have them do to you."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper."

Deuteronomy 23:5 Nevertheless the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee.

God refused to listen to Balaam's curse and instead turned it into a blessing, because He loves His people.

1. God's Love and Compassion for His People

2. God's Unconditional Forgiveness

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Deuteronomy 23:6 Thou shalt not seek their peace nor their prosperity all thy days for ever.

God commands His people not to seek peace or prosperity with those who have wronged them.

1. The Importance of Forgiveness: Learning to Let Go of the Past and Move Forward.

2. The Power of Faith and Mercy: Choosing to Love and Respect Your Enemies.

1. Matthew 5:38-48 - Jesus instructs us to love our enemies and to turn the other cheek.

2. Romans 12:14-21 - Paul encourages us to live at peace with everyone, even those who have wronged us.

Deuteronomy 23:7 Thou shalt not abhor an Edomite; for he is thy brother: thou shalt not abhor an Egyptian; because thou wast a stranger in his land.

God commands that the Israelites not despise Edomites and Egyptians because of their shared heritage and common experiences.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Understanding the Need to Let Go of Resentment

2. The Importance of Empathy: Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself

1. Matthew 5:43-45 - "You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven."

2. Romans 12:14-21 - "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."

Deuteronomy 23:8 The children that are begotten of them shall enter into the congregation of the LORD in their third generation.

The Lord's congregation is open to the third generation of children born to those who have been excluded.

1. Embracing All Generations of God's People

2. The Power of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 43:7 - "Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

2. Galatians 3:26-29 - "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 23:9 When the host goeth forth against thine enemies, then keep thee from every wicked thing.

God commands believers to abstain from all evil when they go out to fight their enemies.

1. "The Courage of the Just: Fighting with Faith and Honor"

2. "The Power of Avoidance: Overcoming Temptation in Conflict"

1. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Romans 12:21 - "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Deuteronomy 23:10 If there be among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that chanceth him by night, then shall he go abroad out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp:

God commanded the Israelites to separate camp from any unclean person who was not clean due to an uncleanness that happened to them.

1. "The Importance of Keeping the Camp Clean"

2. "Caring for the Unclean: God's Commandment to Love"

1. Leviticus 14:1-9 - The process of cleansing the unclean person

2. 1 John 4:7-10 - The importance of loving one another despite outward differences

Deuteronomy 23:11 But it shall be, when evening cometh on, he shall wash himself with water: and when the sun is down, he shall come into the camp again.

The Lord commands that anyone who is ceremonially unclean must wash themselves with water and wait until evening before returning to the camp.

1. Let Us Purify Ourselves: An Examination of Deuteronomy 23:11

2. The Power of Cleanliness: How Cleanliness Splits Us from Sin

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil

2. Ephesians 5:26 - that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word

Deuteronomy 23:12 Thou shalt have a place also without the camp, whither thou shalt go forth abroad:

This passage speaks about having a separate place outside the camp where one can go to be alone.

1. The Importance of Aloneness: Finding Time for Reflection and Growth

2. Finding Strength in Solitude: The Power of Connecting with God in Quiet

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Matthew 6:6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Deuteronomy 23:13 And thou shalt have a paddle upon thy weapon; and it shall be, when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig therewith, and shalt turn back and cover that which cometh from thee:

God commands His people to take a paddle with their weapons and use it to dig a hole and cover up their waste when going to the bathroom outside.

1. The Importance of Respect for God's Creation

2. The Significance of Obedience to God's Laws

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Psalm 19:7-8 - The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

Deuteronomy 23:14 For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.

God calls us to live a holy life in order to glorify Him.

1: Living a Life of Holiness in the Midst of the World

2: The Importance of Keeping God's Presence in Our Lives

1: 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2: Colossians 3:12-17 - "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Deuteronomy 23:15 Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee:

The Israelites were not to return any escaped slaves to their original masters.

1. God's Heart for the Oppressed: The Meaning of Deuteronomy 23:15

2. The Freedom of Escaping Slavery: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 23:15

1. Isaiah 61:1 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted.

2. Galatians 5:1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Deuteronomy 23:16 He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him.

God commands us to not oppress strangers who live among us.

1. Jesus' Call to Welcome Strangers

2. The Role of Compassion in Christian Living

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

2. Matthew 25:35 - For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Deuteronomy 23:17 There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel.

No sexual immorality among the people of Israel.

1. Living a Pure Life: The Commandment for the People of Israel

2. Sexual Purity: A Requirement for God's People

1. Ephesians 5:3 - But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Deuteronomy 23:18 Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

The Lord forbids bringing an immoral or dishonorable payment into His house.

1: Our lives should be lived in holiness and obedience to the Lord.

2: We should strive to honor the Lord in all that we do.

1: Matthew 22:37-40 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.

2: 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Deuteronomy 23:19 Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of any thing that is lent upon usury:

God commands us not to lend money or any other item with interest to our brothers.

1. God's Grace and Mercy in Prohibiting Usury

2. The Power of Compassion and Generosity

1. Exodus 22:25 - If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury.

2. Leviticus 25:37 - Thou shalt not give him thy money upon usury, nor lend him thy victuals for increase.

Deuteronomy 23:20 Unto a stranger thou mayest lend upon usury; but unto thy brother thou shalt not lend upon usury: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all that thou settest thine hand to in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

We are instructed not to lend with usury to our brothers, but we may lend with usury to strangers, so that the Lord may bless us in all that we do.

1. Learning to Be Generous and Kind with Others

2. Caring for Strangers and Loving Our Brothers

1. Leviticus 19:18 - "Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD."

2. Matthew 22:39 - "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Deuteronomy 23:21 When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it would be sin in thee.

God expects us to fulfill our vows and promises to Him.

1: God's Faithfulness to His Promises

2: The Consequences of Breaking Our Vows to God

1: Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay."

2: James 5:12 - "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation."

Deuteronomy 23:22 But if thou shalt forbear to vow, it shall be no sin in thee.

It is not a sin for a person to refrain from making a vow.

1. The Power of Refraining: Why Abstaining from Vowing is a Positive Choice

2. The Freedom of Saying No: The Blessing of Not Making Promises We Can't Keep

1. Ecclesiastes 5:2, Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.

2. James 1:19, Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Deuteronomy 23:23 That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt keep and perform; even a freewill offering, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth.

This passage encourages us to fulfill our promises and vows to God.

1. "The Power of Our Promises"

2. "The Blessing of God in Keeping Our Vows"

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay."

2. Psalm 15:4 - "He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not."

Deuteronomy 23:24 When thou comest into thy neighbour's vineyard, then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure; but thou shalt not put any in thy vessel.

In Deuteronomy 23:24, it is commanded that one may eat as much as they want from their neighbor's vineyard, but they are not allowed to take any away with them.

1. Abiding by God's Commands: The Need for Obedience

2. The Blessing of Abundance: Trusting in God's Provision

1. Proverbs 3:9 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

2. Psalm 67:6 - The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

Deuteronomy 23:25 When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.

It is permissible to pick ears of corn from a neighbor's standing corn, but it is forbidden to use a sickle to harvest it.

1. The importance of respecting the property of your neighbor.

2. The dangers of taking more than you need.

1. Exodus 20:15 - "Thou shalt not steal."

2. Luke 6:31 - "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise."

Deuteronomy 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 24:1-5 addresses the topic of divorce and remarriage. Moses provides guidelines for divorce, stating that if a man divorces his wife and she marries another man who then divorces her or dies, her first husband is not allowed to remarry her. This prohibition is intended to discourage frivolous divorces and ensure the sanctity of marriage. Additionally, newly married men are exempt from military service for one year so they can establish a strong foundation with their wives.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 24:6-16, Moses emphasizes the importance of justice and fairness in various aspects of life. He instructs that creditors should not take as collateral essential items such as millstones or clothing needed for daily living. Furthermore, individuals should not be punished for their parents' sins; each person is responsible for their own actions. The vulnerable members of society, such as widows, orphans, and foreigners, are to be treated with compassion and provided fair treatment.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 24 concludes with miscellaneous laws concerning social ethics and property rights. In Deuteronomy 24:17-22, Moses reminds the Israelites to remember their past as slaves in Egypt and to have empathy towards those who are marginalized or oppressed. He commands them not to pervert justice by showing partiality towards the poor or denying justice to foreigners residing among them. They are also instructed to leave some crops unharvested during harvest time so that the needy can gather food.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 24 presents:

Guidelines for divorce prohibition on remarrying a divorced woman;

Emphasis on justice fair treatment, compassion towards vulnerable members;

Miscellaneous laws social ethics, property rights, empathy towards the marginalized.

Emphasis on guidelines for divorce prohibition on remarrying a divorced woman;

Importance of justice fair treatment, compassion towards vulnerable members;

Miscellaneous laws social ethics, property rights, empathy towards the marginalized.

The chapter focuses on guidelines for divorce and remarriage, the importance of justice and fairness in various aspects of life, and miscellaneous laws concerning social ethics and property rights. In Deuteronomy 24, Moses provides guidelines for divorce, stating that if a man divorces his wife and she marries another man who then divorces her or dies, her first husband is not allowed to remarry her. This prohibition aims to discourage frivolous divorces and ensure the sanctity of marriage. Additionally, newly married men are exempt from military service for one year so they can establish a strong foundation with their wives.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 24, Moses emphasizes the importance of justice and fairness in various aspects of life. He instructs that creditors should not take essential items as collateral from debtors. Furthermore, individuals should not be punished for their parents' sins; each person is responsible for their own actions. The vulnerable members of society such as widows, orphans, and foreigners are to be treated with compassion and provided fair treatment.

Deuteronomy 24 concludes with miscellaneous laws concerning social ethics and property rights. Moses reminds the Israelites to remember their past as slaves in Egypt and to have empathy towards those who are marginalized or oppressed. They are commanded not to pervert justice by showing partiality towards the poor or denying justice to foreigners residing among them. Additionally, they are instructed to leave some crops unharvested during harvest time so that the needy can gather food an act of compassion towards those in need.

Deuteronomy 24:1 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house.

This passage describes the provision for a man to divorce his wife if he finds some uncleanness in her.

1. God's grace extends even to those who have been divorced.

2. We must remain faithful to our marriage vows despite the difficulties we may face.

1. Matthew 19:3-9 - Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce.

2. Romans 7:2-3 - Paul's explanation of the law concerning marriage and divorce.

Deuteronomy 24:2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife.

In Deuteronomy 24:2, it is stated that a woman who has left her husband's house may remarry another man.

1. God's Plan for Marriage: Learning to Love and Let Go

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Understanding the Blessings of Moving On

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

Deuteronomy 24:3 And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife;

A bill of divorcement can be written by a husband if he hates his wife, and the wife is sent out of the house. The same applies if the husband dies.

1. God's Love for His People Despite Divorce

2. The Sanctity of Marriage and Divorce

1. Malachi 2:14-16 - "Yet you ask, Why? It is because the Lord is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. Has not the Lord made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth."

2. Romans 7:2-3 - "For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law that binds her to him. So then, if she has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man."

Deuteronomy 24:4 Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

This passage outlines that a man cannot remarry his ex-wife if she has been defiled, as this would be seen as an abomination before God.

1. "The Sacredness of Marriage: What Does the Bible Say?"

2. "Why It Is Wrong to Remarry a Former Spouse"

1. Matthew 19:3-9 - Explaining Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce.

2. Romans 7:1-3 - Explaining why it is wrong to remarry a former spouse.

Deuteronomy 24:5 When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: but he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.

This passage emphasizes the importance of a husband taking time to be with his new wife and to make her feel secure and loved.

1. The Power of Love: How to Strengthen Your Marriage

2. Taking Care of Your Spouse: Embracing God's Commandments

1. Ephesians 5:25-28 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

2. Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 24:6 No man shall take the nether or the upper millstone to pledge: for he taketh a man's life to pledge.

Do not use a man's possessions as security for a loan, as this could put his life in danger.

1. The Danger of Taking a Life in Vain

2. The Value of Human Life

1. Proverbs 22:26-27 "Do not be one of those who strikes hands in pledge or puts up security for debts; if you lack the means to pay, your very bed will be snatched from under you."

2. Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Deuteronomy 24:7 If a man be found stealing any of his brethren of the children of Israel, and maketh merchandise of him, or selleth him; then that thief shall die; and thou shalt put evil away from among you.

This passage from Deuteronomy 24:7 talks about the punishment for stealing and selling a fellow Israelite.

1. The Consequences of Stealing: The Dangers of Exploiting Our Brethren

2. The Need to Show Compassion and Mercy: Creating a Community of Love and Peace

1. Exodus 20:15 "Thou shalt not steal"

2. Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"

Deuteronomy 24:8 Take heed in the plague of leprosy, that thou observe diligently, and do according to all that the priests the Levites shall teach you: as I commanded them, so ye shall observe to do.

The Lord commands people to be attentive and adhere to the teachings of the Levite priests when it comes to leprosy.

1. Faithful Obedience: Following God's Instructions For Healing

2. The Blessing of Listening to Wise Counsel

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

2. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Deuteronomy 24:9 Remember what the LORD thy God did unto Miriam by the way, after that ye were come forth out of Egypt.

This passage reminds us of the LORD's faithfulness and mercy towards his people, even when they disobey him.

1. The LORD is Faithful Despite Our Failings

2. The Blessings of Trusting in the LORD

1. Psalm 25:10 - All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

Deuteronomy 24:10 When thou dost lend thy brother any thing, thou shalt not go into his house to fetch his pledge.

It is forbidden to enter the home of a brother when lending him something.

1. "The Power of Self-Control in Giving"

2. "The Blessing of Lending to Others"

1. Proverbs 3:27-28 - "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, Come back tomorrow and I ll give it to you when you already have it with you."

2. Matthew 5:42 - "Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you."

Deuteronomy 24:11 Thou shalt stand abroad, and the man to whom thou dost lend shall bring out the pledge abroad unto thee.

This passage from Deuteronomy 24:11 speaks of lending money to someone in need and having them bring out the pledged item outside as collateral.

1. God calls us to be generous and help those in need, even if it means taking risks.

2. God requires us to use wisdom when lending to others, but also to show mercy and compassion.

1. Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

Deuteronomy 24:12 And if the man be poor, thou shalt not sleep with his pledge:

A man should not take a poor man's pledge as security for a loan.

1: Do Not Take Advantage of the Poor - Deuteronomy 24:12

2: Show Compassion and Mercy to the Needy - Deuteronomy 24:12

1: Exodus 22:25-27 - If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury.

2: Luke 6:35-36 - But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

Deuteronomy 24:13 In any case thou shalt deliver him the pledge again when the sun goeth down, that he may sleep in his own raiment, and bless thee: and it shall be righteousness unto thee before the LORD thy God.

This verse emphasizes the importance of showing mercy and compassion to others, as it is a requirement to be righteous before the LORD.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion: Living Out Deuteronomy 24:13

2. The Blessing of Righteousness: Understanding Deuteronomy 24:13

1. Proverbs 14:31 - Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

2. Micah 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Deuteronomy 24:14 Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates:

The Lord commands us to not oppress a hired servant that is poor and need, whether they are a fellow Israelite or a stranger living in Israel.

1. God Cares for the Poor and Needy

2. The Responsibility of Loving Our Neighbors

1. James 2:15-16 - "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?"

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."

Deuteronomy 24:15 At his day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it: lest he cry against thee unto the LORD, and it be sin unto thee.

The Lord commands us to pay the wages of the poor in a timely manner.

1: Do Not Delay Justice for the Poor

2: God s Heart for the Poor

1: James 2:15-16 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

2: Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

Deuteronomy 24:16 The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

This passage states that individuals are responsible for their own actions and cannot be held accountable for the sins of others.

1. God is Just and Merciful: An Exploration of Deuteronomy 24:16

2. Taking Responsibility: Exploring the Meaning of Deuteronomy 24:16

1. Deuteronomy 5:9 - "You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me"

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

Deuteronomy 24:17 Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, nor of the fatherless; nor take a widow's raiment to pledge:

This passage warns us not to oppress or take advantage of the powerless, such as widows, strangers and the fatherless.

1. God's Call to Love and Protect the Vulnerable

2. The Power of Defending the Weak

1. James 1:27 - "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

2. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

Deuteronomy 24:18 But thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee thence: therefore I command thee to do this thing.

This passage reminds us that we were once slaves in Egypt, but God redeemed us and we are now commanded to remember this.

1. Remembering our Past: The Redemption of the Lord

2. The Commandment to Remember our Freedom

1. Exodus 15:13 - You in your mercy have led forth the people you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

2. Psalm 144:7-8 - Stretch out your hand from on high; rescue me and deliver me from the mighty waters, from the hand of foreigners whose mouths speak lies, and whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

Deuteronomy 24:19 When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

This passage emphasizes the importance of providing for those in need, as doing so will bring God's blessing.

1. "Sharing God's Blessings: Caring for the Needy"

2. "The Power of Generosity: Providing for the Stranger, Fatherless, and Widow"

1. James 2:14-17

2. Ephesians 4:28-32

Deuteronomy 24:20 When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

This passage instructs us to be generous and to share our bounty with the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.

1. The Blessing of Generosity

2. The Responsibility of Caring for the Vulnerable

1. James 1:27 - "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

2. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

Deuteronomy 24:21 When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

The Israelites are commanded not to keep any of the grapes they gather from their vineyards, but to leave them for strangers, fatherless, and widows.

1. The Heart of Generosity: God's Call to Care for the Most Vulnerable

2. Living a Life of Stewardship: Loving Our Neighbors as Ourselves

1. Leviticus 19:9-10: "When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner."

2. James 1:27: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Deuteronomy 24:22 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt: therefore I command thee to do this thing.

God commands the people of Israel to remember that they were once slaves in Egypt.

1. Remembering Your Roots: Being Grateful For God's Provision

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commandments

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

2. Ephesians 6:5-7 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.

Deuteronomy 25 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 25:1-3 addresses the administration of justice and the punishment for crimes. Moses instructs that when disputes arise between individuals, they should be brought before the judges for a fair judgment. If someone is found guilty of a crime, they are to receive a punishment appropriate to the offense. However, Moses also emphasizes that excessive punishment should be avoided forty lashes being the maximum penalty allowed.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 25:4-12, Moses provides regulations concerning fair treatment of animals and family obligations. He commands that when an ox is used for threshing grain, it should not be muzzled but allowed to eat from the produce as it works. This principle extends to other situations where animals are involved in labor. Additionally, if brothers live together and one dies without leaving a son, his brother is expected to marry the widow and provide offspring in order to continue his brother's lineage.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 25 concludes with laws related to honesty and integrity in business dealings. In Deuteronomy 25:13-16, Moses prohibits using dishonest weights or measures when conducting business transactions. He emphasizes that using accurate and just measures is pleasing to Yahweh and ensures fairness in commerce. Moreover, he warns against engaging in unfair practices such as cheating or defrauding others.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 25 presents:

Administration of justice fair judgment, appropriate punishments;

Regulations concerning animals fair treatment during labor;

Laws related to honesty using just measures, avoiding dishonest practices.

Emphasis on administration of justice fair judgment, appropriate punishments;

Regulations concerning animals fair treatment during labor;

Laws related to honesty using just measures, avoiding dishonest practices.

The chapter focuses on the administration of justice, regulations concerning fair treatment of animals and family obligations, and laws related to honesty and integrity in business dealings. In Deuteronomy 25, Moses instructs that disputes between individuals should be brought before the judges for a fair judgment. If someone is found guilty of a crime, they are to receive a punishment appropriate to the offense. However, excessive punishment should be avoided.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 25, Moses provides regulations concerning fair treatment of animals during labor. He commands that when an ox is used for threshing grain or engaged in other labor, it should not be muzzled but allowed to eat from the produce as it works. This principle extends to other situations involving animals in labor. Additionally, he addresses family obligations where brothers living together are expected to marry the widow of a deceased brother and provide offspring to continue his lineage.

Deuteronomy 25 concludes with laws related to honesty and integrity in business dealings. Moses prohibits using dishonest weights or measures when conducting transactions, emphasizing the importance of accurate and just measures as pleasing to Yahweh and ensuring fairness in commerce. He also warns against engaging in unfair practices such as cheating or defrauding others an emphasis on honesty and ethical conduct in business interactions.

Deuteronomy 25:1 If there be a controversy between men, and they come unto judgment, that the judges may judge them; then they shall justify the righteous, and condemn the wicked.

This passage from Deuteronomy outlines the importance of a fair and impartial judgment in any dispute between two men.

1. The Justice of God: A call for Righteousness

2. The Importance of Fair Judgement

1. Isaiah 1:17, Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow s cause.

2. Proverbs 17:15, He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the Lord.

Deuteronomy 25:2 And it shall be, if the wicked man be worthy to be beaten, that the judge shall cause him to lie down, and to be beaten before his face, according to his fault, by a certain number.

The judge is commanded to beat the wicked person according to the degree of their wrong-doing.

1. God's justice: Recognizing the need for punishment.

2. The consequences of wickedness: Understanding the importance of obedience and respect.

1. Proverbs 19:19 A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if thou deliver him, yet thou must do it again.

2. 1 Peter 2:13-14 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

Deuteronomy 25:3 Forty stripes he may give him, and not exceed: lest, if he should exceed, and beat him above these with many stripes, then thy brother should seem vile unto thee.

This passage teaches that corporal punishment is acceptable, but should never exceed forty stripes and should be done in moderation.

1. Loving Discipline: Understanding the Biblical Limits of Corporal Punishment

2. Mercy and Compassion: A Biblical Perspective on Disciplining Others

1. Proverbs 13:24 - He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 25:4 Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn.

This passage encourages us to treat animals with respect and kindness.

1. The Power of Kindness: How Our Treatment of Animals Reflects Our Character

2. The Dignity of Work: Appreciating the Efforts of All Laborers

1. Galatians 6:9-10 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Deuteronomy 25:5 If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her.

The Bible instructs that if a man dies and leaves a widow, his brother should marry her and take care of her.

1. The Duty of Family: Caring for Widows in the Community

2. The Importance of Fulfilling Obligations to Those We Love

1. Ruth 2:20 - "And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the LORD, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead."

2. Proverbs 15:25 - "The Lord will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow."

Deuteronomy 25:6 And it shall be, that the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, that his name be not put out of Israel.

The firstborn of a widow shall inherit the name of his deceased brother to ensure that his name is not forgotten in Israel.

1. Making a Lasting Legacy - The importance of a name and how it is passed on through generations.

2. Honoring the Memory of our Loved Ones - How our actions can ensure that the memory of our loved ones is never forgotten.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - "A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth."

2. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold."

Deuteronomy 25:7 And if the man like not to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate unto the elders, and say, My husband's brother refuseth to raise up unto his brother a name in Israel, he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother.

This passage addresses the duty of a brother to marry his brother's widow.

1. "The Duty of a Brother: Caring for Widows and Vulnerable People"

2. "God's Expectations of Us in Supporting the Needy"

1. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Deuteronomy 25:8 Then the elders of his city shall call him, and speak unto him: and if he stand to it, and say, I like not to take her;

The elders of a man's city should speak to him if he refuses to marry his deceased brother's wife.

1: God's mercy and love revealed in the Law of Moses.

2: The importance of family unity.

1: Ruth 4:10-12 - Ruth's loyalty and commitment to her family.

2: Matthew 22:34-40 - Jesus' teaching on the importance of loving God and loving your neighbor.

Deuteronomy 25:9 Then shall his brother's wife come unto him in the presence of the elders, and loose his shoe from off his foot, and spit in his face, and shall answer and say, So shall it be done unto that man that will not build up his brother's house.

This passage from Deuteronomy 25:9 speaks of a woman taking off her brother-in-law's shoe and spitting in his face as a sign of disgrace if the brother-in-law does not fulfill his familial duty of building his brother's house.

1. The Responsibility of Fulfilling Family Duties

2. The Consequences of Not Fulfilling Family Obligations

1. Prov. 24:30-34 - I passed by the field of a sluggard, by the vineyard of a man lacking sense, and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns; the ground was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down. Then I saw and considered it; I looked and received instruction. A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Deuteronomy 25:10 And his name shall be called in Israel, The house of him that hath his shoe loosed.

This passage from Deuteronomy 25:10 tells of an Israelite custom in which a man whose sandal was removed by another was given a special name in Israel.

1. "The Significance of Loosing Another's Shoe in Ancient Israel"

2. "God's Design for Blessing in the Smallest of Details"

1. Ruth 4:7-8 - "Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging, to confirm anything: one man took off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was a confirmation in Israel."

2. Matthew 3:16-17 - "After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.

Deuteronomy 25:11 When men strive together one with another, and the wife of the one draweth near for to deliver her husband out of the hand of him that smiteth him, and putteth forth her hand, and taketh him by the secrets:

In Deuteronomy 25:11, a wife is praised for coming to the aid of her husband when he is being attacked.

1. The Courage of the Biblical Woman: How the Wife in Deuteronomy 25:11 Reminds Us of the Loyalty and Strength of Wives

2. Strength in Unity: How the Wife in Deuteronomy 25:11 Shows Us the Power of Standing Together

1. Proverbs 31:10-12 - "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life."

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything."

Deuteronomy 25:12 Then thou shalt cut off her hand, thine eye shall not pity her.

This passage speaks of punishing a woman who has committed a transgression in a public setting, in which case her hand must be cut off.

1. God's justice is absolute and must be respected.

2. Mercy and justice must be balanced in our lives.

1. Isaiah 30:18 - "Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him."

2. Proverbs 21:15 - "When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous, but dismay to evildoers."

Deuteronomy 25:13 Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small.

God commands us not to carry two different weights in our bags.

1. The Sin of Cheating: Exploring God's Commandment to Not Have Divers Weights in Our Bags

2. Doing What is Right: The Importance of Following God's Commandments

1. Proverbs 20:10 & 23 - "Diverse weights are an abomination to the LORD; and a false balance is not good."

2. Luke 16:10 - "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

Deuteronomy 25:14 Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small.

This passage instructs us to not have different sizes of weights and measures, as it is dishonest.

1: God's Standards of Honesty - Deuteronomy 25:14

2: The Need for Fairness - Deuteronomy 25:14

1: Leviticus 19:35-36 - "Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt."

2: Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight."

Deuteronomy 25:15 But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

God commands us to be honest in our dealings and weights, so that our days may be extended in the promised land.

1. Life Lessons from Deuteronomy 25:15: The importance of honesty and justice in our daily lives.

2. Honesty is the Best Policy: The blessings of living righteously in God's sight.

1. Proverbs 11:1, "A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight."

2. Matthew 5:7, "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

Deuteronomy 25:16 For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

It is an abomination to God to act unrighteously.

1. "Living Righteously Before God"

2. "The Abomination of Sin"

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Deuteronomy 25:17 Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt;

The passage encourages the Israelites to remember what Amalek did to them when they were leaving Egypt.

1. The Power of Remembrance - How remembering past wrongs can help us to move forward in faith.

2. A Faithful Memory - A lesson on how to remember God's faithfulness despite our past struggles.

1. Exodus 17:8-16 - The account of Amalek's attack upon the Israelites.

2. Psalm 103:11-14 - A reminder of how God remembers our sins no more.

Deuteronomy 25:18 How he met thee by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, even all that were feeble behind thee, when thou wast faint and weary; and he feared not God.

God commanded the Israelites not to take vengeance on their enemies, and to remember how God had shown mercy to them in the past when they were weak and weary.

1. The Mercy of God: Remembering God's Grace in Times of Weakness.

2. God's Plan for Vengeance: The Importance of Forgiveness in Our Lives.

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

2. Romans 12:14-21 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Deuteronomy 25:19 Therefore it shall be, when the LORD thy God hath given thee rest from all thine enemies round about, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it, that thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; thou shalt not forget it.

God commands us to not forget the sins of Amalek and to blot out their memory from under heaven.

1. The Sin of Amalek: Remembering our Past to Reject Sin

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Finding Grace in the Lord's Mercy

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

2. Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Deuteronomy 26 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 addresses the offering of firstfruits and the recitation of a declaration before Yahweh. Moses instructs the Israelites that when they enter the land promised to them by God, they are to bring a portion of their firstfruits and present it before the priest as an offering. Along with this offering, they are to recite a declaration acknowledging God's faithfulness and recounting their history as a people chosen by Him. This act serves as a reminder of their gratitude for God's provision and deliverance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 26:12-15, Moses emphasizes the importance of tithing and giving offerings to support those in need. He instructs that every third year, known as the Year of Tithing, a tithe should be set aside for Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows within their community. By doing so, they demonstrate compassion towards those who lack resources or social support.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 26 concludes with a reaffirmation of Israel's covenant relationship with Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 26:16-19, Moses reminds the Israelites of their responsibility to obey God's commandments faithfully. He calls upon them to commit themselves wholeheartedly to keeping His statutes and ordinances. In return for their obedience, God promises to exalt them above all nations and establish them as His holy people a treasured possession.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 26 presents:

Offering firstfruits acknowledging God's faithfulness;

Tithing and giving offerings supporting those in need;

Reaffirmation of covenant relationship obedience leading to blessings.

Emphasis on offering firstfruits acknowledging God's faithfulness, recounting history;

Tithing and giving offerings supporting Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows;

Reaffirmation of covenant relationship wholehearted obedience leading to exaltation.

The chapter focuses on the offering of firstfruits and the recitation of a declaration before Yahweh, the importance of tithing and giving offerings to support those in need, and a reaffirmation of Israel's covenant relationship with God. In Deuteronomy 26, Moses instructs the Israelites that when they enter the promised land, they are to bring a portion of their firstfruits as an offering before the priest. Along with this offering, they are to recite a declaration acknowledging God's faithfulness throughout their history as His chosen people.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 26, Moses emphasizes the importance of tithing and giving offerings. He instructs that every third year (the Year of Tithing), a tithe should be set aside for specific groups within their community who are in need the Levites, foreigners residing among them, orphans, and widows. This act demonstrates compassion towards those lacking resources or social support.

Deuteronomy 26 concludes with a reaffirmation of Israel's covenant relationship with Yahweh. Moses reminds them of their responsibility to faithfully obey God's commandments. He calls upon them to commit themselves wholeheartedly to keeping His statutes and ordinances. In return for their obedience, God promises to exalt them above all nations and establish them as His holy people a treasured possession reflecting His glory.

Deuteronomy 26:1 And it shall be, when thou art come in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and possessest it, and dwellest therein;

When we enter and possess the land given to us by the Lord, we should be thankful and offer a sacrifice to Him.

1. A Heart of Gratitude: Cultivating Thankfulness in our Lives

2. Abiding in God's Promise: Trusting in the Lord's Provision

1. Psalm 100:4-5 - "Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Deuteronomy 26:2 That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name there.

This passage speaks of the obligation of Israelites to bring the first fruits of their land to the place chosen by God.

1. God's Chosen Place: An Examination of Deuteronomy 26:2

2. The Obligation of Israelites: What God Demands of Us

1. Exodus 23:16 - "And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field."

2. Leviticus 23:10 - "Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest."

Deuteronomy 26:3 And thou shalt go unto the priest that shall be in those days, and say unto him, I profess this day unto the LORD thy God, that I am come unto the country which the LORD sware unto our fathers for to give us.

This passage from Deuteronomy discusses the Israelites making a profession to the Lord that they have come to the country promised to their ancestors.

1. The Promises of God: Fulfilling His Covenant

2. Our Responsibilities to God: Fulfilling Our Obligations

1. Joshua 24:14-15 - "Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Psalm 119:1-2 - Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.

Deuteronomy 26:4 And the priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the LORD thy God.

The priest was instructed to take the basket from the people and place it before the altar of the LORD.

1. Recognizing God's Authority in Our Lives

2. Giving Our Best to the Lord

1. Philippians 4:18 - "But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."

2. Proverbs 3:9 - "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:"

Deuteronomy 26:5 And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous:

The speaker is recounting to the LORD God how their father had descended to Egypt with only a few people, and how the nation had grown to become great and populous.

1. The Power of God in Bringing Blessings to His People

2. The Faithfulness of God in Keeping His Promises

1. Deuteronomy 26:5-6 And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous: And the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders

2. Romans 4:1-25 What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness. Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness

Deuteronomy 26:6 And the Egyptians evil entreated us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage:

The Israelites were oppressed and enslaved by the Egyptians.

1. God is powerful and can get us out of any situation, no matter how dire.

2. We can learn from the Israelites and trust in God for deliverance from oppressive situations.

1. Exodus 3:7-10

2. Isaiah 41:10

Deuteronomy 26:7 And when we cried unto the LORD God of our fathers, the LORD heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression:

God heard the cries of the Israelites and saw their affliction, labor, and oppression.

1. God is Listening: How to Receive His Intervention in Times of Need

2. God Sees Our Struggles: Finding Comfort and Strength in His Presence

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

2. Romans 8:26-27 - Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Deuteronomy 26:8 And the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders:

The Lord led the Israelites out of Egypt with his might and great signs and wonders.

1: We must remember the Lord's faithfulness and his power to protect us.

2: We must be thankful to the Lord for his miraculous acts and for his provision.

1: Exodus 14:31 - And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.

2: Psalm 136:12 - With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Deuteronomy 26:9 And he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey.

God has given His people a land that is abundant and fruitful.

1. God's Abundant Provision - Deuteronomy 26:9

2. The Beauty of God's Promises - Deuteronomy 26:9

1. Psalm 107:35 - He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.

2. Isaiah 58:11 - The Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Deuteronomy 26:10 And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God:

This passage in Deuteronomy 26:10 speaks of the importance of offering the firstfruits of the land to the Lord in worship.

1. Worshiping God Through Our Offerings

2. How to Honor God with Our Blessings

1. Psalm 50:10-12 For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Deuteronomy 26:11 And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the LORD thy God hath given unto thee, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that is among you.

This passage encourages rejoicing in every good thing that God has given to us and to those around us.

1. Rejoicing in God's Good Gifts

2. Gratitude and Generosity to Strangers

1. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

2. Philippians 4:4 - "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice."

Deuteronomy 26:12 When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;

God commands the Israelites to tithe their increase and give it to the Levite, stranger, fatherless, and widow so that they can be provided for.

1. A Generous Heart: Giving to the Needy

2. Living with Gratitude: God s Blessing and Our Response

1. Galatians 6:9-10 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2. Luke 3:11 He answered them, Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.

Deuteronomy 26:13 Then thou shalt say before the LORD thy God, I have brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them:

The people of Israel are instructed to give away sacred items to the Levites, strangers, fatherless and widows in accordance with the Lord's commandments.

1. The Heart of Gratitude: Remembering God's Commandments and Blessings

2. Practicing Obedience: Keeping God's Commandments and Showing Compassion

1. Matthew 5:17-18 Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Deuteronomy 26:14 I have not eaten thereof in my mourning, neither have I taken away ought thereof for any unclean use, nor given ought thereof for the dead: but I have hearkened to the voice of the LORD my God, and have done according to all that thou hast commanded me.

The speaker has followed the Lord's commands and not taken from the offerings for mourning, unclean use, or the dead.

1. "God's Commands and Obedience to His Will"

2. "The Rewards of Faithful Obedience"

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Deuteronomy 26:15 Look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, and bless thy people Israel, and the land which thou hast given us, as thou swarest unto our fathers, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

God is asked to bless His people Israel and the land He has given them, which is a land that is abundant and fruitful.

1. God's Blessings Are Abundant and Fruitful

2. God's Promises Are Reliable

1. Psalm 103:2-5 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

2. Proverbs 10:22 - The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Deuteronomy 26:16 This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

This passage emphasizes the importance of keeping God's statutes and judgments with all one's heart and soul.

1. The Heart of Obedience: Living Out God's Commandments Wholeheartedly

2. The Soul of Obedience: Fulfilling God's Will with Devotion

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Matthew 22:37-40 - And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Deuteronomy 26:17 Thou hast avouched the LORD this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken unto his voice:

The passage reminds us of our covenant with God to obey His commands and follow His ways.

1. Abiding in God's Covenant - Learning to Walk in Obedience to God's Ways

2. The Voice of God - Responding with Faithfulness to His Commands

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. Jeremiah 7:23 - But this is what I commanded them, saying, Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people.

Deuteronomy 26:18 And the LORD hath avouched thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he hath promised thee, and that thou shouldest keep all his commandments;

The Lord has chosen the Israelites to be his special people and commanded them to obey all his laws.

1. God has a plan for each of us and the Israelites were chosen to be special.

2. Obey God's commands and be part of His special chosen people.

1. 2 Corinthians 6:16-18 - "For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

2. Romans 8:29 - "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

Deuteronomy 26:19 And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the LORD thy God, as he hath spoken.

The Lord will exalt His people above all nations, to be praised and honored, and to be a holy people to the Lord.

1. "Living as God's Holy People"

2. "The Blessing of Being Exalted Above All Nations"

1. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

2. Isaiah 43:21 - The people I formed for myself will declare my praise.

Deuteronomy 27 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 27:1-10 addresses the command to set up large stones and inscribe the words of the law upon them when the Israelites cross the Jordan River into the promised land. Moses instructs that these stones should be coated with plaster, and all the words of God's law are to be written on them. This symbolic act serves as a reminder and public declaration of their commitment to obeying God's commandments.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 27:11-26, Moses outlines a series of blessings and curses that are to be proclaimed upon Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal once they enter the land. The blessings are pronounced upon those who faithfully follow God's commandments, while curses are declared against those who engage in various forms of disobedience, including idolatry, dishonoring parents, dishonesty, and injustice. This solemn ceremony serves as a reminder of the consequences that accompany obedience or disobedience to God's laws.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 27 concludes with a call for obedience to all of God's commands. In Deuteronomy 27:26, Moses declares that anyone who does not uphold every aspect of God's law is under a curse. He emphasizes that adherence to these laws is essential for experiencing God's blessings and remaining in His favor.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 27 presents:

Setting up stones inscribed with God's law symbolic commitment;

Proclamation of blessings and curses consequences for obedience or disobedience;

Call for complete obedience adherence to all aspects of God's law.

Emphasis on setting up stones inscribed with God's law symbolic commitment;

Proclamation of blessings and curses consequences for obedience or disobedience;

Call for complete obedience adherence to all aspects of God's law.

The chapter focuses on the command to set up stones inscribed with the words of God's law, the proclamation of blessings and curses upon entering the promised land, and a call for complete obedience to all of God's commands. In Deuteronomy 27, Moses instructs the Israelites that when they cross the Jordan River into the promised land, they are to set up large stones coated with plaster and inscribe upon them all the words of God's law. This act serves as a symbolic commitment to obeying God's commandments.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 27, Moses outlines a ceremony where blessings and curses are proclaimed upon Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal. The blessings are pronounced upon those who faithfully follow God's commandments, while curses are declared against those who engage in various forms of disobedience. This solemn ceremony serves as a reminder of the consequences that accompany obedience or disobedience to God's laws.

Deuteronomy 27 concludes with Moses calling for complete obedience to all aspects of God's law. He declares that anyone who does not uphold every aspect of these laws is under a curse. Moses emphasizes that adherence to these laws is essential for experiencing God's blessings and remaining in His favor a call for unwavering commitment and obedience to all aspects of His commands.

Deuteronomy 27:1 And Moses with the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, Keep all the commandments which I command you this day.

Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people to keep all the commandments given to them.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Path to Blessing

2. Understanding and Living God's Word: The Foundation of Faith

1. Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Psalm 119:11: "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Deuteronomy 27:2 And it shall be on the day when ye shall pass over Jordan unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, that thou shalt set thee up great stones, and plaister them with plaister:

The Israelites were instructed to set up large stones and plaster them when they crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. The significance of monuments in commemorating God's faithfulness

1. Matthew 22:36-40 - Love God and love your neighbor

2. Joshua 4:19-24 - The stones of remembrance set up after crossing the Jordan River

Deuteronomy 27:3 And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee.

On the path to the promised land, the Lord commanded Moses to write down all of the words of the law that they would pass on their journey.

1. The Path to the Promised Land: Following God's Commandments

2. Living the Law of God: Finding Strength and Security in Obedience

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Deuteronomy 27:4 Therefore it shall be when ye be gone over Jordan, that ye shall set up these stones, which I command you this day, in mount Ebal, and thou shalt plaister them with plaister.

Moses commanded the Israelites to set up stones with plaster on Mount Ebal after they crossed the Jordan River.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commandments

2. The Importance of Memorials: Remembering God's Promises

1. Joshua 4:20-21 - And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones?

2. Jeremiah 31:20 - Is Ephraim my dear son? is he a pleasant child? for since I spake against him, I do earnestly remember him still: therefore my bowels are troubled for him; I will surely have mercy upon him, saith the Lord.

Deuteronomy 27:5 And there shalt thou build an altar unto the LORD thy God, an altar of stones: thou shalt not lift up any iron tool upon them.

This passage from Deuteronomy instructs the Israelites to build an altar to the Lord with stones, and forbids them from using any iron tool when doing so.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Building an Altar to the Lord"

2. "The Strength of Sacrifice: Keeping God's Commands"

1. Exodus 20:25 - And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.

2. Joshua 8:31 - As Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones, over which no man hath lift up any iron.

Deuteronomy 27:6 Thou shalt build the altar of the LORD thy God of whole stones: and thou shalt offer burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD thy God:

God commands us to build an altar of whole stones to offer burnt offerings to the Lord.

1: We must be obedient to God and build an altar of whole stones to bring our offerings to Him.

2: We must be faithful and offer our burnt offerings to the Lord.

1: 1 Samuel 15:22 - "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

2: Hebrews 13:15 - "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

Deuteronomy 27:7 And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God.

The passage in Deuteronomy 27:7 instructs the Israelites to offer peace offerings to the Lord and to rejoice before Him.

1. Living a Life of Peace Finding Contentment Through Rejoicing in the Lord

2. Sacrifice and Submissiveness The Blessing of Offering Peace Offerings to the Lord

1. Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Deuteronomy 27:8 And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly.

The people of Israel are instructed to inscribe God's law on stones for all to see.

1. Obedience is the cornerstone of faith.

2. Let the words of the Lord be a light unto our path.

1. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

2. Romans 6:17, "But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed."

Deuteronomy 27:9 And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God.

Moses and the Levite priests spoke to all Israel, reminding them that on this day they had become the people of the LORD their God.

1. The Power of Acceptance: How We Become the People of the LORD

2. Taking Heed: How to Live as the People of the LORD

1. Jeremiah 7:23 - "But this is what I commanded them, 'Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you."

2. Isaiah 43:21 - "This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise."

Deuteronomy 27:10 Thou shalt therefore obey the voice of the LORD thy God, and do his commandments and his statutes, which I command thee this day.

God commands us to obey Him and follow His commandments and statutes.

1. Obeying God: The Key to Living a Fulfilled Life

2. Keeping the Commandments: The Path to True Happiness

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Psalm 19:8 - "The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

Deuteronomy 27:11 And Moses charged the people the same day, saying,

Moses charged the Israelites to obey the commandments of the Lord and to bless and curse those who do not obey.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How Obeying the Lord Leads to True Joy

2. The Curse of Disobedience: How Ignoring God's Commandments Leads to Despair

1. Proverbs 3:1-2: "My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you."

2. James 1:22-25: "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."

Deuteronomy 27:12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:

The twelve tribes of Israel are blessed while crossing the Jordan River, with Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin standing on Mount Gerizim.

1. A Call to Fulfill the Blessing of the Lord

2. Taking Hold of the Promise of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 27:12

2. Genesis 28:15 - And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

Deuteronomy 27:13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

The Israelites were told to stand on mount Ebal to curse Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

1. The Importance of Following God s Instructions

2. The Power of Community in the Bible

1. Joshua 8:30-35 - The Israelites obeying God s instructions to set up a stone altar on Mount Ebal

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Deuteronomy 27:14 And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice,

The Levites remind the people of Israel of the importance of following God's commandments.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. The Blessing of Unity: How Connection to God Unites Us

1. Joshua 24:15 - Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

2. Psalm 119:1-2 - Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.

Deuteronomy 27:15 Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.

The Lord curses anyone who creates an image to worship Him, as it is an abomination.

1. "The Idolatry of Image Making: Understanding the Sin of Idolatry"

2. "The Lord Curses Those Who Create Images: Rejecting False Worship"

1. Exodus 20:4-5, Do not make for yourselves an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. Do not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God.

2. Psalm 97:7, All who worship images are put to shame, those who boast in idols worship him, all you gods!

Deuteronomy 27:16 Cursed be he that setteth light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.

This passage from Deuteronomy reminds us of the importance of honoring our parents.

1: "The Value of Honoring Your Parents"

2: "The Blessing of Obedience: Honoring Your Parents"

1: Exodus 20:12 (Honor your father and your mother)

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 (Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right)

Deuteronomy 27:17 Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.

This passage emphasizes the importance of respecting boundaries and honoring the rights of one's neighbor.

1. "Honoring Your Neighbour's Boundaries: A Biblical Mandate"

2. "Living in Community: The Blessing of Respecting One Another's Rights"

1. Proverbs 22:28 - "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

2. Luke 10:25-37 - Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Deuteronomy 27:18 Cursed be he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way. And all the people shall say, Amen.

This passage emphasizes the importance of helping the visually impaired, and not causing them to go astray.

1: Let us strive to help and protect those who are blind, that we may not cause them to wander out of the way.

2: Let us not forget to show mercy and kindness to those who are blind, for it is a blessing from God.

1: Isaiah 35:5-6 - Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

2: James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Deuteronomy 27:19 Cursed be he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, Amen.

The Lord curses those who mistreat the disadvantaged, such as strangers, fatherless and widows.

1. The Blessing of Justice: Standing Up for the Marginalized

2. The Curse of Injustice: Breaking the Heart of God

1. Psalm 82:3-4 "Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

2. James 1:27 "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

Deuteronomy 27:20 Cursed be he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, Amen.

This passage from Deuteronomy condemns those who engage in sexual relations with their father's wife. All the people respond by affirming the curse.

1. "The Consequences of Sin: A Message from Deuteronomy 27:20"

2. "Honoring God's Design for Marriage: A Study of Deuteronomy 27:20"

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - The importance of honoring the authority of marriage in God's design

2. Proverbs 5:15-20 - Warnings against taking sexual pleasure outside of a marriage covenant

Deuteronomy 27:21 Cursed be he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen.

God curses those that lie with any kind of beast. The people respond in agreement.

1. The Dangers of Following Unrighteous Paths

2. Living a Life of Obedience to God

1. Proverbs 12:10 - Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel.

2. Psalm 119:1-2 - Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.

Deuteronomy 27:22 Cursed be he that lieth with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.

God condemns those who lie with their siblings.

1: We must honor God's commands, and never engage in immoral activities.

2: We must not allow our desires to lead us away from God's will.

1: 1 Corinthians 6:18 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against their own body."

2: Leviticus 18:9 - "You must not have sexual relations with your sister, either your father s daughter or your mother s daughter, whether she was born in the same home or elsewhere."

Deuteronomy 27:23 Cursed be he that lieth with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, Amen.

God commands to not lie with one's mother in law, and the people agree to the command.

1. The Sacred Bond of Marriage: Understanding God's Command to Respect the Relationship

2. Honoring God's Command: Keeping Ourselves from Unlawful Intimacy

1. Leviticus 18:16-17 - "You shall not uncover the nakedness of your brother's wife; it is your brother's nakedness. You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination."

2. Ephesians 5:25-26 - "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word."

Deuteronomy 27:24 Cursed be he that smiteth his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, Amen.

This passage emphasizes the importance of not taking revenge against a neighbor in secret, and all the people should agree.

1. Do Not Take Revenge in Private: A Message from Deuteronomy 27:24.

2. Cursed Be He Who Smites His Neighbor Secretly: A Study of Deuteronomy 27:24.

1. Leviticus 19:18 You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

2. Matthew 5:38-39 You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

Deuteronomy 27:25 Cursed be he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen.

The Lord forbids taking reward to kill an innocent person and the people must agree to this.

1. The Power of Agreement in Keeping Innocent Lives Safe

2. Prohibiting the Taking of Rewards to Kill the Innocent

1. Proverbs 28:17, "A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him."

2. Exodus 23:7, "Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked."

Deuteronomy 27:26 Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.

This passage emphasizes the importance of following the law of the Lord.

1: Obey the Lord s Commandments and Reap His Blessings

2: The Power of Obedience in Our Lives

1: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

2: Matthew 7:21 Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Deuteronomy 28 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 presents a list of blessings that will come upon the Israelites if they diligently obey God's commandments. Moses declares that they will be blessed in their cities and fields, their children and livestock will flourish, and their enemies will be defeated. They will experience abundance in their provisions, success in their endeavors, and prominence among the nations. These blessings are contingent upon their wholehearted commitment to following God's statutes.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 28:15-44, Moses warns of the consequences of disobedience the curses that will befall them if they turn away from God's commandments. He describes a series of afflictions including diseases, crop failures, oppression by enemies, famine, and exile. These curses serve as a disciplinary measure to bring them back to obedience and remind them of the severity of turning away from Yahweh.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 28 concludes with an account of the devastation that will result from disobedience. In Deuteronomy 28:45-68, Moses describes how these curses will escalate if they persist in disobedience despite previous warnings. The Israelites will experience intensified hardships such as plagues, droughts, captivity by foreign nations, loss of land and possessions all serving as a consequence for forsaking Yahweh's covenant.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 28 presents:

Blessings for obedience prosperity, victory over enemies;

Curses for disobedience afflictions and hardships;

Devastation resulting from persistent disobedience escalating consequences.

Emphasis on blessings for obedience prosperity, victory over enemies;

Curses for disobedience afflictions and hardships;

Devastation resulting from persistent disobedience escalating consequences.

The chapter focuses on the blessings that come with obedience, the curses that result from disobedience, and the devastating consequences of persistent rebellion against God's commandments. In Deuteronomy 28, Moses presents a list of blessings that will come upon the Israelites if they diligently obey God's commandments. These blessings include prosperity in their cities and fields, success in their endeavors, and victory over their enemies. However, Moses also warns of the curses that will befall them if they turn away from God's commandments. These curses include afflictions such as diseases, crop failures, oppression by enemies, famine, and exile.

Deuteronomy 28 concludes with an account of the escalating devastation that will result from persistent disobedience. Moses describes how these curses will intensify if they persist in forsaking Yahweh's covenant despite previous warnings. The Israelites will experience plagues, droughts, captivity by foreign nations, loss of land and possessions a series of escalating consequences for turning away from God's commandments. This serves as a sobering reminder of the severity and long-term impact of disobedience to Yahweh's laws.

Deuteronomy 28:1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

If one listens and obeys God's commandments, God will raise them above all other nations.

1. "The Blessings of Obedience"

2. "Receiving God's Unfailing Promises"

1. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."

Deuteronomy 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

God promises blessings to those who obey His commandments.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing

2. The Joy of God's Promises

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Proverbs 8:32-36 - And now, O sons, listen to me: blessed are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord, but he who fails to find me injures himself; all who hate me love death.

Deuteronomy 28:3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

God's blessing is extended to both city and country living.

1. The Blessing of Urban and Rural Living: Experiencing God's Abundance in Both Environments

2. Abundant Blessings: God's Provision for All of Us, Regardless of Where We Live

1. Psalm 145:15-16 - The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

2. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Deuteronomy 28:4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

God promises to bless the fruit of the land and the livestock of those who follow Him.

1. The Blessings of Following God

2. The Fruit of Obedience

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Psalm 1:1-3 - Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Deuteronomy 28:5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

God promises to bless the basket and store of those who obey His commandments.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Prosperity

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Relying on His Promises for Our Well-Being

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

2. Psalm 112:1-3 - Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.

Deuteronomy 28:6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

God blesses us both when we come in and when we go out.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How God Rewards Our Faithful Response

2. God's Abundant Blessings: The Joy of Knowing God's Favor

1. Psalm 128:1-2 Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways! You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.

2. Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Deuteronomy 28:7 The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.

The Lord will defeat the enemies that come up against His people, and their enemies will flee from them in seven directions.

1. God is Faithful to His Promises - Deuteronomy 28:7

2. God's Protection is Unstoppable - Deuteronomy 28:7

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. Psalm 46:7 - "The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

Deuteronomy 28:8 The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

God promises to bless those who obey His commandments and put their trust in Him.

1. The Blessings of Obedience

2. Trusting in the Lord's Promises

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Deuteronomy 28:9 The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.

God promises his people holiness if they obey His commandments and stay on His path.

1. "A Covenant of Holiness: Obedience and Faithfulness to the Lord"

2. "The Promise of Holiness: Keeping God's Commandments"

1. Romans 8:29 - For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Deuteronomy 28:10 And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.

People of the earth will recognize that God has given His name to His chosen people and will be in awe of them.

1. God's Chosen People: Our Identity and Responsibility

2. Living in Awe of God's Name

1. Isaiah 43:7 - "Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

2. Psalm 40:3 - "He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord."

Deuteronomy 28:11 And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

God promises to provide abundance to those who obey His commands.

1. The Blessings of Obedience

2. Abundance Through Faithfulness

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Deuteronomy 28:12 The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

The LORD will give you good treasures and bless your work. You will be able to lend to many nations without having to borrow.

1. God will provide and bless abundantly.

2. The Lord will bless your work and provide you with what you need.

1. 1 Chronicles 29:12 Both riches and honor come from You, and You are the ruler of all things. In Your hand is power and might; in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

2. Proverbs 22:7 The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

Deuteronomy 28:13 And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

Obeying God's commandments will bring honor and success.

1. God's blessings come to those who faithfully obey Him.

2. Put God first and He will elevate you to the highest level.

1. Psalm 37:5-6 "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday."

2. Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Deuteronomy 28:14 And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

This passage encourages us to remain obedient to God's commands and not to follow after other gods.

1. "God Deserves Our Obedience"

2. "Remaining Faithful to God's Word"

1. Joshua 24:15 - "Choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. Psalm 119:9 - "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."

Deuteronomy 28:15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

The consequences of not following God's commandments and statutes are dire.

1: God's commands are for our benefit, not for our harm; disobedience carries great consequences.

2: God's instructions are for our protection and prosperity; neglect them, and you will suffer.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2: Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

Deuteronomy 28:16 Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field.

People are cursed if they disobey God's commands, both when they are in the city and when they are in the fields.

1. "The Blessings of Obedience: God's protection in our lives"

2. "The Consequences of Disobedience: Don't Take the Risk"

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Deuteronomy 28:17 Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store.

The Lord has warned us that if we disobey his commands, our provisions will be cursed.

1. Don't Take God's Blessings for Granted

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 10:22 - The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

2. Malachi 3:10-11 - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Deuteronomy 28:18 Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

God curses the fruit of a person's land, cattle, and sheep.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How God's Promise of Blessing Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning How to Discern Right from Wrong

1. Deuteronomy 28:2-3 - "And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Deuteronomy 28:19 Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

Cursed in all aspects of life, this passage serves as a reminder to be mindful of God's word.

1. "The Blessing and the Curse: Living in God's Will"

2. "The Consequences of Disobedience: Be Mindful of God's Word"

1. James 1:12-13 (Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.)

2. Matthew 5:3-5 (Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.)

Deuteronomy 28:20 The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.

The Lord will send curses, vexation, and rebuke upon all of the things a person does, until they are destroyed and perish quickly, due to their wickedness.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Deuteronomy 28:20

2. The Danger of Rejecting God's Word - Deuteronomy 28:20

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 13:13 - Whoever despises the word brings destruction on themselves, but whoever reveres the commandment will be rewarded.

Deuteronomy 28:21 The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it.

God will punish sinners with pestilence.

1: We must turn away from sin and turn to God, for He will punish those who go against His laws.

2: We must repent from our wickedness and return to the Lord, for He will not allow us to go unpunished if we continue to sin.

1: Isaiah 1:16-20 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

2: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Deuteronomy 28:22 The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish.

God will punish those who disobey Him with sickness, war, and other disasters.

1. The Danger of Disobedience to God - Deuteronomy 28:22

2. Learning Obedience through God's Discipline - Deuteronomy 28:22

1. Jeremiah 29:18 - "I will pursue them with sword, famine and plague and will make them abhorrent to all the kingdoms of the earth."

2. Proverbs 12:1 - "Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid."

Deuteronomy 28:23 And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron.

The Lord will bring judgement and punishment on those who disobey His commandments.

1: God's judgement is sure and inevitable - Deuteronomy 28:23

2: Our obedience to God's commands brings blessings - Deuteronomy 28:1-14

1: Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

2: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Deuteronomy 28:24 The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

The Lord will cause the rain of one's land to become powder and dust, destroying them from the heavens.

1. God's discipline is not without purpose.

2. We must remain humble before God.

1. Isaiah 10:22-23 - For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness. For the Lord GOD of hosts shall make a consumption, even determined, in the midst of all the land.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Deuteronomy 28:25 The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

The Lord will allow the Israelites to be defeated by their enemies, forcing them to flee in seven different directions and scatter to all the kingdoms of the earth.

1. The Lord's Discipline - How God uses difficult situations to shape us and draw us closer to Him.

2. Fleeing from God - How sin can lead us to wander away from God's presence.

1. Proverbs 3:11-12 - "My son, do not despise the Lord s discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights."

2. Isaiah 59:2 - "But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear."

Deuteronomy 28:26 And thy carcase shall be meat unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth, and no man shall fray them away.

This passage from Deuteronomy 28:26 states that if one does not obey the Lord, their body will be eaten by birds and other animals, with no one to protect them.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning From Deuteronomy 28:26

2. Following God's Commands: The Benefit of Obeying the Lord

1. Psalm 37:3-4 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Deuteronomy 28:27 The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.

This verse from Deuteronomy describes the Lord punishing the people of Israel with diseases such as the botch of Egypt, emerods, scab, and itch.

1. A Warning of God's Punishment: How God's Judgment Brings Suffering

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: What Happens When We Ignore God's Commands

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

2. Ezekiel 18:20-21 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

Deuteronomy 28:28 The LORD shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart:

God will punish those who disobey his commands by causing them to become mad, blind, and astonished.

1. God's Wrath - The consequence of disobedience and why it should be avoided

2. God's Protection - The blessing of obedience and the consequent safety it offers

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

2. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Deuteronomy 28:29 And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save thee.

God warns against turning away from Him, as it leads to darkness and suffering.

1. "The Danger of Disobedience"

2. "The Security of Obedience"

1. Jeremiah 17:5-7

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

Deuteronomy 28:30 Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof.

A man is commanded to marry a wife, but another man will take her away from him. He is also told to build a house and plant a vineyard, but he won't be able to enjoy the fruits of his labor.

1. God's Plan for Provision: Even in Trials

2. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting His Perfect Plan

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Deuteronomy 28:31 Thine ox shall be slain before thine eyes, and thou shalt not eat thereof: thine ass shall be violently taken away from before thy face, and shall not be restored to thee: thy sheep shall be given unto thine enemies, and thou shalt have none to rescue them.

God warns the Israelites that if they disobey Him, their animals will be taken away and given to their enemies.

1. God's Discipline: Teaching us to Obey

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 13:13-14 - Whoever despises the word brings destruction on himself, but he who reveres the commandment will be rewarded. The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deuteronomy 28:32 Thy sons and thy daughters shall be given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail with longing for them all the day long: and there shall be no might in thine hand:

The Israelites will be separated from their children and will experience a longing that nothing can satisfy.

1: God is always with us, even in our darkest moments.

2: God's love and power never fails us, even when we feel powerless.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Deuteronomy 28:33 The fruit of thy land, and all thy labours, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed alway:

The nation will consume all the fruit of the land and the labor of its people, leaving them oppressed and crushed.

1. God's people can trust Him even in times of oppression and difficulty.

2. God's people should rely on Him to provide for them in times of need.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 37:25 - "I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread."

Deuteronomy 28:34 So that thou shalt be mad for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

God warns his people of the consequences of disobedience, which include madness due to the sights they will witness.

1. Disobedience Brings Destruction - Deuteronomy 28:34

2. The Consequences of Sin - Deuteronomy 28:34

1. Proverbs 13:15 - Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful is their ruin.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Deuteronomy 28:35 The LORD shall smite thee in the knees, and in the legs, with a sore botch that cannot be healed, from the sole of thy foot unto the top of thy head.

The LORD will punish those who disobey His laws by striking them with a wound that will not heal from head to toe.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Example of Deuteronomy 28:35

2. Living in Righteousness: Why We Must Follow God's Commands

1. Isaiah 1:19-20 - "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, You will be devoured by the sword."

2. Proverbs 28:9 - "He who turns away his ear from hearing the law, Even his prayer is an abomination."

Deuteronomy 28:36 The LORD shall bring thee, and thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other gods, wood and stone.

The Lord will bring them and their king to a nation that is unknown to them, and they will serve other gods.

1. A Call to Seek the Lord in Times of Darkness

2. The Power of Divine Providence

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Deuteronomy 28:37 And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.

God will lead us to become an example of His righteousness, a testimony to His faithfulness, and a living symbol of His love.

1: God's Faithfulness: Our Example

2: God's Love: Our Symbol

1: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Romans 8:38-39 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Deuteronomy 28:38 Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field, and shalt gather but little in; for the locust shall consume it.

A warning is given that the locust will consume much of the seed planted in the field.

1. "The Grace of God in Unexpected Circumstances"

2. "Trust in the Lord in Times of Difficulty"

1. Matthew 6:26-34 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

2. Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Deuteronomy 28:39 Thou shalt plant vineyards, and dress them, but shalt neither drink of the wine, nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them.

This passage emphasizes the importance of taking care of the land and not becoming complacent with its fruit.

1. The Power of Perseverance: The Benefits of Sticking to Your Goals Despite Difficulty

2. The Blessing of Being a Good Steward: How Caring for the Land Rewards Us

1. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:13 - And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.

Deuteronomy 28:40 Thou shalt have olive trees throughout all thy coasts, but thou shalt not anoint thyself with the oil; for thine olive shall cast his fruit.

The Israelites were instructed to have olive trees throughout their land, but to refrain from using the oil.

1. Reaping the Blessings of Obedience

2. Abiding by God's Instructions

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Deuteronomy 28:41 Thou shalt beget sons and daughters, but thou shalt not enjoy them; for they shall go into captivity.

This passage speaks of the captivity of God's people, despite the fact that they will have children.

1. The Pain of Captivity: Learning to Trust God Despite Unexpected Circumstances

2. God's Promises: Relying on God's Faithfulness During Times of Suffering

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Deuteronomy 28:42 All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume.

Locusts will consume all of the trees and fruits of the land.

1. Relying on God's Provision in Times of Trouble - Deuteronomy 28:42

2. The Unpredictability of Life - Deuteronomy 28:42

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do Not Worry

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider Trials Joyful Experiences

Deuteronomy 28:43 The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low.

The stranger will be more successful and have more power than the native-born, while the native-born will become lowly.

1. The Power of God's Grace: Reaching New Heights in Life

2. The Blessing of Humble Living

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

Deuteronomy 28:44 He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail.

God promises to provide for His people and put them in a place of authority.

1. God's Provision: Trusting in God's Plan

2. God's Promises: Relying on God's Strength

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Deuteronomy 28:45 Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee:

God warns the Israelites that if they do not listen to His commandments and statutes, they will be cursed and destroyed.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites Mistakes

2. Obeying the Lord: Accepting His Commands and Statutes

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Deuteronomy 28:46 And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever.

The Lord will use signs and wonders to mark His people and their descendants for eternity.

1. God's Mark of Protection: The Significance of Signs and Wonders

2. The Blessings of Obedience: An Eternal Promise

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David."

2. Psalm 103:17 - "But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children."

Deuteronomy 28:47 Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;

This passage speaks of the consequences of not serving God with joy and gladness of heart, despite the abundance of blessings one may have.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: Embracing God's Abundance with Joy and Gladness

2. A Heart of Gratitude: Cultivating Joyful Service in the Lord

1. Psalm 100:2 Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Deuteronomy 28:48 Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

God will send enemies to punish Israel for their disobedience, and they will be subjected to great suffering.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Deuteronomy 28:48

2. The Power of Obedience: Finding Strength in Deuteronomy 28:48

1. Isaiah 9:4 - "For surely, they that tread thee down shall be as thorns that are burned in the fire; they shall be cast away as stubble."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Deuteronomy 28:49 The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;

The Lord will bring a nation against His people from far away, speaking a language they cannot understand.

1: The Lord provides for our protection even in the face of foreign nations.

2: We must trust in the Lord to provide us guidance and protection in difficult times.

1: Psalm 27:10 - "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Deuteronomy 28:50 A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young:

God warns the Israelites that if they disobey Him they will face the consequences of having a nation of fierce countenance rule over them, who will not show any respect or favor to either the old or the young.

1. "The Fierceness of God's Wrath"

2. "God's Mercy and Grace in the Face of Judgment"

1. Isaiah 54:7-8 For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back. In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you, says the Lord your Redeemer.

2. Titus 3:5-7 He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of his grace he declared us righteous and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.

Deuteronomy 28:51 And he shall eat the fruit of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee.

God warns that if the Israelites disobey Him, they will be destroyed and He will take away their land, livestock, and food.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites

2. God's Protection and Provision: Trusting in His Promises

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Proverbs 10:25 - "When the tempest passes, the wicked is no more, but the righteous is established forever."

Deuteronomy 28:52 And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

The LORD will besiege a person's land with their high and fenced walls until they come down, as a result of their trust in the land that the LORD has given them.

1. Do Not Put Your Trust In Anything Other Than God

2. The LORD Will Not Forsake Those Who Rely On Him

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 26:3-4 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.

Deuteronomy 28:53 And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the LORD thy God hath given thee, in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee:

During a siege or hardship, God commands the people of Israel to eat their own children.

1. The Lord's Unfathomable Wisdom - Exploring the ways in which God works in mysterious and unpredictable ways.

2. The Strength of Faith in Times of Hardship - Examining how God's people can remain strong and faithful in times of distress.

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Deuteronomy 28:54 So that the man that is tender among you, and very delicate, his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave:

The passage discusses the effects of extreme poverty on a family, where even those who are normally tender and delicate become harsh.

1. The Devastating Impact of Poverty on Families

2. The Effects of Hardship on Our Relationships

1. Proverbs 14:21 - Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is he who is generous to the poor.

2. Job 31:16-20 - If I have withheld anything that the poor desired, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail, or have eaten my morsel alone, and the fatherless has not eaten of it (for from my youth the fatherless grew up with me as with a father, and from my mother's womb I guided the widow)...

Deuteronomy 28:55 So that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates.

The passage speaks of the hardship of war and how it can lead to starvation.

1: God is with us even in difficult times.

2: Even in times of distress, God provides us with strength and comfort.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Deuteronomy 28:56 The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter,

This verse from Deuteronomy describes a tender and delicate woman who, due to her physical fragility, cannot go outside. This leads to her having an evil attitude towards her family.

1. The Strength of the Weak: Discovering Strength in Fragility

2. Turning the Evil Eye: Overcoming Negative Thoughts with Positivity

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:10 - Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Deuteronomy 28:57 And toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates.

This passage from Deuteronomy 28 speaks of the suffering of mothers and children in a time of siege and distress.

1: God's Love for the Suffering- How God's love for the suffering and oppressed is revealed in his word.

2: Bearing One Another's Burdens- How we can bear one another's burdens and follow God's example of loving care for the suffering.

1: Isaiah 58:6-7 "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?"

2: Philippians 2:4-5 "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:"

Deuteronomy 28:58 If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD;

The passage emphasizes the importance of following God's commandments in order to be in His good favor.

1: "Fear God and Obey His Commandments"

2: "The Importance of Following God's Law"

1: Joshua 1:7-8 - "Be strong and of good courage; be not frightened, neither be dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Deuteronomy 28:59 Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance.

God will send great and long-lasting plagues and sicknesses to those who disobey Him.

1. "The Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "The Lord's Holy Wrath"

1. James 1:13-15 - "Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

2. Isaiah 59:2 - "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."

Deuteronomy 28:60 Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee.

God will bring all the diseases of Egypt upon those who disobey His laws.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - How to Avoid the Diseases of Egypt

2. God's Warning - The Punishment for Breaking His Laws

1. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

Deuteronomy 28:61 Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

This passage speaks of the consequences of not following the laws of God, which can result in sickness and plague.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: Learning from the Consequences of Rejecting God's Law

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Finding Health and Fulfillment in Doing the Will of God

1. Proverbs 3:1-2 "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

2. Psalm 119:67 "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word."

Deuteronomy 28:62 And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God.

God punishes those who disobey Him.

1: We must always remain obedient to God or face serious consequences.

2: God's love and mercy are always available to us, but we must choose to obey Him to receive it.

1: Proverbs 13:13 - Whoever scorns instruction will pay for it, but whoever respects a command is rewarded.

2: Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Deuteronomy 28:63 And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it.

The Lord rejoices when He does good for the people, but He also rejoices when He destroys them.

1. God's Joy in Good and Bad - Deuteronomy 28:63

2. God's Rejoicing in Righteous Judgment - Deuteronomy 28:63

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Isaiah 61:7 - Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, and instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

Deuteronomy 28:64 And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone.

The LORD will cause the people of Israel to be scattered among all nations of the world, and they will be forced to serve false gods.

1. The Power of God's Scattering: Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. The Danger of False Gods: Rejecting Idolatry in All Its Forms

1. Romans 10:12, "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him."

2. Exodus 20:1-6, "And God spoke all these words, saying, 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.'"

Deuteronomy 28:65 And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind:

The Lord will give those who are among other nations a trembling heart, failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind.

1. God Brings Strength In Our Weakness

2. Trusting God Even In Troubled Times

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Deuteronomy 28:66 And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:

The passage speaks of fear and insecurity in life.

1: Living in Fear or Faith?

2: Overcoming Anxiety and Uncertainty

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: 1 John 4:18 - "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love."

Deuteronomy 28:67 In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

The passage speaks about the fear of God and the consequences of disregarding Him.

1. God's Fear is Righteous: Learning to Appreciate the Fear of the Lord

2. The Power of Fear: Discernment and Wisdom in the Face of Fear

1. Psalm 19:9 - Fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Deuteronomy 28:68 And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.

The LORD will bring the Israelites back to Egypt in ships, and there they will be sold as slaves and no one will buy them.

1. The Sovereignty of God and the Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn.

2. Psalm 136:23 - Who remembered us in our lowly state, for His mercy endures forever.

Deuteronomy 29 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 29:1-9 recounts Moses' reminder to the Israelites of God's faithfulness throughout their journey in the wilderness. He emphasizes that they have witnessed firsthand God's mighty acts, His provision, and His guidance. Despite these experiences, Moses reminds them that they still need to fully understand and internalize the significance of their covenant relationship with Yahweh.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 29:10-21, Moses addresses the importance of commitment and loyalty to God's covenant. He warns against turning away from Yahweh and worshiping other gods or idols. Such actions would lead to severe consequences, including divine wrath and the destruction of their land a warning against the allure of idolatry.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 29 concludes with a call for obedience and renewal of the covenant. In Deuteronomy 29:22-29, Moses describes how future generations will look upon a desolate land as a result of disobedience. However, he also assures them that if they turn back to Yahweh with all their heart and soul, seeking forgiveness and restoration through repentance, God will show them mercy and restore their fortunes.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 29 presents:

Reminder of God's faithfulness witnessing His mighty acts;

Warning against idolatry consequences for turning away from Yahweh;

Call for obedience renewal through repentance leading to restoration.

Emphasis on reminder of God's faithfulness witnessing His mighty acts;

Warning against idolatry consequences for turning away from Yahweh;

Call for obedience renewal through repentance leading to restoration.

The chapter focuses on reminding the Israelites of God's faithfulness, warning against idolatry and its consequences, and calling for obedience and renewal of the covenant. In Deuteronomy 29, Moses reminds the Israelites of their firsthand experiences witnessing God's mighty acts, provision, and guidance throughout their journey in the wilderness. Despite these experiences, he emphasizes that they still need to fully comprehend the significance of their covenant relationship with Yahweh.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 29, Moses warns against turning away from Yahweh and worshiping other gods or idols. He emphasizes the severe consequences that would follow such actions divine wrath and the destruction of their land. This serves as a cautionary reminder against the allure of idolatry and a call to remain loyal to Yahweh.

Deuteronomy 29 concludes with a call for obedience and renewal of the covenant. Moses describes how future generations will look upon a desolate land as a result of disobedience. However, he also assures them that if they turn back to Yahweh with all their heart and soul, seeking forgiveness through repentance, God will show them mercy and restore their fortunes a call for genuine repentance leading to restoration.

Deuteronomy 29:1 These are the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb.

This passage recounts the Lord commanding Moses to make a covenant with the Israelites in Moab.

1. God's faithfulness to His covenant is eternal and unchanging.

2. What does it mean to make a covenant with God?

1. Hebrews 13:20-21 - "Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, 21 equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."

2. Exodus 34:27-28 - "And the LORD said to Moses, Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel. 28 So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights. He neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments."

Deuteronomy 29:2 And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them, Ye have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt unto Pharaoh, and unto all his servants, and unto all his land;

Moses reminded the Israelites of the miracles God had done in Egypt to free them from slavery.

1: God is our Deliverer and will always provide a way of escape when we are in trouble.

2: Be thankful for the miracles God provides in our lives, for they are evidence of His faithfulness.

1: Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2: Exodus 14:14 - And the Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Deuteronomy 29:3 The great temptations which thine eyes have seen, the signs, and those great miracles:

The Israelites had seen great temptations, signs and miracles during their journey from Egypt.

1. God's Provision and Protection: Celebrating the Journey from Egypt

2. Overcoming Temptation: Reflections on the Israelites Journey

1. Exodus 14:19-31; God's protection of the Israelites during the parting of the Red Sea

2. James 1:12-15; Staying faithful amidst temptation and trials

Deuteronomy 29:4 Yet the LORD hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day.

God has not given us the capacity to understand His will.

1. "The Power of God's Presence in Our Lives"

2. "The Search for a Heart of Understanding"

1. Jeremiah 24:7 - "And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Deuteronomy 29:5 And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot.

God led the Israelites through the wilderness for 40 years, during which their clothes and shoes did not wear out.

1. God's Faithfulness - How God provides for us in the wilderness.

2. Trust and Obedience - How following God's will leads to blessings.

1. Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Deuteronomy 29:6 Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God.

God is reminding the people of Israel of His presence and that He is the only Lord and God of His people.

1. The Power of Recognizing God as Lord

2. The Strength of Knowing God s Presence

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. John 8:31-32 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Deuteronomy 29:7 And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them:

The Israelites fought and defeated Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the king of Bashan when they approached this place.

1. God Provides Strength and Victory in Times of Battle

2. Fighting and Overcoming Oppression

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lordand their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Deuteronomy 29:8 And we took their land, and gave it for an inheritance unto the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half tribe of Manasseh.

The Israelites took the land of the native inhabitants and distributed it as an inheritance among the Reubenites, Gadites, and half tribe of Manasseh.

1. God's faithfulness to his people is demonstrated in his promise to give them the land as an inheritance.

2. We can trust God to provide for us and to keep his promises.

1. Joshua 21:43-45 - God gave the Israelites the land according to his promise.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Deuteronomy 29:9 Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

This passage encourages readers to keep the words of the Covenant in order to prosper.

1: God Wants You to Prosper - Deuteronomy 29:9

2: Following God's Covenant Brings Blessings - Deuteronomy 29:9

1: Joshua 1:8 - This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2: Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Deuteronomy 29:10 Ye stand this day all of you before the LORD your God; your captains of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, with all the men of Israel,

This passage highlights the unity of the Israelites and how they are standing together before the Lord their God.

1. Celebrating Unity: The Power of Standing Together

2. God's Guidance: Seeking Wisdom from Our Leaders

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Deuteronomy 29:11 Your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger that is in thy camp, from the hewer of thy wood unto the drawer of thy water:

God instructs the Israelites to care for their families, wives, and strangers in their camp, from the woodcutter to the water bearer.

1. Caring for the Stranger: God's Call to Compassion

2. Love Your Neighbors: Encouragements from Deuteronomy 29

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"

2. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Deuteronomy 29:12 That thou shouldest enter into covenant with the LORD thy God, and into his oath, which the LORD thy God maketh with thee this day:

This passage from Deuteronomy speaks of entering into a covenant with the Lord and his oath that is made this day.

1. The Covenant of God: An Invitation to Faithfulness

2. The Power of a Covenant: Growing Closer to God

1. Jeremiah 31:31-34 The Lord's New Covenant

2. Isaiah 55:3 - Invitation to the Unfathomable Benefits of God's Covenant

Deuteronomy 29:13 That he may establish thee to day for a people unto himself, and that he may be unto thee a God, as he hath said unto thee, and as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was being fulfilled by establishing the people of Israel as a nation with Him as their God.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2. The importance of recognizing God's sovereignty.

1. Romans 4:13-22 - Abraham's faith in God's promise.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

Deuteronomy 29:14 Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath;

This passage emphasizes the importance of unity among all people, regardless of their differences.

1. "The Power of Unification: Overcoming Differences"

2. "The Strength of Unity: Standing Together"

1. John 13:34-35 - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Deuteronomy 29:15 But with him that standeth here with us this day before the LORD our God, and also with him that is not here with us this day:

This passage refers to God's covenant with the people of Israel, which included those present and those who were not present.

1. The importance of keeping God's covenant in our lives.

2. Understanding the power of God's promises.

1. Hebrews 13:5 - "for He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'"

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord appeared to him from afar, saying, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.'"

Deuteronomy 29:16 (For ye know how we have dwelt in the land of Egypt; and how we came through the nations which ye passed by;

)

God's people have been through many trials and tribulations in their journey to the promised land.

1. Trusting in God's Plan and Provision in Difficult Times

2. The Journey of Faith: Learning from the Examples of Those Who Have Come Before Us

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Deuteronomy 29:17 And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them:)

This passage from Deuteronomy 29:17 is about the abominations and idols of the Israelites, which were made out of wood, stone, silver and gold.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from the Israelites Mistakes

2. Finding Our True Identity in God: Letting Go of Substitutes

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Deuteronomy 29:18 Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;

The Lord warns us against turning away from Him and serving other gods.

1: We Must Remain Faithful to the Lord Our God

2: The Danger of Turning Away from the Lord

1: Joshua 24:14-15 - "Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2: Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Deuteronomy 29:19 And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst:

This verse from Deuteronomy speaks of a person who does not heed the warnings of God's curse, and instead relies on their own desires and disregards God's will.

1. The Danger of Following Our Own Desires: A Study of Deuteronomy 29:19

2. Learning to Trust in God over Our Own Desires: A Study of Deuteronomy 29:19

1. Jeremiah 10:23 - "O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Deuteronomy 29:20 The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven.

The Lord will not forgive those who sin against him and will punish them severely.

1: God's wrath is strong and is to be taken seriously, for he will make all those who disobey him pay the consequences.

2: Repent of your sins now, lest the Lord's anger consume you and you be blotted out of his sight.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2: Hebrews 10:26-31 - For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has spurned the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, Vengeance is mine; I will repay. And again, The Lord will judge his people.

Deuteronomy 29:21 And the LORD shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law:

God will punish those who break the covenant of the Law by separating them from the people of Israel.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: Reaping What We Sow

2. The Blessing of Obeying God's Covenant

1. Psalm 19:7-14 - The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

2. Isaiah 24:5-6 - The earth is utterly broken, the earth is split apart, the earth is violently shaken. The earth reels like a drunkard, it sways like a hut; its transgression lies heavy upon it, and it falls, and will not rise again.

Deuteronomy 29:22 So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the LORD hath laid upon it;

The LORD will bring plagues and sicknesses upon those who disobey Him.

1. The Power of Obedience: A Study of Deuteronomy 29:22

2. Reaping What We Sow: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience

1. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deuteronomy 29:23 And that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath:

The land of Israel is a desolate wasteland, similar to the destruction caused by the LORD in Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboim.

1. God's Wrath: The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and its Relevance Today

2. The Faithfulness of God: How He Punishes Sin and Rewards Obedience

1. Genesis 19:24-25 - And the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; 25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Deuteronomy 29:24 Even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger?

The LORD has great anger for those who disobey His covenant.

1: We must obey the Lord's covenant, or face His great anger.

2: We must learn from the punishment of others, and follow the Lord's covenant.

1: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2: Psalm 119:4-5 - You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh, that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

Deuteronomy 29:25 Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them forth out of the land of Egypt:

The people of Israel are warned to not forsake the covenant that the Lord made with them when he delivered them from Egypt.

1. The Covenant of the Lord: How We are Called to Honor and Uphold it

2. The Faithfulness of God: Remembering How He Has Delivered Us

1. Exodus 19:5-6 - "And now if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."

2. Matthew 26:28 - "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Deuteronomy 29:26 For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and whom he had not given unto them:

The passage speaks of the Israelites worshipping gods they did not know.

1: We should not worship gods we do not know or understand.

2: We should be careful to worship only the one true God.

1: 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 - Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?

2: Matthew 4:10 - Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Deuteronomy 29:27 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:

The Lord's anger was kindled against the land, causing Him to bring all the curses written in the book of Deuteronomy upon it.

1. The Lord's Wrath: Understanding and Avoiding His Anger

2. God's Judgement: Understanding and Accepting His Punishments

1. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deuteronomy 29:28 And the LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.

The Lord removed the Israelites from their land due to his anger and indignation.

1. God's Wrath: A Warning To Us All

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Following God's Plan

1. Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Psalm 37:3-5, Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

Deuteronomy 29:29 The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

The Lord has knowledge of things that are hidden, but what is revealed belongs to us and our children forever to ensure we follow His laws.

1. The Power of Revealed Truth - Embracing the Words of God

2. Hidden Things and Revealed Things - Understanding the Balance of Faith

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

Deuteronomy 30 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 30:1-10 presents the promise of restoration and blessings upon repentance and obedience. Moses reassures the Israelites that even if they have been scattered among the nations due to their disobedience, if they turn back to Yahweh with all their heart and soul, He will gather them from all corners of the earth and restore them to their land. God will show them compassion, increase their prosperity, and circumcise their hearts so that they may love Him wholeheartedly.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 30:11-20, Moses emphasizes the accessibility of God's commandments. He declares that God's laws are not too difficult or beyond reach they are within their grasp for obedience. Moses sets before them a choice between life and death, blessings and curses. He urges them to choose life by loving Yahweh, walking in His ways, obeying His commandments, and clinging to Him.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 30 concludes with a call for decision-making regarding obedience. In Deuteronomy 30:19-20, Moses calls heaven and earth as witnesses against the Israelites life or death, blessings or curses depend on the choices they make. He urges them to choose life so that they may live long in the land promised by God to their ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and experience His favor.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 30 presents:

Promise of restoration upon repentance compassion and prosperity;

Accessibility of God's commandments choice between life or death;

Call for decision-making regarding obedience choose life for blessings.

Emphasis on promise of restoration upon repentance compassion and prosperity;

Accessibility of God's commandments choice between life or death;

Call for decision-making regarding obedience choose life for blessings.

The chapter focuses on the promise of restoration and blessings upon repentance, the accessibility of God's commandments, and a call for decision-making regarding obedience. In Deuteronomy 30, Moses reassures the Israelites that even if they have been scattered among the nations due to their disobedience, if they turn back to Yahweh with all their heart and soul, He will gather them from all corners of the earth and restore them to their land. God will show them compassion, increase their prosperity, and circumcise their hearts so that they may love Him wholeheartedly.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 30, Moses emphasizes that God's commandments are not too difficult or beyond reach they are within their grasp for obedience. He presents before them a choice between life and death, blessings and curses. Moses urges them to choose life by loving Yahweh, walking in His ways, obeying His commandments, and clinging to Him.

Deuteronomy 30 concludes with a call for decision-making regarding obedience. Moses calls heaven and earth as witnesses against the Israelites life or death, blessings or curses depend on the choices they make. He urges them to choose life so that they may live long in the land promised by God to their ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and experience His favor a call for deliberate decision-making leading to blessings through obedience.

Deuteronomy 30:1 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee,

God will never forget His people, no matter how far they are driven away.

1: God's Love Endures Forever

2: A Promise of God's Faithfulness

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Deuteronomy 30:2 And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;

The passage from Deuteronomy 30:2 encourages following God and obeying his voice with all one's heart and soul.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to the Lord

2. Listening to God s Voice with Your Whole Heart

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

2. Luke 10:27 - And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

Deuteronomy 30:3 That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee.

God will bring his people back from their captivity and have compassion on them.

1. God s faithfulness in times of distress

2. God s love and compassion for his people

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Deuteronomy 30:4 If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee:

In Deuteronomy 30:4, God promises to bring his people back to their homeland no matter how far they are scattered.

1.God's Promise of Restoration: No Matter How Far We Are Scattered

2. God's Love for His People: He Will Fetch Us No Matter the Distance

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;"

2. Exodus 15:13 "Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation."

Deuteronomy 30:5 And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.

God will bring His people into a land of promise and abundance.

1: A land of promise: Remembering the faithfulness of God and how He will provide for His people.

2: Abundance: A reminder of God s lovingkindness and how He will bless and multiply us.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 30:6 And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

God promises to circumcise the hearts of His children to enable them to love Him with all of their heart and soul, so they can live.

1. The Need For A Circumcised Heart - Exploring the importance of having a heart for God.

2. The Promise of Life - Understanding the assurance that comes with living a life devoted to God.

1. Jeremiah 4:4 - "Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart".

2. Romans 8:11 - "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you".

Deuteronomy 30:7 And the LORD thy God will put all these curses upon thine enemies, and on them that hate thee, which persecuted thee.

God will put curses on those who hate and persecute us.

1: We must not fear the vengeance of those who persecute us, for God will repay them for their wickedness.

2: We must turn to God in times of trouble, trusting that He will protect us from our enemies.

1: Psalm 34:17-19 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all."

2: Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Deuteronomy 30:8 And thou shalt return and obey the voice of the LORD, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day.

God commands His people to obey His voice and follow His commandments.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to God

2. The Importance of Following God's Commandments

1. Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

2. James 2:14-17 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Deuteronomy 30:9 And the LORD thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers:

God will bless the people with abundance in their labor, their bodies, and their land. He will rejoice over them as he did their ancestors.

1. God's goodness is constant and unwavering.

2. Rejoice in the abundance of God's blessings.

1. Psalm 67:5-7 - "Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

2. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Deuteronomy 30:10 If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

This passage from Deuteronomy states that if a person listens to the Lord's commands and follows the law written in the book, and if they turn to the Lord with all their heart and soul, they will be blessed.

1. "Living a Life of Obedience: Following God's Commands"

2. "The Blessing of Turning to God with an Open Heart"

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Deuteronomy 30:11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.

This passage encourages us to remember the commandments of God, which are not hidden or far away.

1. Remembering the Commandments: Keeping God's Laws Close to Our Hearts

2. Living Faithfully: Staying Committed to God's Word

1. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2. Deuteronomy 4:6 - Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

Deuteronomy 30:12 It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

This passage emphasizes the importance of having God's commands in our hearts, as they are readily accessible to us.

1. "Living Out God's Word: The Power of His Commands in Our Lives"

2. "The Joy of Obedience: Finding Strength in God's Word"

1. Psalm 119:11 - "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Deuteronomy 30:13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

God commands us to choose life and to obey Him, not making excuses that it is too hard or too far away.

1. Choosing Life: Obeying God's Commandments

2. Faithful Obedience: Following God's Path

1. Romans 10:6-8 - "But the righteousness that is by faith says, Do not say in your heart, Who will ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down) or Who will descend into the abyss? (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Deuteronomy 30:14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

God is close to us and His word is in our hearts and on our lips, enabling us to obey Him.

1. Drawing Near to God: Learning to Hear and Obey His Word

2. The Power of God s Word: Keeping it Close to Our Hearts

1. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Deuteronomy 30:15 See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

The passage speaks about the choice between life and death.

1. Choosing Life: Embracing the Goodness of God

2. The Consequences of Choosing Death: Rejecting the Blessings of Life

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Deuteronomy 30:16 In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

This passage instructs us to love God, walk in His ways, obey His commandments, and keep His statutes and judgments, so that we may be blessed.

1. Living the Life of Obedience - How to Live in Righteousness and Receive God's Blessing

2. Walking in the Ways of the Lord - Understanding God's Will for Our Lives

1. James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Deuteronomy 30:17 But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;

God warns that if one s heart turns away from Him, they will be led astray to worship and serve other gods.

1. "God's Warning: Don't Be Led Astray"

2. "Don't Exchange God's Love for Idol Worship"

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Deuteronomy 30:18 I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.

This passage emphasizes God's warning that disobedience will lead to destruction.

1. The Cost of Disobedience: Learning from the Example of Israel

2. Choosing Obedience: The Blessing of Following God's Will

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Romans 6:16-17

Deuteronomy 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

This passage emphasizes the importance of making wise decisions in order to benefit oneself and one's descendants.

1. The Blessing of Wise Choices: Choosing Life for a Better Future

2. The Importance of Taking Responsibility: Making Wise Decisions for Ourselves and Our Descendants

1. Proverbs 3:13 - Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

2. Proverbs 16:20 - He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.

Deuteronomy 30:20 That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

The Lord commands us to love him, obey his voice, and cleave to him, for he is our life and the length of our days, so that we may dwell in the land he promised to our fathers.

1. Loving the Lord: the Path to Eternal Life

2. Obeying the Lord: the Way to a Blessed Life

1. Matthew 22:37-38 - And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Deuteronomy 31 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 31:1-8 highlights the transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua. Moses reassures the Israelites that despite his impending death, Yahweh will go before them and give them victory over their enemies. He encourages Joshua, who will lead them into the promised land, reminding him that God will be with him just as He was with Moses. Moses calls upon all of Israel to be strong and courageous, trusting in Yahweh's faithfulness.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 31:9-13, Moses commands the priests and elders to gather the people for a public reading of the law every seven years during the Feast of Tabernacles. This assembly is intended for both Israelites and foreigners residing among them to hear and learn God's statutes. By doing so, they ensure that future generations are aware of their covenant responsibilities.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 31 concludes with a song given by God to Moses in Deuteronomy 31:14-30. The song serves as a witness against Israel for their future disobedience. It warns them about turning away from Yahweh and engaging in idolatry, predicting that such actions will bring calamity upon them. Moses instructs Joshua to take this song and teach it to all of Israel so that it may serve as a reminder of God's warnings.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 31 presents:

Transition of leadership encouragement for Joshua;

Command for public reading of the law ensuring awareness among all;

Song as a witness against disobedience warning against idolatry.

Emphasis on transition of leadership encouragement for Joshua;

Command for public reading of the law ensuring awareness among all;

Song as a witness against disobedience warning against idolatry.

The chapter focuses on the transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua, the command for a public reading of the law, and a song given by God as a witness against future disobedience. In Deuteronomy 31, Moses reassures the Israelites that despite his impending death, Yahweh will go before them and give them victory over their enemies. He encourages Joshua, who will lead them into the promised land, reminding him of God's presence and faithfulness. Moses calls upon all of Israel to be strong and courageous, trusting in Yahweh's guidance.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 31, Moses commands the priests and elders to gather the people every seven years during the Feast of Tabernacles for a public reading of the law. This assembly is meant to ensure that both Israelites and foreigners residing among them hear and learn God's statutes. By doing so, they ensure that future generations are aware of their covenant responsibilities and have knowledge of God's laws.

Deuteronomy 31 concludes with a song given by God to Moses a witness against Israel for their future disobedience. The song warns about turning away from Yahweh and engaging in idolatry. It predicts that such actions will bring calamity upon them. Moses instructs Joshua to take this song and teach it to all of Israel so that it may serve as a reminder of God's warnings a cautionary message about the consequences of forsaking Yahweh's covenant.

Deuteronomy 31:1 And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel.

Moses spoke words of encouragement to all of Israel.

1: God is with us and will never leave us.

2: We can find strength in our faith and in the words of God.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2: Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:2 And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the LORD hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

Moses reminded the Israelites of God's promise to lead them into the Promised Land.

1: God will never leave us, no matter the age or circumstance.

2: We must trust in God's plan for our lives.

1: Joshua 1:5 - No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.

2: Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

Deuteronomy 31:3 The LORD thy God, he will go over before thee, and he will destroy these nations from before thee, and thou shalt possess them: and Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as the LORD hath said.

God will fight for and protect His people.

1. God is Our Protector and Provider

2. The Strength of the Lord

1. Psalm 18:1-2 I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

2. Isaiah 40:28-29 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Deuteronomy 31:4 And the LORD shall do unto them as he did to Sihon and to Og, kings of the Amorites, and unto the land of them, whom he destroyed.

The LORD destroyed Sihon and Og, kings of the Amorites.

1: God is in control and will judge sin.

2: We must trust in the Lord's judgment and stand firm in our faith.

1: Romans 8:28- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Psalm 97:10- Let those who love the Lord hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Deuteronomy 31:5 And the LORD shall give them up before your face, that ye may do unto them according unto all the commandments which I have commanded you.

God commands us to obey His laws, and He will provide guidance and protection as we fulfill His will.

1: Trust in the Lord and Follow His Commandments

2: Receive God's Protection and Guidance As We Fulfill His Will

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

This passage reminds us that God is always with us and will never leave us.

1. Relying on the Strength of God in Times of Need

2. The Lord is Our Companion on Our Journey

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:7 And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which the LORD hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shalt cause them to inherit it.

Moses encourages Joshua to be courageous and trust in God's promises.

1. Trust in God's Promises: The Encouragement of Moses

2. Strengthening Our Faith through Courage

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Deuteronomy 31:8 And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.

The Lord will go before us and will be with us, He will not fail or forsake us and we should not fear or be dismayed.

1. "Trust in the Lord"

2. "Fear Not: The Lord is with You"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:9 And Moses wrote this law, and delivered it unto the priests the sons of Levi, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and unto all the elders of Israel.

Moses wrote and delivered the Law to the Levites who carried the Ark of the Covenant and to the elders of Israel.

1. God's Covenant with His People - Deuteronomy 31:9

2. The Responsibility of Leadership - Deuteronomy 31:9

1. Joshua 1:7-8 - Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

2. 2 Corinthians 3:3 - Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

Deuteronomy 31:10 And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles,

Moses commanded the people of Israel to observe the Sabbatical Year every seven years in the Feast of Tabernacles.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His instruction to rest every seven years.

2. God desires us to celebrate His faithfulness and provision.

1. Deuteronomy 5:12-15 - Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the Lord your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.

2. Psalm 95:7-11 - For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

Deuteronomy 31:11 When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing.

Moses instructs the Israelites to gather together at the place God has chosen and to listen to the reading of the law.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands.

2. The Blessing of Unity: Gathering Together to Hear the Word of God.

1. Joshua 1:8 - "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Deuteronomy 31:12 Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law:

Moses instructs the people of Israel to gather together to hear the law of God, so that they may learn, fear, and obey Him.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Word

2. The Fear of the Lord: Trusting in God's Wisdom

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Deuteronomy 31:13 And that their children, which have not known any thing, may hear, and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.

This passage from Deuteronomy instructs the Israelites to teach their children to fear the Lord and obey Him while living in the Promised Land.

1. "The Power of Parental Influence"

2. "Teaching Our Children to Fear the Lord"

1. Psalm 78:5-7 - "For he established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments."

2. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Deuteronomy 31:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thy days approach that thou must die: call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of the congregation, that I may give him a charge. And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tabernacle of the congregation.

Moses and Joshua are summoned to the Tabernacle of the Congregation by God, where He will give Joshua a charge.

1. God's Faithfulness in Passing the Torch - Deuteronomy 31:14

2. The Importance of Obedience - Deuteronomy 31:14

1. Joshua 1:5-9 - God's promise to be with Joshua and give him strength

2. Psalm 31:1-5 - Trusting in the Lord in times of trouble

Deuteronomy 31:15 And the LORD appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of a cloud: and the pillar of the cloud stood over the door of the tabernacle.

The Lord appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of cloud, which stood over the entrance.

1. God is Present in Our Lives

2. The Power of the Holy Spirit

1. John 14:16-17 - "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you."

2. Psalm 139:7-10 - "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

Deuteronomy 31:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.

The LORD warned Moses that Israel would break their covenant with Him and chase after other gods.

1. God's Covenant with Israel and the Danger of Idolatry

2. The Rejection of God's Covenant and the Consequences

1. Isaiah 1:2-3 - Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

2. Jeremiah 31:31-33 - Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD.

Deuteronomy 31:17 Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because our God is not among us?

God warns the people of Israel that if they are unfaithful, He will abandon them and they will suffer many troubles as punishment.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning from Deuteronomy

2. The Power of Faithfulness: The Blessing of Obedience

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Matthew 6:24-34

Deuteronomy 31:18 And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods.

God will hide His face from the people when they turn away from Him and worship other gods.

1. God Calls Us to Worship Him Alone

2. Consequences of Turning Away from God

1. Deuteronomy 31:18

2. Isaiah 45:5-7, "I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known me, that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that there is no one besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other, the One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the Lord who does all these.

Deuteronomy 31:19 Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel.

This passage emphasizes the importance of teaching God's laws to the Israelites.

1. God's Laws are Important for All of Us

2. Teaching God's Laws to Our Children

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Deuteronomy 31:20 For when I shall have brought them into the land which I sware unto their fathers, that floweth with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant.

God warns the Israelites that if they are blessed with a land flowing with milk and honey, they may be tempted to turn away from Him and break His covenant.

1. How We Can Remain Faithful to God in Times of Blessing

2. The Dangers of Forsaking God When He is Most Generous

1. Exodus 3:8 - "And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites."

2. Psalm 81:11-12 - "But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me. So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels."

Deuteronomy 31:21 And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I sware.

This passage from Deuteronomy 31:21 tells us that God knows what the people are thinking and doing, even before they enter the land He has promised them.

1. God Knows Our Thoughts and Intentions - Deuteronomy 31:21

2. The Faithfulness of God - Deuteronomy 31:21

1. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

2. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

Deuteronomy 31:22 Moses therefore wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel.

Moses wrote a song and taught it to the Israelites on the same day.

1. The Power of Music in Scripture

2. Moses Dedication to the People of Israel

1. Psalm 98:1 - Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! For He has done marvelous things.

2. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Deuteronomy 31:23 And he gave Joshua the son of Nun a charge, and said, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I sware unto them: and I will be with thee.

God gave Joshua a charge to be courageous and bring the Israelites to the promised land, assuring him of His presence.

1. Be Courageous: Drawing Strength from God's Presence

2. Taking Big Steps of Faith: Following God's Guidance

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Deuteronomy 31:24 And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished,

Moses finished writing the words of the law in a book.

1. The importance of diligently following God's law.

2. The power of writing down God's Word.

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Deuteronomy 31:25 That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying,

Moses commanded the Levites to bear the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord.

1. We are all called to bear God's covenant with us.

2. God's covenant is a source of strength and protection.

1. Isaiah 58:6 "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?"

2. Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Deuteronomy 31:26 Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.

Moses commanded the Israelites to place the book of the law in the side of the Ark of the Covenant to serve as a witness against them.

1. "The Witness of the Law"

2. "The Blessing of Obedience"

1. Proverbs 28:9 If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

2. Matthew 5:17-19 Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Deuteronomy 31:27 For I know thy rebellion, and thy stiff neck: behold, while I am yet alive with you this day, ye have been rebellious against the LORD; and how much more after my death?

This passage emphasizes the importance of obedience to the Lord during one's lifetime.

1. "Be Faithful in Life: The Call of Deuteronomy 31:27"

2. "Obey God in Life: The Challenge of Deuteronomy 31:27"

1. Proverbs 3:1-2, "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Deuteronomy 31:28 Gather unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and earth to record against them.

This passage calls for a gathering of elders and officers in order to hear the words of God and be held accountable for them.

1. "The Call to Accountability: Heeding the Words of God"

2. "Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity: United in Obedience to God"

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 2:12-13 - So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Deuteronomy 31:29 For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt yourselves, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands.

Moses warns the Israelites that after his death, they will forget God's commands and do evil, which will lead to consequences in the future.

1. Trust in God's Word Even After Difficult Times

2. Be Faithful to God Even When No One is Watching

1. Joshua 1:8 - "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

2. Psalm 51:17 - "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."

Deuteronomy 31:30 And Moses spake in the ears of all the congregation of Israel the words of this song, until they were ended.

Moses spoke to the entire congregation of Israel the words of this song.

1. God's Word is a Powerful Tool

2. The Importance of Listening

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

Deuteronomy 32 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 32:1-18 presents a song of Moses, proclaiming the greatness and faithfulness of God. Moses calls upon the heavens and earth to listen as he declares the righteousness and perfection of Yahweh. He recounts how God chose and cared for His people, Israel, leading them out of Egypt and providing for them in the wilderness. However, despite God's faithfulness, Israel rebelled and turned to idolatry, forsaking their Rock their source of salvation.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 32:19-33, Moses warns about the consequences that will befall Israel due to their unfaithfulness. He describes how God will become angry with them for their idolatry and provoke them with a foolish nation a people who do not know Him. This provocation will result in calamity and destruction upon Israel.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 32 concludes with a message of hope amidst judgment. In Deuteronomy 32:34-43, Moses declares that vengeance belongs to Yahweh alone. He assures Israel that although they will face punishment for their disobedience, God will have compassion on His servants when He sees their strength is gone. The song ends with a call to rejoice in Yahweh's faithfulness He will avenge His people and provide atonement for His land.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 32 presents:

Song proclaiming God's greatness faithfulness despite rebellion;

Warning about consequences of unfaithfulness calamity due to idolatry;

Message of hope amidst judgment God's compassion and vengeance.

Emphasis on song proclaiming God's greatness faithfulness despite rebellion;

Warning about consequences of unfaithfulness calamity due to idolatry;

Message of hope amidst judgment God's compassion and vengeance.

The chapter focuses on a song of Moses proclaiming the greatness and faithfulness of God, warning about the consequences of unfaithfulness, and delivering a message of hope amidst judgment. In Deuteronomy 32, Moses calls upon the heavens and earth to listen as he declares the righteousness and perfection of Yahweh. He recounts how God chose and cared for His people, Israel, leading them out of Egypt and providing for them in the wilderness. However, despite God's faithfulness, Israel rebelled and turned to idolatry.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 32, Moses warns about the consequences that will befall Israel due to their unfaithfulness. He describes how God will become angry with them for their idolatry and provoke them with a foolish nation a people who do not know Him. This provocation will result in calamity and destruction upon Israel a sobering warning about the severity of turning away from Yahweh.

Deuteronomy 32 concludes with a message of hope amidst judgment. Moses declares that vengeance belongs to Yahweh alone. He assures Israel that although they will face punishment for their disobedience, God will have compassion on His servants when He sees their strength is gone. The song ends with a call to rejoice in Yahweh's faithfulness He will avenge His people and provide atonement for His land a reminder that even in times of judgment, there is hope in God's mercy.

Deuteronomy 32:1 Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

God commands the heavens and the earth to listen to the words of His mouth.

1. "The Authority of God's Voice"

2. "Hearken to the Lord's Commandments"

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Jeremiah 15:19 - Therefore thus saith the Lord, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them.

Deuteronomy 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:

My doctrine shall provide nourishment like rain and dew, providing refreshment to the parched land.

1: God's word is like a refreshing rain in a parched land.

2: God's word provides nourishment and refreshment to us.

1: Isaiah 55:10-11 "For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2: Jeremiah 17:7-8 "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. "

Deuteronomy 32:3 Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

God is to be praised and acknowledged for His greatness.

1. The Splendor of God's Name: Exploring the Power of Praise

2. Ascribing Greatness: Appreciating the Majesty of God

1. Psalm 145:3 - "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable."

2. Isaiah 40:28 - "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?"

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

This passage speaks of God as a reliable, righteous, and truthful being.

1. A Foundation of Truth: Appreciating God s Unshakable Reliability

2. Living a Just and Righteous Life: Learning from God s Example

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Deuteronomy 32:5 They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not the spot of his children: they are a perverse and crooked generation.

God has warned His children to remain faithful, for they are a crooked and perverse generation if they do not.

1: Staying Faithful to God in a Corrupt World

2: Keeping Steadfast in Our Commitment to God

1: 1 Peter 1:13-16 - Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy.

2: Romans 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Deuteronomy 32:6 Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? is not he thy father that hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee?

The LORD is our Father, who has bought us and established us, yet foolish and unwise people do not recognize this.

1. Realizing Your Father: Understanding the Lord's Provision

2. Appreciating Our Father: Gratitude for God's Protection

1. Psalm 103:13 - As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

2. Isaiah 63:16 - But you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us or Israel acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name.

Deuteronomy 32:7 Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.

God is worthy of our trust and faithfulness.

1. Remembering God's Faithfulness Through Generations

2. Choosing to Trust God in Times of Uncertainty

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 118:8-9 - It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

Deuteronomy 32:8 When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

The Lord divided the nations and set the boundaries according to the number of the children of Israel.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Boundaries of Nations.

2. The Power of Unity and Obedience: God's Blessing on the Children of Israel.

1. Psalm 147:20: He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD.

2. Genesis 12:3: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Deuteronomy 32:9 For the LORD's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.

God has chosen the people of Israel as his inheritance and portion.

1. God's Special Love for His Chosen People

2. The Blessing of Being Part of God's Inheritance

1. Isaiah 43:1-7

2. Psalm 135:4-7

Deuteronomy 32:10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

God is our protector and has cared for us even in desolate places.

1: God's Love for His People Endures Through All Seasons

2: Appreciating God's Protection and Guidance

1. Psalm 36:7 - How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

2. Psalm 121:5 - The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

Deuteronomy 32:11 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:

God, our loving parent, cares for us and is eager to help us in our times of need.

1: We can rely on God as a loving parent who is always ready to care for us and help us in our times of need.

2: God's love is like that of a caring eagle, stirring up its nest, fluttering over its young, and bearing them on its wings.

1: Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Deuteronomy 32:12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

The LORD alone guided and protected the Israelites, and there was no other god with Him.

1. God is the only one who truly cares for us - Deuteronomy 32:12

2. Rely on God's protection - Deuteronomy 32:12

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me".

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold".

Deuteronomy 32:13 He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;

God made man to enjoy the bounty of the earth, providing him with honey and oil from the rocks.

1. Appreciating God's Generosity - Deuteronomy 32:13

2. The Blessings of Abundance - Deuteronomy 32:13

1. Psalm 81:16 - "He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee."

2. Isaiah 7:15 - "Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good."

Deuteronomy 32:14 Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and thou didst drink the pure blood of the grape.

God's provision of nourishment and sustenance is abundant and generous.

1: God provides for all of our needs.

2: Thank God for His abundant and generous provision.

1: Genesis 22:14 - "And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

2: Philippians 4:19 - "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 32:15 But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.

Jeshurun behaved arrogantly and forgot the Lord who had created him, treating lightly the Rock of his salvation.

1. Be humble and remember our Creator.

2. Do not take lightly the salvation that our Lord provides.

1. Isaiah 40:17-18 - All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

2. Psalm 115:1-2 - Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

Deuteronomy 32:16 They provoked him to jealousy with strange gods, with abominations provoked they him to anger.

The people of Israel had provoked God to jealousy and anger by worshipping strange gods and abominations.

1: God is holy and He will not tolerate our worship of false gods.

2: We must always strive to remain faithful to the one true God.

1: Isaiah 45:5-6 I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.

2: Exodus 20:3 You shall have no other gods before me.

Deuteronomy 32:17 They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not.

The people of Israel sacrificed to gods they had never heard of, and their ancestors did not fear these new gods.

1. Knowing the God We Serve: The importance of recognizing and honoring the Lord

2. Remembering Our Roots: The importance of learning from our ancestors and avoiding their mistakes

1. Isaiah 45:5-6 I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me,

2. Psalm 78:10-11 They did not keep God's covenant, but refused to walk in his law; They forgot what he had done, the wonders he had shown them.

Deuteronomy 32:18 Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.

The passage from Deuteronomy 32:18 speaks of how God is forgotten by those He has created.

1. "God is Forever Faithful"

2. "The Danger of Forgetting God"

1. Psalm 103:13 - "As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him."

2. Isaiah 43:1 - "But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Deuteronomy 32:19 And when the LORD saw it, he abhorred them, because of the provoking of his sons, and of his daughters.

God saw the actions of his people and was displeased because of their provocation of his sons and daughters.

1. The Power of Provocation: How Our Actions Impact Others

2. The Dangers of Disrespecting God's Children

1. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Matthew 7:12 So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Deuteronomy 32:20 And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end shall be: for they are a very froward generation, children in whom is no faith.

This passage emphasizes the lack of faith among a rebellious generation.

1: The Lord Sees Our Faithless Generation

2: As Children of God, We Must Have Faith

1: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2: James 2:17 - "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

Deuteronomy 32:21 They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with those which are not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.

This verse from Deuteronomy reveals God's indignation at the Israelites' idolatry and their subsequent punishment.

1. The consequences of idolatry: How God disciplines His people.

2. The foolishness of worshipping false gods: A warning to the faithful.

1. Proverbs 21:2 - Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.

2. Jeremiah 10:14 - Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

Deuteronomy 32:22 For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest hell, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains.

The Lord's anger will be unleashed with fire and it will burn all the way down to Hell and consume the earth and its inhabitants.

1: We must always remain humble before the Lord and heed his warnings, lest we suffer the consequences of his righteous anger.

2: We must always remember that God is in control and will ultimately have the last word.

1: James 4:6-7 - "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

2: Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him."

Deuteronomy 32:23 I will heap mischiefs upon them; I will spend mine arrows upon them.

God declares that He will punish those who disobey Him by sending down arrows of mischief.

1. "God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "The Purpose of Suffering: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 32:23"

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 37:13-14 - "The Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming. The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose ways are upright."

Deuteronomy 32:24 They shall be burnt with hunger, and devoured with burning heat, and with bitter destruction: I will also send the teeth of beasts upon them, with the poison of serpents of the dust.

God will punish those who disobey him by making them suffer from hunger, heat, and bitter destruction. He will also send the teeth of beasts and the poison of serpents to torment them.

1. "The Power of God: The Implications of Disobedience"

2. "The Divine Retribution: Facing the Consequences of Sin"

1. Matthew 10:28 - "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Deuteronomy 32:25 The sword without, and terror within, shall destroy both the young man and the virgin, the suckling also with the man of gray hairs.

The Sword of God's Justice brings destruction to all, regardless of age or gender.

1. The Inevitability of God's Judgment

2. The Universality of God's Justice

1. Isaiah 26:20-21 - Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

2. Revelation 20:12-15 - And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Deuteronomy 32:26 I said, I would scatter them into corners, I would make the remembrance of them to cease from among men:

God declared that He would scatter and make the remembrance of His people cease from among men.

1. God's Sovereignty: A Study of Deuteronomy 32:26

2. The Power of God's Word: A Reflection on Deuteronomy 32:26

1. Deuteronomy 32:26

2. Isaiah 43:25-26 I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

Deuteronomy 32:27 Were it not that I feared the wrath of the enemy, lest their adversaries should behave themselves strangely, and lest they should say, Our hand is high, and the LORD hath not done all this.

This passage speaks of God's protection and provision for His people, even when they face opposition from their enemies.

1. "The Lord's Hand is High: Relying on God's Protection in the Face of Adversity"

2. "God is With Us in the Midst of Opposition: Experiencing His Care and Provision"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Deuteronomy 32:28 For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them.

The Lord declares that the Israelites are lacking in counsel and understanding.

1. "The Need for Wisdom"

2. "The Importance of Seeking God's Counsel"

1. Proverbs 1:5-7 - "Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise."

2. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

Deuteronomy 32:29 O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!

The Bible encourages us to consider our future and understand the consequences of our actions.

1. "The End in Sight: Preparing for Your Future"

2. "The Power of Perspective: Understanding Your Actions"

1. James 4:13-15

2. Proverbs 14:14-15

Deuteronomy 32:30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

God is powerful and can protect us from any danger.

1: God's Strength is Enough for Us

2: Trust in the Lord for Protection

1: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Deuteronomy 32:31 For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges.

This passage emphasizes that our Rock is different from the gods of our enemies.

1. God is Distinctive - Our God is different from the gods of our enemies and we can trust Him to provide us with strength and security.

2. Our Rock is Greater - Our Rock is greater than the gods of our enemies and will always be there to guide us and bring us peace.

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Isaiah 8:13-14 - "The Lord Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread. He will be a holy place; for both Israel and Judah he will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

Deuteronomy 32:32 For their vine is of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes are grapes of gall, their clusters are bitter:

The Israelites had strayed from God and their punishment was to be harsh and bitter.

1: We must stay faithful to God and His Word, or we will suffer the same consequences as the Israelites.

2: God is merciful and wants us to turn back to Him, for He will forgive us if we repent.

1: Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the Lord s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Deuteronomy 32:33 Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps.

God warns of the destructive power of sin, which is likened to the poison of dragons and the cruel venom of asps.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding the Seriousness of Transgressing God's Will

2. The Power of God's Protection: Shielding Ourselves from the Destructive Effects of Sin

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Psalm 118:17 - "I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord."

Deuteronomy 32:34 Is not this laid up in store with me, and sealed up among my treasures?

God has stored up and sealed away his treasures, one of which is Deuteronomy 32:34.

1. God's Treasures: What We Can Learn from Deuteronomy 32:34

2. Discovering the Riches of God: Unveiling His Treasures

1. Psalm 139:16 - Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

2. Isaiah 45:3 - I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

Deuteronomy 32:35 To me belongeth vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste.

The Lord alone has the right to exact vengeance and retribution. The time of judgment for the wicked is near, and they will soon experience the consequences of their deeds.

1. The Sovereign Right of God to Judge

2. God's Justice in the Face of Wickedness

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 94:1 - "O Lord, God of vengeance, O God of vengeance, shine forth! Rise up, O judge of the earth; repay to the proud what they deserve!"

Deuteronomy 32:36 For the LORD shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left.

The Lord will judge his people and repent for his servants when their power has been lost and all are gone.

1. The Lord's Judgement: A Call to Repentance

2. The Lord's Compassion: Repentance in Times of Loss

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.

Deuteronomy 32:37 And he shall say, Where are their gods, their rock in whom they trusted,

The Lord asks where are the gods that the people trusted in, instead of Him.

1. "The Lord Alone is Worthy of Our Trust"

2. "Where Have All the False Gods Gone?"

1. Isaiah 45:20 - "Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you survivors of the nations! They have no knowledge who carry about their wooden idols, and keep on praying to a god that cannot save."

2. Jeremiah 2:27-28 - "Who say to a tree, 'You are my father,' and to a stone, 'You gave me birth.' For they have turned their back to me and not their face. But in the time of their trouble they say, 'Arise and save us!' But where are your gods that you made for yourself?"

Deuteronomy 32:38 Which did eat the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their drink offerings? let them rise up and help you, and be your protection.

This passage reminds us of the importance of relying on God for protection rather than relying on man.

1. "What Can Man Do For You?"

2. "The Only True Protector - God"

1. Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me? "

Deuteronomy 32:39 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

God is the only one who can bring life and death.

1. The Sovereignty of God and the Power of His Hand

2. Our Trust in God in the Face of Suffering

1. Psalm 62:11-12 - God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God. Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Deuteronomy 32:40 For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever.

God has promised that He will live forever and that His promises will remain forever.

1. The Everlasting Love of God

2. The Faithfulness of God's Promises

1. Psalm 100:5 - "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Deuteronomy 32:41 If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me.

God is delivering justice and vengeance to those who have wronged Him.

1: God is a just and righteous God who will not let evil go unpunished.

2: Always trust in God's perfect justice and mercy for He is a loving and faithful God.

1: Psalm 94:1-2 "O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongs O God, to whom vengeance belongs, show Yourself. Lift up Yourself, You judge of the earth; render a reward to the proud."

2: Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Deuteronomy 32:42 I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh; and that with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the beginning of revenges upon the enemy.

God promises to take vengeance on His enemies by making His arrows drunk with their blood and His sword to devour their flesh.

1. Vengeance is Mine: Taking God's Side in the Battle for Justice

2. The Power of God's Wrath: Understanding Divine Retribution

1. Romans 12:19-21 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 94:1 - The Lord is a God who avenges. O God who avenges, shine forth.

Deuteronomy 32:43 Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.

The Lord will avenge the blood of his servants and render vengeance to his adversaries, while being merciful to his people.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: How to Live in the Balance

2. How to Rejoice in the Lord's Plan of Justice and Mercy

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 103:8 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Deuteronomy 32:44 And Moses came and spake all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Hoshea the son of Nun.

Moses recited the words of a song to the people.

1: We can learn from Moses' example and be inspired to share God's word with others.

2: God's Word has the power to move us and bring us closer to Him.

1: Psalm 105:1 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!"

2: 2 Timothy 2:15 - "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."

Deuteronomy 32:45 And Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel:

Moses concluded his address to the Israelites.

1. Trusting in God's Promises - Deuteronomy 32:45

2. A Call to Obedience - Deuteronomy 32:45

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Deuteronomy 32:46 And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law.

This passage speaks of God's command to obey all the words of the law and to teach them to children.

1. "Living a Life of Obedience"

2. "Teaching the Next Generation God's Word"

1. Proverbs 3:1-2 - "My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity."

2. Proverbs 22:6 - "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

Deuteronomy 32:47 For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.

God commands us to live and obey His commandments in order to prolong our days on earth.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: Why We Should Follow God's Commands.

2. The Power of Prolonging Life: Making Every Day Count.

1. Proverbs 3:1-2 "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

2. Psalm 119:133 "Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me."

Deuteronomy 32:48 And the LORD spake unto Moses that selfsame day, saying,

On the same day that God spoke to Moses, He gave him instructions.

1. God's Timing is Perfect

2. Obey the Lord's Commandments

1. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. 1 John 5:2-3 - "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome."

Deuteronomy 32:49 Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel for a possession:

God commanded Moses to ascend Mount Nebo, located in the land of Moab, to see the land of Canaan that he was giving to the Israelites.

1. God Keeps His Promises - Deuteronomy 32:49

2. Guided by Faith - Hebrews 11:8-10

1. Deuteronomy 34:1-4

2. Joshua 1:1-5

Deuteronomy 32:50 And die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; as Aaron thy brother died in mount Hor, and was gathered unto his people:

Moses instructs the Israelites to die in the mountain they are going up to and to be gathered with their people, just as Aaron died in Mount Hor and was gathered with his people.

1. The Power of Perseverance - How we can learn to persevere in our faith from the example of Aaron.

2. The Blessing of Unity - The importance of being united with our people and how it can bring us closer to God.

1. Hebrews 12:1-3 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

2. Romans 12:5 - So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Deuteronomy 32:51 Because ye trespassed against me among the children of Israel at the waters of MeribahKadesh, in the wilderness of Zin; because ye sanctified me not in the midst of the children of Israel.

God's punishment of Israel for failing to honor Him.

1. The importance of showing reverence and obedience to God.

2. The consequences of disobedience to God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 10:20 - "Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and swear by his name."

2. Romans 8:7 - "For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace."

Deuteronomy 32:52 Yet thou shalt see the land before thee; but thou shalt not go thither unto the land which I give the children of Israel.

The people of Israel are promised land but are not allowed to enter it yet.

1. God's Promises: How God Keeps His Word

2. Patience in the Wait: Learning to Trust God's Timing

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Hebrews 10:36 - For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Deuteronomy 33 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 33:1-5 presents Moses' blessings upon the tribes of Israel. He declares that Yahweh came from Sinai to bless His people and give them His law. Moses praises God's majesty and love for His people, highlighting His role as the King of Israel. He specifically addresses each tribe, pronouncing blessings upon them individually based on their unique characteristics and historical experiences.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 33:6-25, Moses continues to pronounce blessings upon the remaining tribes of Israel. He acknowledges the strength and prosperity of certain tribes such as Judah, Levi, Benjamin, Joseph, and Zebulun. Moses also speaks about God's provision for Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, and Issachar each tribe receiving specific blessings related to their inheritance and livelihood.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 33 concludes with a final blessing by Moses in Deuteronomy 33:26-29. He proclaims that there is no one like Yahweh a God who rides across the heavens to help His people. Moses assures Israel that they are secure under God's everlasting arms; He will drive out their enemies before them. The chapter ends with a declaration of Israel's blessedness a chosen nation whose enemies will cower before them.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 33 presents:

Moses' blessings upon the tribes individualized blessings based on characteristics;

Acknowledgment of strength and prosperity specific provisions for each tribe;

Final blessing assurance of security under God's protection.

Emphasis on Moses' blessings upon the tribes individualized blessings based on characteristics;

Acknowledgment of strength and prosperity specific provisions for each tribe;

Final blessing assurance of security under God's protection.

The chapter focuses on Moses' blessings upon the tribes of Israel, the acknowledgment of their strength and prosperity, and a final blessing affirming their security under God's protection. In Deuteronomy 33, Moses blesses each tribe individually, acknowledging their unique characteristics and historical experiences. He declares that Yahweh came from Sinai to bless His people and give them His law. Moses praises God's majesty and love for His people, highlighting His role as the King of Israel.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 33, Moses pronounces blessings upon the remaining tribes of Israel. He acknowledges the strength and prosperity of certain tribes such as Judah, Levi, Benjamin, Joseph, and Zebulun. Each tribe receives specific blessings related to their inheritance and livelihood. Moses also speaks about God's provision for Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, and Issachar each tribe receiving unique blessings based on their needs.

Deuteronomy 33 concludes with a final blessing by Moses. He proclaims that there is no one like Yahweh a God who rides across the heavens to help His people. Moses assures Israel that they are secure under God's everlasting arms; He will drive out their enemies before them. The chapter ends with a declaration of Israel's blessedness a chosen nation whose enemies will cower before them an affirmation of divine protection over the nation.

Deuteronomy 33:1 And this is the blessing, wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death.

Moses offered a blessing to the Israelites before his death.

1. The Power of Blessing: How to Offer and Receive Blessings from God

2. The Legacy of Blessings: How to Live a Life That Will Bless Future Generations

1. Psalm 67:1-2 - "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations."

2. Ephesians 1:3 - "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."

Deuteronomy 33:2 And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

Moses declared that God descended from Mount Sinai and rose from Seir to the people of Israel; He then came with ten thousand saints from Mount Paran and gave them a fiery law from His right hand.

1. The Glory of God: The Magnificence of His Presence

2. The Righteousness of God: The Authority of His Law

1. Isaiah 6:1-3; In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

2. Exodus 19:16-18; And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

Deuteronomy 33:3 Yea, he loved the people; all his saints are in thy hand: and they sat down at thy feet; every one shall receive of thy words.

The Lord loves His people and they are in His hand. They sit at His feet to listen to His words.

1. God's Love: An Everlasting Gift

2. Hearken to the Words of the Lord

1. Psalm 103:13-14 As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him. For he knows how we are formed; he remembers that we are dust.

2. Romans 8:35-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deuteronomy 33:4 Moses commanded us a law, even the inheritance of the congregation of Jacob.

This passage from Deuteronomy 33:4 emphasizes the importance of following God's law.

1: "The Inheritance of Faith: How to Live a Life of Obedience to God's Commands"

2: "The Blessings of Obedience: God's Promise to those Who Follow His Ways"

1: Romans 6:16 - "Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?"

2: Joshua 1:8 - "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."

Deuteronomy 33:5 And he was king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people and the tribes of Israel were gathered together.

Moses addressed the people of Israel and declared that God was their king, represented by the tribe of Jeshurun.

1. God's Kingship Over All Nations

2. Trust in the Lord as Your King

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Deuteronomy 33:6 Let Reuben live, and not die; and let not his men be few.

Moses blesses the tribe of Reuben by wishing for them to have a long life and not be diminished in numbers.

1. The Power of Blessing: How God's Promises Can Change Lives

2. The Blessing of Community: The Importance of Being Connected

1. Romans 8:28: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Philippians 2:3-4: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Deuteronomy 33:7 And this is the blessing of Judah: and he said, Hear, LORD, the voice of Judah, and bring him unto his people: let his hands be sufficient for him; and be thou an help to him from his enemies.

Moses gives a blessing to the tribe of Judah, asking God to provide them with strength and protection from their enemies.

1. Overcoming Adversity through Faith in God

2. The Power of Prayer

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Deuteronomy 33:8 And of Levi he said, Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah;

God spoke of Levi and commanded that Thummim and Urim be with his chosen one, who was tested and challenged at Massah and Meribah.

1. The importance of responding faithfully to God's tests and challenges. 2. The power of God's chosen to overcome any trial.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. 2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, when you face trials of various kinds.

Deuteronomy 33:9 Who said unto his father and to his mother, I have not seen him; neither did he acknowledge his brethren, nor knew his own children: for they have observed thy word, and kept thy covenant.

This passage describes a person who is devoted to the word of God and the covenant with His parents and siblings.

1. A Devoted Life: Staying Dedicated to God's Word and Covenant

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Living Out Your Covenant with God

1. Hebrews 12:9-11 - And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, My child, don t ignore it when the Lord disciplines you, and don t be discouraged when he corrects you. For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Deuteronomy 33:10 They shall teach Jacob thy judgments, and Israel thy law: they shall put incense before thee, and whole burnt sacrifice upon thine altar.

God's laws are meant to be taught and obeyed, with offerings of incense and sacrifice.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Laws

2. The Power of Sacrifice

1. Deuteronomy 33:10

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Deuteronomy 33:11 Bless, LORD, his substance, and accept the work of his hands: smite through the loins of them that rise against him, and of them that hate him, that they rise not again.

This passage speaks of God's protection and blessing for those who live according to His will.

1. The Blessing of God's Protection

2. God's Provision for His People

1. Psalm 91:11 - "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

2. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Deuteronomy 33:12 And of Benjamin he said, The beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by him; and the Lord shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders.

The beloved of the Lord shall live in safety and be protected by the Lord throughout the day.

1. The Lord Our Shield - How We Can Rely on the Lord for Protection

2. Dwelling in the Shadow of the Almighty - Finding Comfort and Safety in God's Presence

1. Isaiah 25:4 - For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall.

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Deuteronomy 33:13 And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath,

Joseph was blessed with the land, for its precious gifts from heaven, the dew, and the deep.

1. God's Blessings in Our Lives

2. Cultivating Gratitude for the Gifts We Receive

1. Psalm 148:7-8 - Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps: Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Deuteronomy 33:14 And for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon,

God blesses his people with the gifts of the sun and moon.

1. The Blessings of God: An Exploration of Deuteronomy 33:14

2. Appreciating the Natural Blessings of God

1. Psalm 148:3-5 - Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Deuteronomy 33:15 And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills,

This passage mentions the chief things of ancient mountains and the precious things of lasting hills.

1. Finding Strength in the Lord's Abundant Blessings

2. The Beauty of God's Creation

1. Psalm 85:12 - "Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever."

Deuteronomy 33:16 And for the precious things of the earth and fulness thereof, and for the good will of him that dwelt in the bush: let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him that was separated from his brethren.

God blessed Joseph, the son of Israel who was separated from his brothers, with the precious things of the earth and the good will of the one who dwelt in the bush.

1. The Blessing of God's Love Upon Joseph

2. Separation from Family: How Joseph's Story Can Teach Us

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Genesis 45:4-5 - So Joseph said to his brothers, Come close to me. When they had done so, he said, I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.

Deuteronomy 33:17 His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.

God's glory and power is immense and His might is unparalleled.

1. The Unfathomable Glory of God

2. God's Sovereignty in Uniting His People

1. Isaiah 40:12-15

2. Psalm 103:19-22

Deuteronomy 33:18 And of Zebulun he said, Rejoice, Zebulun, in thy going out; and, Issachar, in thy tents.

God is instructing the tribes of Zebulun and Issachar to rejoice in their individual tasks and to have faith in their journey.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: Trust in the Journey

2. Finding Joy in Difficult Tasks: Taking Comfort in God's Plan

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Deuteronomy 33:19 They shall call the people unto the mountain; there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness: for they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and of treasures hid in the sand.

The people of God are instructed to offer sacrifices of righteousness and to receive the abundance of the seas and the hidden treasures of the sand.

1. God's Abundance: Learning to Receive from the Lord

2. The Meaning of Righteous Sacrifice

1. Psalm 145:15-16 - "The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."

2. Isaiah 55:1-2 - "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

Deuteronomy 33:20 And of Gad he said, Blessed be he that enlargeth Gad: he dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head.

God blesses Gad, who dwells like a lion and tears the arm with the crown of the head.

1. "The Strength of Gad"

2. "God's Blessing on the Faithful"

1. Romans 8:37-39 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Deuteronomy 33:21 And he provided the first part for himself, because there, in a portion of the lawgiver, was he seated; and he came with the heads of the people, he executed the justice of the LORD, and his judgments with Israel.

Moses provided justice for the people of Israel according to the Lord's law.

1. The Importance of Justice in Following the Lord's Law

2. Following the Lord's Law as a Path to Justice

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Exodus 23:2 - You shall not fall in with the many to do evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, siding with the many, so as to pervert justice.

Deuteronomy 33:22 And of Dan he said, Dan is a lion's whelp: he shall leap from Bashan.

God spoke of Dan as a lion's whelp who would leap from Bashan.

1. The Strength of God's People: Drawing on the Power of a Lion's Whelp

2. The Power of Faith: Leaping Out of Bashan with Strength

1. Psalm 27:1: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2. Isaiah 40:31: But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Deuteronomy 33:23 And of Naphtali he said, O Naphtali, satisfied with favour, and full with the blessing of the LORD: possess thou the west and the south.

God blessed Naphtali with favor and the blessing of the LORD, granting them the west and south.

1. God's Favour and Blessing: How to Receive and Retain God's Goodness

2. Possessing the West and the South: Understanding What God Has Given Us

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Deuteronomy 33:24 And of Asher he said, Let Asher be blessed with children; let him be acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil.

Asher was blessed with children and was accepted by his brethren. He was also given the privilege to have his foot dipped in oil, a sign of luxury and prosperity.

1. "God's Provision: Embracing the Blessings of the Lord"

2. "God's Favor and the Righteous Path"

1. Psalm 133:2 - "It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!"

2. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

Deuteronomy 33:25 Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be.

This verse encourages us to trust in God's strength to carry us through our daily struggles.

1. "God's Strength on Our Feet: Finding Strength in Times of Adversity"

2. "Iron & Brass: Staying Strong in Faith"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Deuteronomy 33:26 There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun, who rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky.

God is unique and incomparable; He is always ready to help us in the time of need.

1. God's Unfailing Help in Times of Need

2. The Uniqueness and Incomparability of God

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Deuteronomy 33:27 The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.

The Eternal God is a refuge and protection for His people. He will defeat their enemies and bring them victory.

1 - God is Our Refuge and Defender

2 - The Eternal God is a Mighty Fortress

1 - Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2 - Isaiah 25:4 - "For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall."

Deuteronomy 33:28 Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine; also his heavens shall drop down dew.

Israel will dwell in safety and abundance, with its land providing corn and wine and its heavens sending down dew.

1. God's Promise of Provision and Protection for His People

2. Learning to Rely on God for All Our Needs

1. Psalm 4:8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

2. Psalm 121:2-3 My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

Deuteronomy 33:29 Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.

Israel is blessed and protected by the LORD, and their enemies will not prevail against them.

1. God is our Shield and Sword: The Power of the LORD in Our Lives

2. Living in Confidence: Trusting in the LORD's Protection

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the Whole Armor of God

2. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my Rock, my Fortress and my Deliverer

Deuteronomy 34 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Deuteronomy 34:1-4 describes Moses' final view of the Promised Land. God takes Moses to the top of Mount Nebo, where he sees the entirety of the land that Yahweh had promised to give to the Israelites. Although Moses is allowed to see it from a distance, God informs him that he will not enter the land because of his disobedience at Meribah.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Deuteronomy 34:5-7, it is recorded that Moses dies on Mount Nebo at the age of 120. The text emphasizes that no one knows where his burial place is, as God Himself buried him in an undisclosed location. The Israelites mourn for Moses for thirty days before Joshua assumes leadership.

Paragraph 3: Deuteronomy 34 concludes with a reflection on Moses' unique relationship with Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 34:9-12, it states that Joshua was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands upon him. The text highlights how no prophet has arisen like Moses, who performed great signs and wonders before all Israel and displayed unmatched power. It concludes by noting how highly esteemed and revered Moses was among all Israel.

In summary:

Deuteronomy 34 presents:

Moses' final view of the Promised Land seeing it from Mount Nebo;

Moses' death and burial God burying him in an undisclosed location;

Reflection on Moses' unique relationship with Yahweh his role as a prophet and leader.

Emphasis on Moses' final view of the Promised Land seeing it from Mount Nebo;

Moses' death and burial God burying him in an undisclosed location;

Reflection on Moses' unique relationship with Yahweh his role as a prophet and leader.

The chapter focuses on Moses' final view of the Promised Land, his death and burial, and a reflection on his unique relationship with Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 34, God takes Moses to the top of Mount Nebo, where he sees the entirety of the land that was promised to the Israelites. Although Moses is allowed to see it from a distance, he is informed by God that he will not enter the land due to his disobedience at Meribah.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 34, it is recorded that Moses dies on Mount Nebo at the age of 120. The text emphasizes that no one knows where his burial place is because God Himself buried him in an undisclosed location. The Israelites mourn for Moses for thirty days before Joshua assumes leadership a solemn transition from one leader to another.

Deuteronomy 34 concludes with a reflection on Moses' unique relationship with Yahweh. It states that Joshua was filled with wisdom because Moses had laid his hands upon him. The text highlights how no prophet has arisen like Moses who performed great signs and wonders before all Israel and displayed unmatched power. It concludes by noting how highly esteemed and revered Moses was among all Israel an acknowledgment of his exceptional role as a prophet and leader in their history.

Deuteronomy 34:1 And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan,

Moses was taken to the mountain of Nebo, where he was shown the land of Gilead unto Dan.

1: We can learn from Moses' experience that God is always in control and will provide us with direction and guidance.

2: Even when we feel like we are in unfamiliar territory, God is with us, and will lead us to the right place.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Deuteronomy 34:2 And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea,

God appointed Moses as the leader of the Israelites and showed him the Promised Land.

1: God has appointed us as leaders of our communities, and we must use the example of Moses to lead our people to a better future.

2: We must remember that God has promised us a better future, and we must strive to reach it as Moses did.

1: Joshua 1:2-6 - God appointed Joshua as leader after Moses and promised him blessings if he was obedient.

2: Deuteronomy 4:6 - God commanded Moses to be strong and courageous and promised to be with him wherever he went.

Deuteronomy 34:3 And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar.

This passage mentions the geographical features of the area around Jericho, from the south to Zoar.

1. The Strength of God's Promises in the Land of Promise

2. Reclaiming the Promised Land Through Faith

1. Joshua 1:3-5 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee: for the LORD thy God shall lay the fear of thee and the dread of thee upon all the land that thou shalt tread upon, as he hath said unto thee."

2. Deuteronomy 11:24 - "Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be."

Deuteronomy 34:4 And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.

God promised to give the Promised Land to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and Moses was allowed to see it but not enter it.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises

2. The importance of obedience to God

1. Genesis 12:1-7 - God's promise to Abraham

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - Abraham's faith in following God's promises

Deuteronomy 34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

Moses, the servant of the Lord, died in Moab according to the Lord's will.

1: We should accept God's will even when it is hard to do.

2: We can take comfort in the fact that God never leaves us.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Deuteronomy 34:6 And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

Moses died and was buried in a valley in Moab, but his grave is unknown to this day.

1. The Gospel of Jesus Christ: Finding Life in the Unknown

2. The Legacy of Moses: An Example of Faithfulness in the Face of Uncertainty

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Deuteronomy 34:7 And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

Moses died a fulfilled life; he was still strong and had clarity of sight until his death.

1. Living a Life of Fulfillment

2. Ending Life with Strength and Clarity

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Deuteronomy 34:8 And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

Moses was greatly mourned by the Israelites for thirty days.

1: God comforts us in our grief.

2: We can learn from Moses' legacy.

1: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Deuteronomy 34:9 And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses laid his hands on Joshua and the Israelites obeyed him, as they had been commanded by the Lord.

1. The Power of Leadership Through Obedience

2. Embracing the Spirit of Wisdom

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. James 3:13 - Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

Deuteronomy 34:10 And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

Moses was a prophet like no other, chosen by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

1. God shows his special favor to those who are willing to obey him.

2. We can learn from Moses' example of faithfulness to God.

1. Numbers 12:7-8 - "And the LORD said unto Moses, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house."

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward."

Deuteronomy 34:11 In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,

Moses performed many miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt to demonstrate the power of God to Pharaoh and his people.

1: We can find strength in the power of God, demonstrated through Moses' miraculous acts in Egypt.

2: Even in the face of immense opposition, we can trust in the power of God to help us overcome any situation.

1: Ephesians 3:20-21 - Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

2: Matthew 17:20 - He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

Deuteronomy 34:12 And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel.

Moses was a great leader who showed strength and courage in the face of danger, inspiring all of Israel.

1. The Strength of Leadership: How to Lead with Confidence and Courage

2. Fear Not: Overcoming Challenges with Faith

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Joshua 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 1:1-9 marks the beginning of Joshua's leadership after Moses' death. God speaks to Joshua, encouraging him to be strong and courageous as he leads the Israelites into the Promised Land. God promises to give them every place they set their foot upon, just as He had promised Moses. He instructs Joshua to meditate on His law day and night, obeying it faithfully. God assures Joshua of His presence and commands him not to be afraid or discouraged.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 1:10-15, Joshua addresses the officers of the people, instructing them to prepare for crossing the Jordan River into Canaan within three days. He reminds them that God has given them this land and that their wives, children, and livestock will remain behind in safety until they possess their inheritance. The Reubenites, Gadites, and half-tribe of Manasseh pledge their support for Joshua's leadership.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 1 concludes with a response from the people in Joshua 1:16-18. They promise obedience to both Moses' successor Joshua and Yahweh Himself. They declare that whoever rebels against Joshua's commands will be put to death. The people affirm their commitment by urging Joshua to be strong and courageous a reflection of unity among Israelites under his leadership.

In summary:

Joshua 1 presents:

God's encouragement for Joshua be strong and courageous;

Instructions for entering the Promised Land meditate on God's law;

Response from the people pledge obedience and support.

Emphasis on God's encouragement for Joshua be strong and courageous;

Instructions for entering the Promised Land meditate on God's law;

Response from the people pledge obedience and support.

The chapter focuses on God's encouragement for Joshua as he assumes leadership, instructions for entering the Promised Land, and a response from the people affirming their obedience and support. In Joshua 1, God speaks to Joshua, urging him to be strong and courageous as he leads the Israelites into the land promised to them. God assures Joshua of His presence and promises to give them victory over their enemies. He instructs Joshua to meditate on His law day and night, emphasizing the importance of faithful obedience.

Continuing in Joshua 1, Joshua addresses the officers of the people, instructing them to prepare for crossing the Jordan River into Canaan within three days. He reminds them that God has given them this land as He had promised Moses. The Reubenites, Gadites, and half-tribe of Manasseh pledge their support for Joshua's leadership a unified commitment among Israelites.

Joshua 1 concludes with a response from the people. They promise obedience both to Moses' successor Joshua and Yahweh Himself. They declare that anyone who rebels against Joshua's commands will be put to death a sign of their loyalty and submission under his leadership. The people affirm their commitment by urging Joshua to be strong and courageous an expression of unity among Israelites in their determination to possess the Promised Land.

Joshua 1:1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

God calls Joshua to leadership after the death of Moses.

1. God has a purpose for our lives and is always in control.

2. We should remain faithful and obedient to God's call.

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 - God's power and provision in our lives.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - We are created for good works.

Joshua 1:2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

Moses has passed away and God is calling Joshua to take his place and lead the people of Israel into the promised land.

1. "Be Strong and Courageous: Following God's Call"

2. "The Promise of God: A New Adventure"

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Joshua 1:3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

God promised Joshua to provide him with strength and courage to take the land of Canaan.

1. God's promises are always fulfilled, no matter the circumstances.

2. We can rely on the strength of God to accomplish any task given to us.

1. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

2. Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Joshua 1:4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

God promised the land of Canaan to the people of Israel, extending from the wilderness and Lebanon to the Euphrates River and the great sea.

1. God's Promise of Land: The faithfulness of God in providing for His people.

2. Perseverance in the Wilderness: Encouraging believers to press on in faith despite the challenges of life.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:1-4 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Joshua 1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

God promises to be with Joshua and never leave or forsake him, just as He was with Moses.

1. Trusting in God's Promises

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Joshua 1:6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

Be strong and courageous in God's service.

1: God calls us to be strong and courageous to pursue His will and to serve Him.

2: We are to be obedient to God and trust in Him even when our circumstances seem overwhelming.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Joshua 1:7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

God instructs Joshua to be strong and courageous in order to follow all of Moses' commands and to prosper wherever he goes.

1. "Be Strong and Courageous: The Path to Prosperity"

2. "The Importance of Following God's Word"

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

The passage encourages readers to keep the book of the law close and to meditate on it day and night in order to be successful.

1. Meditating on the Word of God: The Path to Prosperity

2. The Power of the Law: Achieving Success Through Obedience

1. Psalm 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."

2. Matthew 4:4 - "But he answered, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

God commands us to be strong and courageous, and to not be afraid, as He is with us wherever we go.

1. God's Promise of Strength and Courage - Joshua 1:9

2. God is With Us Wherever We Go - Joshua 1:9

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Joshua 1:10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

Joshua commanded the officers to prepare the people of Israel for their journey and to be strong and courageous.

1. Be brave and strong in the face of difficulties.

2. Take courage in the Lord to pursue your goals.

1. Hebrews 13:6 "So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me? "

2. Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.

The Lord commands the people of Israel to prepare for a three-day journey across the Jordan River to take possession of the promised land.

1. "Crossing the Jordan: A Step of Faith"

2. "God's Promise to His People: Taking Possession of the Land"

1. Deuteronomy 31:3-6

2. Joshua 4:19-24

Joshua 1:12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying,

Joshua addressed the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half of the tribe of Manasseh.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Lead to Success

2. The Leadership of Joshua: Living a Life of Courage and Faith

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Hebrews 11:1- Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Joshua 1:13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land.

Moses commanded the Israelites to remember the words of the Lord that He had given them rest and the land of Canaan.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Difficulty

2. Relying on the Promises of God

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 1:14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them;

The Israelites are commanded to cross the Jordan River and help their brethren, taking with them only their weapons and leaving their families and cattle behind.

1. Courage Through Faith: Drawing Strength From God In Difficult Times

2. The Power of Togetherness: Trusting In God's Plan for Unity

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Joshua 1:15 Until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD's servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising.

The Lord will give the Israelites' brethren rest and land, and only then can they enjoy the land that Moses gave them on the east side of the Jordan.

1. Trust in the Lord: Even when the way ahead is uncertain, we should trust that the Lord will provide.

2. Possessions of the Heart: Our true possessions come from the Lord, and we should treasure them above all else.

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Joshua 1:16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

The people of Israel promised to obey and follow wherever God commanded them.

1: Obeying God is a sign of faith and trust in Him.

2: We should be willing to go wherever God leads us.

1: Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2: John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Joshua 1:17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.

The people of Israel promised to obey Joshua just as they had obeyed Moses, and prayed that the Lord would be with Joshua as He had been with Moses.

1. In All Things, Hearken: Obeying God's Plan for Our Lives

2. The Blessing of the Lord's Presence: Relying on God's Strength

1. Ephesians 6:13-17 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Joshua 1:18 Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.

Joshua 1:18 instructs the people to obey God's commands and to stay strong and courageous.

1. "Obedience Brings Blessing: Living Faithfully in God's Word"

2. "The Courage to Do What is Right: Embracing God's Strength"

1. Deuteronomy 30:16-20 - "For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to Him, and to keep His commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

17 But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them,

18 I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

19 This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

20 and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. For the Lord is your life, and He will give you many years in the land He swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is His good, pleasing and perfect will.

Joshua 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 2:1-7 introduces the story of Rahab, a prostitute living in Jericho. Joshua sends two spies to scout the land, and they enter Rahab's house for shelter. The king of Jericho learns about the presence of these spies and sends men to capture them. However, Rahab hides the spies on her roof and deceives the king's messengers by saying that the spies had already left the city. She reveals her faith in Yahweh by acknowledging His power and deliverance demonstrated through Israel's conquests.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 2:8-21, Rahab makes a covenant with the spies. She requests that they spare her life and her family's lives when Israel conquers Jericho. The spies agree to her request under one condition that she hangs a scarlet cord from her window as a sign for their troops not to harm anyone inside her house during the attack. The spies give Rahab instructions on how to ensure their safety.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 2 concludes with the return of the two spies to Joshua in Joshua 2:22-24. They report back to him, sharing their encounter with Rahab and confirming that God has indeed given them victory over Jericho. They testify that fear has gripped the people of Jericho because they have heard about Yahweh's mighty acts on behalf of Israel the parting of the Red Sea and victories over other kings. Upon hearing this report, Joshua is encouraged and ready to lead Israel into battle.

In summary:

Joshua 2 presents:

Introduction of Rahab sheltering Israelite spies;

Covenant between Rahab and spies request for protection;

Return of spies reporting fear among the people of Jericho.

Emphasis on introduction of Rahab sheltering Israelite spies;

Covenant between Rahab and spies request for protection;

Return of spies reporting fear among the people of Jericho.

The chapter focuses on the introduction of Rahab, a prostitute who shelters Israelite spies, the covenant made between Rahab and the spies for protection, and the return of the spies with a report about fear among the people of Jericho. In Joshua 2, Joshua sends two spies to scout out the land, and they enter Rahab's house for shelter. The king of Jericho learns about their presence and sends men to capture them. However, Rahab hides the spies on her roof and deceives the king's messengers by saying that they had already left.

Continuing in Joshua 2, Rahab makes a covenant with the spies. She requests that they spare her life and her family's lives when Israel conquers Jericho. The spies agree to her request under one condition that she hangs a scarlet cord from her window as a sign for their troops not to harm anyone inside her house during the attack. They provide instructions to ensure their safety.

Joshua 2 concludes with the return of the two spies to Joshua. They report back to him, sharing their encounter with Rahab and confirming that God has indeed given them victory over Jericho. They testify that fear has gripped the people because they have heard about Yahweh's mighty acts on behalf of Israel the parting of the Red Sea and victories over other kings. Upon hearing this report, Joshua is encouraged and ready to lead Israel into battle a testament to God's faithfulness in preparing them for conquest.

Joshua 2:1 And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

Joshua sent two men to spy on the land of Jericho. They stayed in Rahab's house, a prostitute.

1. The power of faith: Rahab's example of trusting in God despite her difficult circumstances.

2. Living a life of service: How Rahab's selfless act of hospitality towards the spies affected her own life and the lives of those around her.

1. Hebrews 11:31 - "By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient."

2. James 2:25 - "In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?"

Joshua 2:2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country.

Joshua sent two spies to Jericho to assess the city before entering.

1: Joshua trusted in the Lord with his plans to enter Jericho, as seen in his action of sending spies.

2: God will always provide guidance and direction for his people, as seen in Joshua's sending of spies.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Joshua 2:3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country.

The king of Jericho sent a message to Rahab demanding her to present the men that had come to her house, as they were searching the area.

1. God is in control of every situation and nothing can happen that He doesn't allow.

2. Even in difficult times, we can depend on God to provide a way of escape.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Joshua 2:4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were:

The woman in Joshua 2 hid two men and lied about not knowing where they came from.

1. The Power of Compassion: How the Woman in Joshua 2 Showed Mercy and Bravery

2. The Power of Faith: How the Woman in Joshua 2 Demonstrated Belief in God

1. Hebrews 11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days

2. Luke 6:36-37 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.

Joshua 2:5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.

The men left the city gate at night and the people were told to pursue them quickly in order to catch them.

1. We must act quickly and trust in God when faced with difficult decisions.

2. We must be ready to take action when God calls us to serve.

1. Romans 12:11 - Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way;

Joshua 2:6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof.

Rahab hid the two spies on her roof, underneath stalks of flax that had been arranged there.

1. God can use the most unlikely people to further His Kingdom.

2. The power of faith and courage in the face of adversity.

1. Hebrews 11:31 - By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Joshua 2:7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.

The men chased the spies to the river Jordan, and when they left, the gate was shut.

1. The Lord Our Protector: How God shields us in times of danger

2. Taking Risks for a Greater Good: The courage of the spies of Jericho

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Joshua 2:8 And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof;

Rahab had two Israelite spies hide on her roof, and before they went to bed, she came up to them.

1. The Power of Rahab's Faith: How Rahab's Courageous Faith Led to the Salvation of Her People

2. Rahab's Example of Hospitality: Practicing Hospitality Out of Love for God and Our Neighbors

1. Hebrews 11:31 - By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

2. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Joshua 2:9 And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

Rahab, a woman from the city of Jericho, informs two Israelite spies that she knows the LORD has given them the land, and that the inhabitants of the land are afraid of them.

1. God's Plans Prevail - focusing on how God's plans for the Israelites to inhabit the Promised Land will come to fruition despite obstacles.

2. The Power of Fear - exploring how fear can be used to conquer an enemy and how we can use faith instead of fear in our own lives.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Joshua 2:10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed.

The LORD dried up the Red Sea for the Israelites when they left Egypt and they destroyed two kings of the Amorites on the other side of the Jordan.

1. The Miraculous Power of the LORD

2. Faithful Obedience Rewarded

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

2. Deuteronomy 3:1-7 - Then we turned, and went up the way to Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.

Joshua 2:11 And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.

After hearing of the greatness of the Lord, the hearts of the people melted with fear and they no longer had the courage to oppose them.

1. God is Greater than Anything We Face - Joshua 2:11

2. Courage Comes from Knowing God - Joshua 2:11

1. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

2. Isaiah 45:18 - For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

Joshua 2:12 Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token:

Joshua and the two spies ask the woman to swear by the Lord to show kindness to Joshua's family.

1: God calls us to show kindness to others.

2: We should honor our commitments to show kindness even when it is hard.

1: Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

2: Proverbs 3:3 - Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

Joshua 2:13 And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.

This passage speaks of Rahab's request for the Israelite spies to save her family from death as she had helped them.

1. God is faithful to those who are faithful to Him - Joshua 2:13

2. Rahab's courageous faith in God - Joshua 2:13

1. Romans 10:11 - "For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.'"

2. Hebrews 11:31 - "By faith Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies."

Joshua 2:14 And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

The men of Israel showed their loyalty to the covenant with God by offering their lives in exchange for the safety of Rahab and her family.

1. The covenant between God and Israel is one of loyalty and protection.

2. Our loyalty to God and His covenant should lead us to show kindness and truth to others.

1. Joshua 2:14 - Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business, and we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

2. Romans 12:9- Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

Joshua 2:15 Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall.

Rahab, a woman living in Jericho, assisted two spies sent by Joshua by letting them down from her window outside the city wall.

1. The courage of Rahab: a lesson on trusting God's will.

2. Rahab's faith: a reminder of the power of faith in the face of adversity.

1. Genesis 15:6 - "And he believed the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness."

2. Romans 4:3-5 - "For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."

Joshua 2:16 And she said unto them, Get you to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you; and hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers be returned: and afterward may ye go your way.

Rahab instructs the spies to hide on the mountain for three days until the pursuers have returned before they can go their way.

1. God's protection is always available no matter how dire the situation.

2. We can find faith and courage to face our fears when we trust in God's plan.

1. Psalm 46:1-2: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

2. Hebrews 11:31: "By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies."

Joshua 2:17 And the men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear.

The men made an oath to Rahab and promised to protect her from any harm.

1. God rewards those who trust in Him.

2. Oaths should be taken seriously and kept with integrity.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - "Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

Joshua 2:18 Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.

Rahab agrees to let the Israelites into her home, and in return, she is to be saved from the destruction of Jericho. Rahab must bind a line of scarlet thread in the window to signify her salvation and bring her family to safety.

1. The Power of Promises - God's faithfulness to keep His promises in Rahab's story.

2. The Power of Obedience - Rahab's obedience in risking her life to save the Israelites.

1. Hebrews 11:31 - By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

2. James 2:25 - Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

Joshua 2:19 And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him.

In order to protect Rahab and her family from the Israelite spies, Rahab makes a covenant with them that anyone who leaves her house will have their blood be on their own head and those that remain in the house will be protected by the Israelite spies.

1. God's protection and faithfulness to those who trust in Him.

2. The power of making wise choices in difficult situations.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Joshua 2:20 And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear.

Joshua and the Israelites made a pact with Rahab to keep the secret of their mission.

1. The importance of being faithful to our promises

2. The power of trusting God in difficult circumstances

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Joshua 2:21 And she said, According unto your words, so be it. And she sent them away, and they departed: and she bound the scarlet line in the window.

Joshua's mother Rahab and the two spies agreed to a plan to save her and her family in exchange for her help in gathering information.

1. The Power of Faith - Rahab's faith was rewarded when she put her trust in the Lord and was saved.

2. The Importance of Obedience - Rahab obeyed the Lord's command and her actions were rewarded.

1. Hebrews 11:31 - By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

2. James 2:25 - Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

Joshua 2:22 And they went, and came unto the mountain, and abode there three days, until the pursuers were returned: and the pursuers sought them throughout all the way, but found them not.

Two people escaped to a mountain and stayed there for three days while their pursuers searched for them, but could not find them.

1. God will protect us when we are in danger.

2. When we are in trouble, we can seek refuge in God.

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Joshua 2:23 So the two men returned, and descended from the mountain, and passed over, and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all things that befell them:

The two men returned from the mountain and reported their adventures to Joshua.

1. The importance of obedience shown in the example of the two men in Joshua 2:23.

2. The power of resilience and courage when facing adversity.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

2. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe."

Joshua 2:24 And they said unto Joshua, Truly the LORD hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.

The people of the land had heard of the mighty power of the Lord and were afraid of the Israelites, so the Lord delivered all the land to the Israelites.

1. God is the Deliverer and Provider of All Things

2. We Can Rely on the Strength of the Lord

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

Joshua 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 3:1-6 sets the stage for the crossing of the Jordan River. Joshua and the Israelites camp near the river, waiting for further instructions from God. After three days, Joshua commands the people to consecrate themselves and prepare to witness a miraculous event. He tells them that they have not passed this way before and assures them that Yahweh will do wonders among them.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 3:7-13, Joshua addresses the priests who carry the Ark of the Covenant. He instructs them to take a step into the Jordan River when they reach its edge and promises that as soon as their feet touch its waters, it will be cut off from flowing downstream. The people are told to keep a distance of about half a mile between themselves and the Ark so they can witness God's power firsthand.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 3 concludes with the actual crossing of the Jordan River in Joshua 3:14-17. As soon as the priests' feet touch the water's edge, just as instructed by Joshua, miraculously, "the waters which came down from above stood and rose up in one heap." The Israelites pass over on dry ground while all of Israel watches in awe. Twelve stones are taken from within the riverbed representing each tribe and set up as a memorial at their campsite in Gilgal.

In summary:

Joshua 3 presents:

Preparation for crossing consecration and anticipation;

Instructions for priests step into Jordan River;

Miraculous crossing waters stand still, twelve stones set up.

Emphasis on preparation for crossing consecration and anticipation;

Instructions for priests step into Jordan River;

Miraculous crossing waters stand still, twelve stones set up.

The chapter focuses on the preparation for crossing the Jordan River, specific instructions given to the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant, and the miraculous crossing itself. In Joshua 3, Joshua and the Israelites camp near the Jordan River, waiting for further instructions from God. After three days, Joshua commands them to consecrate themselves and prepare for a miraculous event a sign that they have not passed this way before.

Continuing in Joshua 3, Joshua addresses the priests who carry the Ark of the Covenant. He instructs them to take a step into the Jordan River when they reach its edge. He promises that as soon as their feet touch its waters, it will be cut off from flowing downstream a display of God's power and faithfulness. The people are instructed to keep a distance between themselves and the Ark so they can witness this miracle firsthand.

Joshua 3 concludes with the actual crossing of the Jordan River. As soon as the priests' feet touch its edge just as instructed by Joshua, miraculously "the waters which came down from above stood and rose up in one heap." The Israelites pass over on dry ground while all of Israel watches in awe an incredible manifestation of God's power. Twelve stones are taken from within the riverbed representing each tribe and set up as a memorial at their campsite in Gilgal a reminder of this significant event in their journey towards possessing Canaan.

Joshua 3:1 And Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

Joshua rose early in the morning to lead the Israelites across the Jordan River.

1: Rise early to take on the Lord's work.

2: Take courage and faith to step into the unknown.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Joshua 3:2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host;

The officers of Israel went through the host after three days.

1: When God calls us to act, we must be faithful and do what we are asked.

2: Faithfulness is often tested with time, and God's desires will ultimately be fulfilled.

1: Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

2: James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Joshua 3:3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

Joshua encourages the people of Israel to follow the ark as a symbol of faith.

1. Following the Lord with Steadfast Faith

2. Walking in Obedience to God's Word

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known."

Joshua 3:4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore.

The Israelites were told to stay a certain distance from the Jordan River so that they could know the way to the Promised Land, which was a new path for them.

1. The Lord will always provide the way to our destiny, but we must be willing to take the necessary steps to get there.

2. We must always be prepared for the unexpected, trusting that the Lord will light our path.

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Joshua 3:5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

Joshua tells the people to prepare themselves, for the Lord will do wonders among them the next day.

1. God's wonders are always beyond our expectations

2. We should always be prepared for God's miracles

Cross-

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 118:23-24 - This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Joshua 3:6 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people.

Joshua commanded the priests to take up the Ark of the Covenant and lead the people.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands can lead to success

2. The Responsibility of Leadership - The importance of leading by example

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - The construction of the Ark of the Covenant

2. 2 Chronicles 5:2-14 - The priests leading the people in transporting the Ark of the Covenant

Joshua 3:7 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.

The LORD told Joshua that He would begin to magnify him in the sight of all Israel, so that they would know that He would be with him as He was with Moses.

1. God Promises to Magnify Each of Us

2. The Lord is With Us, Just as He Was With Moses

1. Ephesians 3:20-21 - Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

2. Isaiah 41:10-13 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 3:8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

The Lord instructed Joshua to instruct the priests who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant to stand still when they reached the brink of the Jordan River.

1. "God's Command: Standing Firm in Faith"

2. "The Power of Obeying God's Instructions"

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation."

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

Joshua 3:9 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.

Joshua encourages the children of Israel to come and listen to the words of the Lord.

1. Obedience: The Path to Blessing

2. Faithful Listening: A Prerequisite for True Faith

1. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Proverbs 4:20-21 - My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Joshua 3:10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you, and that he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

Joshua declared that the living God was among them and would drive out the Canaanites and other nations living in the Promised Land.

1. God is Near: Know His Presence and Know His Promise

2. Living God: Rely on His Strength and Receive His Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Joshua 3:11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the LORD of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.

The Ark of the Covenant of the LORD of all the earth was passing over the Jordan River.

1. Preparing for a Godly Passover - Understanding the Significance of the Ark of the Covenant

2. Courageously Crossing Jordan - Learning How to Follow the LORD with Faith and Obedience

1. Exodus 12:42 - "It is a night of solemn observance to the LORD for bringing them out of the land of Egypt. This night is for the LORD, and all the people must observe it.

2. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Joshua 3:12 Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man.

The Israelites are instructed to choose twelve men to represent each of the twelve tribes.

1: God has chosen us to be His representatives. Let us faithfully live up to His trust.

2: God has given us a unique mission, let us courageously step out in faith and fulfill it.

1: Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the everlasting covenant, equip you with all that you need for doing his will.

2: 1 Timothy 4:12 - Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

Joshua 3:13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the LORD of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.

The priests will cross the Jordan River when the ark of the Lord touches the water.

1. God's faithfulness will lead us to victory.

2. As we follow God, He protects us from the storms of life.

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Joshua 3:14 And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;

The Israelites crossed the Jordan River with the Ark of the Covenant leading the way.

1. Following God's Leading: Letting the Ark of the Covenant Guide Our Paths

2. Faith and Obedience: The Israelites' Example of Following God

1. Hebrews 11:8-12 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Joshua 3:15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)

The priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant arrived at the Jordan River during the harvest season, and their feet were dipped in the water as it was overflowing its banks.

1. God's Provision During Times of Abundance

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

1. Psalm 65:9-10 - You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Joshua 3:16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.

The waters of the Jordan River stopped and formed a heap far from the city of Adam, near Zaretan, while the waters flowing toward the Dead Sea were cut off. The Israelites were then able to cross the Jordan right in front of Jericho.

1. The Lord Makes a Way Where There Seems to be No Way

2. Having Faith to Cross the Jordan

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Joshua 3:17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

The priests of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan River, and the Israelites were able to pass over on dry ground until all the people had safely crossed over.

1. Courage in the Face of Fear: Standing Firm in the Midst of Adversity

2. God is Faithful: Cross Over into New Beginnings

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Hebrews 11:29 - By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

Joshua 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 4:1-10 describes the memorial stones set up by the Israelites. Joshua commands twelve men, one from each tribe, to take stones from the Jordan River and carry them to their campsite in Gilgal. These stones are meant to serve as a visual reminder of God's miraculous intervention in stopping the flow of the river so that they could cross on dry ground. The people obey Joshua's instructions, and they set up the twelve stones as a memorial for future generations.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 4:11-14, it is recorded that after setting up the memorial stones, all of Israel crosses over the Jordan River. The priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant come out of the riverbed, and as soon as their feet touch dry ground, the waters return to their normal flow. This signifies that God's presence has moved with them into Canaan. The people witness this incredible event and recognize it as a confirmation of God's faithfulness.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 4 concludes with an emphasis on Joshua's leadership and how his reputation spreads throughout Canaan in Joshua 4:15-24. Yahweh commands Joshua to exhort and encourage Israel because He will magnify him in front of all Israel just as He did with Moses. The chapter ends by reiterating how fear falls upon all who dwell in Canaan when they hear about what Yahweh has done for His people parting of Red Sea and Jordan River and how He is with them.

In summary:

Joshua 4 presents:

Setting up memorial stones visual reminder of God's intervention;

Crossing over Jordan River waters return after priests' feet touch dry ground;

Emphasis on Joshua's leadership his reputation spreads throughout Canaan.

Emphasis on setting up memorial stones visual reminder of God's intervention;

Crossing over Jordan River waters return after priests' feet touch dry ground;

Emphasis on Joshua's leadership his reputation spreads throughout Canaan.

The chapter focuses on the setting up of memorial stones, the crossing over of the Jordan River, and an emphasis on Joshua's leadership. In Joshua 4, Joshua commands twelve men from each tribe to take stones from the Jordan River and set them up as a memorial in their campsite in Gilgal. These stones serve as a visual reminder of God's miraculous intervention in stopping the flow of the river so that they could cross on dry ground a testament to His faithfulness.

Continuing in Joshua 4, all of Israel crosses over the Jordan River after setting up the memorial stones. The priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant come out of the riverbed, and as soon as their feet touch dry ground, the waters return to their normal flow. This signifies that God's presence has moved with them into Canaan a powerful confirmation for all who witness this event.

Joshua 4 concludes with an emphasis on Joshua's leadership. Yahweh commands him to exhort and encourage Israel because He will magnify him just as He did with Moses. The chapter highlights how fear falls upon all who dwell in Canaan when they hear about what Yahweh has done for His people the parting of both Red Sea and Jordan River and how He is with them. This solidifies Joshua's reputation throughout Canaan a leader chosen by God to guide Israel into their promised inheritance.

Joshua 4:1 And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over Jordan, that the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,

The LORD spoke to Joshua after the Israelites had crossed the Jordan River.

1: We must heed God's word and trust in His plan.

2: God's guidance will lead us to success if we follow it.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Joshua 4:2 Take you twelve men out of the people, out of every tribe a man,

God commanded Joshua to choose twelve men from each tribe to take twelve stones from the Jordan River as a sign of remembrance of the miracle of the Israelites crossing the river.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated through the miracles He performs for His people.

2. We can honor God by remembering and celebrating the miracles He has done.

1. Romans 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

2. Psalm 103:2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Joshua 4:3 And command ye them, saying, Take you hence out of the midst of Jordan, out of the place where the priests' feet stood firm, twelve stones, and ye shall carry them over with you, and leave them in the lodging place, where ye shall lodge this night.

The Israelites are instructed to take twelve stones from the Jordan River as a memorial of their crossing.

1: Memorials are a reminder of God's faithfulness and power.

2: The Lord can use even the most ordinary of things to achieve His will.

1: Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2: Joshua 22:27 - But that it may be a witness between us, and you, and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not say to our children in time to come, Ye have no part in the LORD.

Joshua 4:4 Then Joshua called the twelve men, whom he had prepared of the children of Israel, out of every tribe a man:

Joshua called twelve men, one from each tribe of Israel, to serve as a reminder and symbol of their faith.

1. The Power of Symbols: Using symbols to deepen our faith.

2. Encouragement to be Bold: The courage of Joshua and the Israelites in facing the unknown.

1. Joshua 4:4-7

2. Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-10

Joshua 4:5 And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take you up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel:

Joshua instructed the Israelites to take up a stone from the Jordan River, one for each of the tribes of Israel, and carry them before the ark of the Lord.

1. Knowing Your Identity in God: How to remember your place in His kingdom

2. Celebrating the Journey: The importance of commemorating milestones in faith

1. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Joshua 4:6 That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?

The Israelites were commanded to set up stones to commemorate the crossing of the Jordan River, so that in the future their children would ask about their meaning.

1. "God's Miracles in the Wilderness: The Jordan Crossing"

2. "The Meaning of Memorials: Remembering God's Goodness"

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all that night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left."

2. Psalm 78:12-14 - "He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap. In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a fiery light. He split rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep."

Joshua 4:7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

This passage talks about the Israelites crossing the Jordan river with the Ark of the Covenant, and how the waters stopped to allow them to pass through; these stones were set up to commemorate the event for generations to come.

1.The power of God: How God parted the waters of the Jordan for the Israelites and how He will show us the way in our own times of need.

2.The importance of memorializing: How the Israelites set up the stones to remember the miracle of the Jordan and how we can use our own memories to remember God's grace.

1.Exodus 14:21-22 - And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

2.Psalm 77:19 - Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.

Joshua 4:8 And the children of Israel did so as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones out of the midst of Jordan, as the LORD spake unto Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them unto the place where they lodged, and laid them down there.

The Children of Israel obeyed Joshua's command to take twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan river, as instructed by the Lord, and bring them to their camp.

1. God is Faithful - Even when life is uncertain, God will provide what is necessary to fulfill His plan.

2. God Commands Obedience - Even when it seems difficult, God's commands are important and should be followed.

1. Exodus 14:15-16 - "And the LORD said unto Moses, Why criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward. But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea."

2. Joshua 10:25 - "And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight."

Joshua 4:9 And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day.

Joshua set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan River as a memorial of the priests who had carried the Ark of the Covenant. The stones remain in the same place to this day.

1. Remembering the Faithfulness of God's People

2. Standing Firm in the Midst of Challenges

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Joshua 4:10 For the priests which bare the ark stood in the midst of Jordan, until everything was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to speak unto the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua: and the people hasted and passed over.

The priests carried the Ark of the Covenant and stood in the middle of the Jordan River until Joshua had completed sharing all of the instructions from Moses with the people. The people then quickly crossed the river.

1. Trusting in God s Promises - The priests trusted in God s promise that the people would be able to cross the Jordan River, and they stood firm in the middle of the river until God s plan was fulfilled.

2. Courage in the Face of Fear - The people of Israel had to have a great deal of courage and faith in God as they crossed the Jordan River. They had to trust that God would provide a way for them to cross despite the size of the river.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Hebrews 11:8-11 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Joshua 4:11 And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over, that the ark of the LORD passed over, and the priests, in the presence of the people.

The ark of the Lord passed through the Jordan River, led by the priests, while the people watched.

1.The Power of Obedience; 2.God's Presence in Our Lives

1.Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. 2.Psalm 107:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Joshua 4:12 And the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh, passed over armed before the children of Israel, as Moses spake unto them:

The children of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh crossed the Jordan River in full battle armor, as directed by Moses.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following Directions Brings Victory

2. God's Direction: A Pathway to Success

1. Deuteronomy 31:7-8: "Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. 8 The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

2. Psalm 32:8: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Joshua 4:13 About forty thousand prepared for war passed over before the LORD unto battle, to the plains of Jericho.

This passage describes the Israelites crossing the Jordan River on their way to the plains of Jericho to battle.

1. The Power of God s Protection: How the Lord s Provision Can Cover Us in Times of Conflict.

2. Faithful Steps: The Story of the Israelites Journey and What We Can Learn from It.

1. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Joshua 4:14 On that day the LORD magnified Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they feared him, as they feared Moses, all the days of his life.

On the day of crossing the Jordan, the Lord exalted Joshua in the eyes of the Israelites and they respected him as they did Moses.

1. God's favor and blessing can do wonders and elevate us beyond our own capabilities.

2. Respect and reverence for leaders appointed by God is essential for success.

1. Isaiah 60:1 - "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you."

2. 1 Samuel 12:14 - "If you fear the LORD and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the LORD your God good!"

Joshua 4:15 And the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,

Joshua commanded the Israelites to take 12 stones from the middle of the Jordan river and set up a memorial in Gilgal as a reminder of the crossing.

Joshua commanded the Israelites to take 12 stones from the middle of the Jordan river and set up a memorial in Gilgal to remember their crossing.

1. Seeing God s Faithfulness in Our Journey

2. Memorials: Remembering God s Promises

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Joshua 4:16 Command the priests that bear the ark of the testimony, that they come up out of Jordan.

Joshua commanded the priests that were bearing the Ark of the Testimony to come up out of the Jordan River.

1. The Power of Testimony: Understanding the Significance of the Ark of the Testimony

2. Following God's Command: The Obedience of the Priests in Joshua 4:16

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son. Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

2. John 10:9 - I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Joshua 4:17 Joshua therefore commanded the priests, saying, Come ye up out of Jordan.

The passage describes how Joshua commanded the priests to come up out of the Jordan River.

1. God commands us to obey, even when it appears difficult.

2. Obeying God's commands brings Him glory.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Matthew 7:21 - "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Joshua 4:18 And it came to pass, when the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD were come up out of the midst of Jordan, and the soles of the priests' feet were lifted up unto the dry land, that the waters of Jordan returned unto their place, and flowed over all his banks, as they did before.

The priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord came out of the Jordan River and when their feet touched dry land, the Jordan River returned to its place and overflowed its banks.

1. God's Power is Greater than the Natural World

2. Do Not Be Afraid, Even When You Are in the Midst of the River

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Joshua 4:19 And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho.

The Israelites crossed the Jordan River on the tenth day of the first month, and set up camp in Gilgal, east of Jericho.

1. The Power of Obedience: Seeing God's Faithfulness Through the Crossing of the Jordan

2. The Journey of Faith: Encamping in Gilgal as an Act of Trust

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - Remember the long way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

3. Psalm 78:52-53 - Then he led out his people like sheep and guided them in the wilderness like a flock. He led them in safety, so that they were not afraid; but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

Joshua 4:20 And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal.

Joshua pitched twelve stones taken from the Jordan River in Gilgal as a memorial.

1. The Stones of Remembrance: Learning from the Legacy of Joshua.

2. Don't Forget Where You Came From: Navigating the Journey of Life with the Stones of Gilgal.

1. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

2. Hebrews 13:7 - Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Joshua 4:21 And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones?

Joshua commanded the Israelites to take twelve stones from the Jordan River and set them up as a memorial. He also instructed them to explain to their children in the future why these stones were set up.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: Learning from the Memorial Stones of the Jordan River

2. The Significance of Memorials: Remembering God's Miracles in Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Teaching the next generation about God's faithfulness

2. 1 Corinthians 11:24-25 - The importance of remembering Christ's sacrifice through communion

Joshua 4:22 Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.

This passage speaks of the crossing of the Jordan river by the Israelites under the guidance of Joshua.

1: We can trust God to lead us through any difficulty if we remain faithful.

2: We must remember and pass on the stories of God s miracles to our children.

1: Exodus 14:21-31 The Israelites crossing of the Red Sea.

2: Psalm 78:11-12 They remembered His works, they talked of His mighty acts.

Joshua 4:23 For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over:

The LORD dried up the waters of the Jordan River to enable the Israelites to pass over as he had done with the Red Sea.

1. The Mighty Power of God: How the Lord Parted the Waters

2. Faithful Obedience: Remembering God's Faithfulness Throughout History

1. Exodus 14:21-31 And the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

2. Psalm 77:19 Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.

Joshua 4:24 That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty: that ye might fear the LORD your God for ever.

God's hand is mighty and we should fear Him forever.

1. The Mighty Hand of God - exploring the power of God and why we should fear Him.

2. Fear the Lord - examining why it is important for us to fear and revere God.

1. Psalm 33:8 - Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

2. Isaiah 8:13 - sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Joshua 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 5:1-9 describes the circumcisions and the observance of Passover by the Israelites. At this point, all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan River are aware of Israel's presence and are filled with fear. Joshua realizes that it is necessary to circumcise the new generation of Israelites who were born during their wilderness wanderings. After they recover from their circumcision, they celebrate Passover in Gilgal a renewal of their covenant with Yahweh.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 5:10-12, it is recorded that after celebrating Passover, the manna the miraculous bread God provided for them in the wilderness ceases to appear. The Israelites now eat from the produce of Canaan the land flowing with milk and honey as a symbol of God fulfilling His promise to bring them into a bountiful land.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 5 concludes with an encounter between Joshua and a mysterious figure identified as "the commander of Yahweh's army" in Joshua 5:13-15. When Joshua approaches him, he asks if he is for them or their adversaries. The figure responds that he is neither but rather comes as "the commander of Yahweh's army." He instructs Joshua to remove his sandals because he is standing on holy ground an encounter that reaffirms God's presence and guidance for Joshua's leadership.

In summary:

Joshua 5 presents:

Circumcision and observance of Passover renewal of covenant;

Cessation of manna eating from Canaan's produce;

Encounter with "the commander" reaffirmation of God's presence.

Emphasis on circumcision and observance of Passover renewal of covenant;

Cessation of manna eating from Canaan's produce;

Encounter with "the commander" reaffirmation of God's presence.

The chapter focuses on the circumcision and observance of Passover, the cessation of manna, and an encounter between Joshua and "the commander" that reaffirms God's presence. In Joshua 5, all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan River are filled with fear upon hearing about Israel's presence. Joshua realizes that it is necessary to circumcise the new generation who were born during their wilderness wanderings. After their recovery, they celebrate Passover in Gilgal a significant act symbolizing their renewal of covenant with Yahweh.

Continuing in Joshua 5, after celebrating Passover, the miraculous provision of manna ceases. The Israelites now eat from the produce of Canaan the land flowing with milk and honey an indication that God has fulfilled His promise to bring them into a bountiful land.

Joshua 5 concludes with an encounter between Joshua and a mysterious figure identified as "the commander of Yahweh's army." When Joshua approaches him, he questions whether he is for them or their adversaries. The figure reveals himself as "the commander" and instructs Joshua to remove his sandals because he is standing on holy ground a powerful encounter reaffirming God's presence and guidance for Joshua's leadership in conquering Canaan.

Joshua 5:1 And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.

The kings of the Amorites and Canaanites were astonished when they heard that the Lord had dried up the waters of Jordan to help the Israelites cross.

1. God will use the miraculous to accomplish his will.

2. God is powerful and no one can stand against him.

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

2. Daniel 3:17 - If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

Joshua 5:2 At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time.

Joshua commanded the Israelites to be circumcised for the second time.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Sacredness of Circumcision

1. Deuteronomy 10:16 - Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

2. Colossians 2:11-13 - In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Joshua 5:3 And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins.

Joshua circumcised the children of Israel using sharp knives.

1. The Importance of Faithful Obedience - Joshua 5:3

2. The Power of Symbolic Actions - Joshua 5:3

1. Genesis 17:11-14 - And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

2. Deuteronomy 10:16 - Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

Joshua 5:4 And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt.

The people of Israel who left Egypt were all circumcised by Joshua, because all the males of war that had left Egypt had died in the wilderness.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands in difficult times.

2. The power of God to carry His people through times of difficulty.

1. Deuteronomy 10:16 - "Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Joshua 5:5 Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised.

The Israelites who had left Egypt were circumcised, but those born in the wilderness were not.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises and commands despite difficult circumstances.

2. The importance of following God's commands even in the wilderness.

1. Genesis 17:10-14

2. Deuteronomy 10:16

Joshua 5:6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

The children of Israel had to wander in the wilderness for 40 years due to their disobedience to the Lord's commands, and the Lord swore not to show them the promised land of milk and honey.

1. The importance of obedience to the Lord.

2. God's faithfulness in upholding his promises.

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Joshua 5:7 And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way.

Joshua circumcised the children of the Israelites who had not been circumcised as they left Egypt.

1. The Importance of Circumcision as a Sign of the Covenant

2. The Faithfulness of God in Keeping His Promises

1. Genesis 17:10-14 - God's Covenant with Abraham

2. Leviticus 12:3 - The Significance of Circumcision

Joshua 5:8 And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole.

After all the Israelites had been circumcised, they stayed in their places in the camp until they had healed completely.

1. Trust in God's timing - He knows what's best for us even when it may seem difficult or uncomfortable.

2. Rest and renewal - Allow time for our bodies and minds to heal, so that we can be stronger to follow God's will.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Joshua 5:9 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day.

The Lord spoke to Joshua and told him that the reproach of the Egyptians had been rolled away from him. He also told him that the place would be called Gilgal from that day on.

1. Faith over Fear: Overcoming the Reproach of Egypt

2. The Miracle of Gilgal: A Place of Remembrance

1. Isaiah 43:25 "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."

2. Micah 7:19 "He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

Joshua 5:10 And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho.

The Israelites kept the passover in the plains of Jericho.

1. The Power of Faith: When the Israelites obeyed God's command to keep the Passover, they demonstrated a faith in God's promise to guide and protect them.

2. The Strength of Obedience: The Israelites' faith in God was demonstrated in their obedience to His commands.

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-18 You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and His testimonies and His statutes which He has commanded you. And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may be well with you.

2. Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

Joshua 5:11 And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day.

The Israelites ate the old grain from the land after the Passover, including unleavened cakes and parched grain on the same day.

1. God provides for his people in miraculous ways.

2. Rejoice in the Lord even during difficult times.

1. Psalm 34:8-9 - Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

2. Matthew 6:25-33 - Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?...But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Joshua 5:12 And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

The Israelites stopped receiving manna from God after eating the produce of the land of Canaan.

1. God's Provision: Finding Strength and Sustenance in the Land

2. Trusting God: Relying on His Promise and Provision

1. Psalm 34:8-9 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

2. Deuteronomy 8:3-4 - He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Joshua 5:13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

Joshua encountered a man with a drawn sword outside of Jericho and asked him if he was there to help or hinder them.

1. The importance of discerning the intentions of those around us.

2. The value of courage and faith in the face of uncertainty.

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Joshua 5:14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

Joshua meets the captain of the Lord's army and worships Him.

1. God's Provision: The Presence of the Lord's Army

2. Worship in Awe of God's Might

1. Psalm 24:7-10 - Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

2. Isaiah 6:1-5 - I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple.

Joshua 5:15 And the captain of the LORD's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

The captain of the Lord's host commanded Joshua to remove his shoes as the place he was standing on was holy.

1. Learning to recognize and honor the presence of God.

2. Appreciating and responding to the holiness of God.

1. Exodus 3:5 Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

2. Psalm 24:3-4 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Joshua 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 6:1-14 describes the conquest of Jericho. God instructs Joshua on how to conquer the city. The Israelites are to march around the city once for six days, with seven priests carrying trumpets made from ram's horns leading the way. On the seventh day, they are to march around the city seven times, and when Joshua gives a shout, all the people are to shout as well. Following God's instructions, they carry out this unconventional battle plan.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 6:15-21, it is recorded that on the seventh day, after marching around Jericho seven times, Joshua gives a command for everyone to shout. The walls of Jericho collapse miraculously as a result of their shouts and fall flat. The Israelites enter the city and completely destroy everything within it men and women, young and old except for Rahab and her family who had been spared because she had hidden the spies.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 6 concludes with an emphasis on Rahab's rescue in Joshua 6:22-27. The two spies return to Rahab's house and bring her out along with her family members who are spared from destruction. They settle Rahab and her relatives among Israelite society as a reward for her faithfulness in protecting them. This act serves as a testimony of God's faithfulness in honoring His promises.

In summary:

Joshua 6 presents:

Conquest of Jericho marching around walls;

Collapse of Jericho walls shouting brings victory;

Rahab's rescue spared from destruction due to faithfulness.

Emphasis on conquest of Jericho marching around walls;

Collapse of Jericho walls shouting brings victory;

Rahab's rescue spared from destruction due to faithfulness.

The chapter focuses on the conquest of Jericho through the unconventional method of marching around its walls, the miraculous collapse of the walls, and the rescue of Rahab and her family. In Joshua 6, God gives Joshua specific instructions on how to conquer Jericho. The Israelites are to march around the city once for six days, with priests carrying trumpets leading the way. On the seventh day, they are to march around seven times and then shout when Joshua gives a command.

Continuing in Joshua 6, on the seventh day, as instructed by God, they march around Jericho seven times and give a loud shout. Miraculously, the walls of Jericho collapse flat a testament to God's power. The Israelites enter the city and completely destroy everything within it except for Rahab and her family who had been spared due to her faithfulness in protecting their spies.

Joshua 6 concludes with an emphasis on Rahab's rescue. The two spies return to Rahab's house and bring her out along with her family members who are spared from destruction. They settle Rahab and her relatives among Israelite society as a reward for her faithfulness in protecting them a demonstration of God's faithfulness in honoring His promises even to those outside Israelite heritage.

Joshua 6:1 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

Jericho was completely closed off to the Israelites, prohibiting any entry or exit.

1. The Necessity of Obedience - Joshua 6:1 reminds us that God often requires us to do things that may seem difficult or uncomfortable, but that we can trust God's plans and be faithful in our obedience.

2. The Power of Patience - Even when it seemed like the Israelites would never take Jericho, God provided a way and showed them patience as they waited on His timing.

1. Ephesians 5:1-2 - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

2. Psalm 37:7 - Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Joshua 6:2 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

God tells Joshua that He has given him authority over the city of Jericho and its king, as well as its brave warriors.

1. God's Faithfulness: How God Has Given Us Authority to Overcome

2. Our Victory Through God's Strength: How to Have Courage in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Isaiah 40:29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Joshua 6:3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

The men of war are instructed to circle the city of Jericho for six days.

1. God's commands are to be followed faithfully and wholeheartedly.

2. God's plans are often mysterious, but He always has a purpose.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Joshua 6:4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

The Israelites were instructed to march around Jericho each day for seven days with seven priests blowing trumpets made of rams horns.

1: God's commands can seem strange and difficult to understand, but we must remember that He is wise and knows what is best for us.

2: We must trust God's plans and instructions, even if they are difficult, and He will provide the strength and guidance to carry them out.

1: Phil 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2: Heb 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Joshua 6:5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

The people of Israel were instructed to march around the city of Jericho and when the priests blew the trumpets and shouted, the walls of the city would come down.

1. We can trust God's promises even when the circumstances seem impossible.

2. God leads us to victory when we follow His commands.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Joshua 6:6 And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.

Joshua commanded the priests to lift up the Ark of the Covenant and for seven priests to march forward with seven trumpets of rams' horns before it.

1. The Power of Faith: Demonstrating Faith Through Obedience

2. The Power of Praise: Unleashing the Power of Music with Your Faith

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals.

2. Hebrews 11:30 - By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.

Joshua 6:7 And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.

The people of Israel were commanded by Joshua to march around the city of Jericho with the ark of the Lord in the lead.

1. God calls us to take courageous action in faith.

2. Obedience to God's commands brings victory.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. Hebrews 11:30 - By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

Joshua 6:8 And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.

Seven priests blew seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Lord, and the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord followed them.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Commands

2. The Power of Proclaiming the Word of God

1. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Jeremiah 23:29 Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord. And like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Joshua 6:9 And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

This passage describes how the Israelites marched around Jericho, with the priests blowing trumpets and the ark of the covenant going before them.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Finding Success Through Following God's Plan"

2. "The Blessings of Faith: Receiving God's Peace Through Trusting His Word"

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 37:4-5 "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Joshua 6:10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

Joshua commanded the people not to shout or make any noise until he gave the order to do so.

1. Recognizing the importance of discipline and obedience in accomplishing God's will.

2. Understanding the power of unity and the importance of following God's instructions.

1. Matthew 28:20 - "teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Joshua 6:11 So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about it once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

The Israelites circled the city of Jericho once with the ark of the LORD, and then made camp.

1. The Power of God: How God Can Protect and Deliver Us

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commands with Faithful Action

1. Joshua 6:11-12

2. Hebrews 11:30-31 - "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days."

Joshua 6:12 And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

The priests of Israel followed Joshua's orders and carried the ark of the Lord early in the morning.

1. The Power of Obeying God's Commands

2. The Faithfulness of the Priests of Israel

1. Joshua 1:7-9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, took heed and constructed an ark for the saving of his household.

Joshua 6:13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the LORD, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

Seven priests blew seven trumpets of rams' horns and the armed men marched before them while the ark of the LORD was followed up from behind.

1. The Power of Praise - Using the example of the priests and the trumpets of rams' horns to demonstrate the impact of praising God.

2. Moving Forward with Faith - Encouraging believers to march forward in faith like the armed men, trusting in God's power and protection.

1. Psalm 150:3-6 - Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Joshua 6:14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.

The Israelites marched around Jericho for six days, once on the second day and then again each day after.

1. Be Patient and Persevering - Joshua 6:14

2. God Answers Our Prayers - Joshua 6:14

1. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Romans 8:26-27 - Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Joshua 6:15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

On the seventh day, the people of Israel rose early and surrounded the city of Jericho seven times.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands can bring about great results

2. The Strength of Unity - How the power of a united community can bring about miracles

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

Joshua 6:16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

Passage On the seventh time that the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua commanded the people to shout because the LORD had given them the city.

1. Shout to the Lord in Thanks for His Great Blessings

2. Have Faith in the Lord and His Promised Victory

1. Psalm 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

2. Psalm 118:14 The LORD is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.

Joshua 6:17 And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

Rahab the harlot was spared from the destruction of Jericho because she hid the messengers sent by the Lord.

1. God's Mercy and Grace for All, No Matter Their Past

2. The Power of Obedience to the Lord

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. James 2:25 - In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?

Joshua 6:18 And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

Passage The Israelites are warned to stay away from the accursed thing in order to avoid becoming cursed and bring trouble to the camp of Israel.

1. The Danger of Taking the Accursed Thing

2. The Power of Staying Away from Sin

1. 1 Corinthians 10:21 - Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

2. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.

Joshua 6:19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

Joshua directed the Israelites to take all the gold, silver, bronze and iron from Jericho and dedicate it as an offering to the Lord.

1. The Lord is worthy of our offering - living a life that is devoted and holy unto Him.

2. God provides for us even when we are commanded to give - trusting in His provision and generosity.

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

2. Malachi 3:10 - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

Joshua 6:20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

The people of Israel shouted and blew trumpets, causing the walls of Jericho to fall down and the city to be taken.

1. The power of faith and obedience

2. The importance of unified action

1. Hebrews 11:30 - "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after the people had marched around them for seven days."

2. Matthew 5:15 - "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Joshua 6:21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

The Israelites destroyed the city of Jericho, killing all the people and animals.

1. The Lord Is Merciful Yet Just

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Deuteronomy 20:16-17, "But as for the towns of these peoples that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, you must not let anything that breathes remain alive. You shall annihilate them the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites just as the Lord your God has commanded."

Joshua 6:22 But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.

Joshua instructed two spies to fulfill their promise to a prostitute by bringing her and her possessions out of her home.

1. The Power of a Promise: How Keeping Our Word Is Essential for a Fulfilling Life

2. Taking Responsibility: How We Can All Take Responsibility for Living Up to Our Promises

1. Matthew 5:33-37 ( Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made. But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God s throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. All you need to say is simply Yes or No ; anything beyond this comes from the evil one. )

2. Proverbs 6:1-5 ( My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, if you have struck hands in pledge for another, if you have been trapped by what you said, ensnared by the words of your mouth, then do this, my son, to free yourself, since you have fallen into your neighbor s hands: Go and humble yourself; press your plea with your neighbor! Allow no sleep to your eyes, no slumber to your eyelids. )

Joshua 6:23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.

The spies of Israel went into Jericho and rescued Rahab and her family, bringing them out of the city and leaving them outside of Israel's camp.

1. God's faithfulness: How the Lord blessed Rahab and her family in a time of need.

2. The power of redemption: How God brings us out of darkness and into his light.

1. Romans 10:9-10: "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

2. Joshua 2:11: "When we heard it, our hearts melted and everyone s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below."

Joshua 6:24 And they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

The city of Jericho was burnt to the ground, but the silver, gold, brass, and iron were all put into the treasury of the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: Lessons from Jericho

2. God's Provision in Times of Trouble

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10 - "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This also is vanity."

Joshua 6:25 And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

Joshua spared Rahab's life and that of her family for harboring the messengers whom Joshua had sent to spy out Jericho. Rahab and her family have lived in Israel ever since.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Rahab's story of faith and redemption.

2. God's Unconditional Mercy: Rahab's example of God's mercy and forgiveness.

1. Hebrews 11:31 - By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

2. Matthew 1:5 - And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse.

Joshua 6:26 And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it.

The Lord cursed anyone who rebuilt Jericho, and decreed that the firstborn and youngest children would be part of the construction of the city.

1. The Lord's Blessing and Curse: Learning to Respect His Will

2. The Power of God's Word: Obeying His Commands

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20

2. Galatians 3:10-13

Joshua 6:27 So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.

Joshua, with the help of the LORD, was successful in his endeavors and became a renowned figure throughout the land.

1. The Lord is the source of true success.

2. The power of faith and obedience to God.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 7:1-5 describes the defeat at Ai and its aftermath. After the victory at Jericho, Joshua sends a small force to conquer the city of Ai. However, they are unexpectedly defeated, causing great distress among the Israelites. Joshua and the elders tear their clothes and fall on their faces before the Ark of the Covenant, questioning why God allowed them to be defeated.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 7:6-15, it is revealed that there is sin in the camp of Israel. God informs Joshua that someone has violated His command by taking forbidden items from Jericho and hiding them in their tent. This act has brought a curse upon Israel, preventing them from being victorious in battle.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 7 concludes with Achan's confession and punishment in Joshua 7:16-26. Achan admits his guilt and reveals that he took a beautiful robe, silver, and gold from Jericho and hid them in his tent. As a result of his disobedience, Achan and his entire family are stoned to death by all Israel while their possessions are burned.

In summary:

Joshua 7 presents:

Defeat at Ai distress among Israelites;

Sin in the camp violation of God's command;

Achan's confession punishment for disobedience.

Emphasis on defeat at Ai distress among Israelites;

Sin in the camp violation of God's command;

Achan's confession punishment for disobedience.

The chapter focuses on the defeat at Ai followed by an investigation into sin within the camp of Israel resulting from disobedience to God's commands. In Joshua 7, after experiencing victory at Jericho, Joshua sends a small force to conquer the city of Ai. However, they suffer a surprising defeat, causing great distress among the Israelites. Joshua and the elders seek answers from God, questioning why this defeat occurred.

Continuing in Joshua 7, God reveals that there is sin within the camp of Israel. It is disclosed that someone has violated His command by taking forbidden items from Jericho and hiding them in their tent. This act has brought a curse upon Israel, preventing them from being victorious in battle a consequence of disobedience.

Joshua 7 concludes with Achan's confession and punishment. Achan admits his guilt and reveals that he took a beautiful robe, silver, and gold from Jericho and hid them in his tent. As a result of his disobedience, Achan and his entire family are stoned to death by all Israel while their possessions are burned a severe punishment for violating God's commandment and bringing trouble upon the whole community.

Joshua 7:1 But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel.

The children of Israel disobeyed God by taking something that was cursed, and this caused God's anger to be kindled against them.

1. The Power of Disobedience: How Going Against God's Will Can Lead to Consequences

2. Learning to Obey God: The Value of Trusting in His Word

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known."

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - "My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you."

Joshua 7:2 And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Bethaven, on the east side of Bethel, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the country. &nbsp;And the men went up and viewed Ai.

Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is close to Bethaven and Bethel, to view the country.

1. Understanding the importance of exploring our faith journey.

2. Learning to trust God in times of uncertainty.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

Joshua 7:3 And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him, Let not all the people go up; but let about two or three thousand men go up and smite Ai; and make not all the people to labour thither; for they are but few.

The Israelites warned Joshua not to send all the people to Ai, suggesting that only two or three thousand should go, because the city was only populated by a few people.

1. The Power of Faith and Small Numbers

2. The Strength of Self-Restraint

1. Matthew 10:30 - "And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Joshua 7:4 So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men: and they fled before the men of Ai.

A group of three thousand men from the people of Israel went up to Ai, but they were defeated and fled.

1. Surrendering to God's Plan in Times of Defeat

2. The Strength of Faith in Times of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Joshua 7:5 And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them from before the gate even unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became as water.

The men of Ai defeated the Israelites, chasing them from the gate to Shebarim and killing 36 men. This caused the Israelites to become discouraged.

1: God will never leave us nor forsake us, no matter how discouraged we may become.

2: We can find strength and courage in the Lord, even in our darkest moments.

1: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Joshua 7:6 And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads.

Joshua and the elders of Israel demonstrated their grief and humility before God by rending their clothes and falling to the ground in front of the Ark of the Lord, while covering their heads with dust.

1. The Example of Humility: A Study in Joshua 7:6

2. Grief in the Face of Failure: A Study in Joshua 7:6

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

2. Psalm 22:29 - "All the wealthy of the people shall entreat thy face; in the gate they shall be humbled unto thee."

Joshua 7:7 And Joshua said, Alas, O LORD God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!

Joshua expresses his sorrow that God has led them into a situation where they are vulnerable to the Amorites and wishes they had stayed on the other side of the Jordan.

1. God's Plans Are Not Always Clear - Joshua 7:7

2. The Importance of Contentment - Joshua 7:7

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Joshua 7:8 O LORD, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!

The people of Israel are facing defeat in battle, and Joshua cries out to God in despair for help and guidance.

1. "A Cry for Help: When Defeat Seems Certain"

2. "The Lord Is Our Deliverer: Finding Strength in Times of Need"

1. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Joshua 7:9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear of it, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?

Joshua expresses fear to God that the Canaanites will hear of their recent defeat at Ai and will surround them and cut off their name from the earth, and asks what God will do to protect His great name.

1. God's name is greater than any adversary - Joshua 7:9

2. Faith in God's promises will triumph over any obstacle - Joshua 7:9

1. Isaiah 54:17 No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me, says the Lord.

2. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Joshua 7:10 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?

God speaks to Joshua, asking why he is lying on the ground.

1: We should never be too discouraged to seek God's guidance.

2: We must remain humble and open to God's direction.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Joshua 7:11 Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff.

Israel has violated God's covenant by taking and hiding forbidden items among their own belongings.

1. The Danger of Disobedience - We must be careful to obey God's commands, even when they are difficult.

2. The Importance of Covenant-Keeping - Keeping our promises to God is essential to a healthy relationship with Him.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Joshua 7:12 Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.

The Israelites are unable to stand against their enemies because they are cursed, and God will not help them until they remove the cursed from among them.

1. "The Curse of Sin: How It Affects Us and What We Can Do About It"

2. "How to Walk in God's Will and Stay Faithful"

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God warns the Israelites that if they disobey Him, they will be cursed and their enemies will overcome them.

2. Galatians 5:16-25 - Paul explains that believers are to live by the Spirit and not by the flesh, and that if they do, they will not be under the curse.

Joshua 7:13 Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.

God commands the people of Israel to get rid of any cursed thing among them in order to be able to stand against their enemies.

1. We Must Root Out Sin to Receive God's Protection

2. Recognizing and Overcoming the Curses in Our Lives

1. 1 John 1:8-9 - "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Joshua 7:14 In the morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your tribes: and it shall be, that the tribe which the LORD taketh shall come according to the families thereof; and the family which the LORD shall take shall come by households; and the household which the LORD shall take shall come man by man.

The Lord is about to take from the Israelites, starting with the tribes, then families, households, and finally each man individually.

1. The Lord's Plans and Provisions: Understanding God's Direction for our Lives

2. A Call to Obedience: Following God's Commands for a Blessed Life

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - And Samuel said, Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

Joshua 7:15 And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel.

The passage speaks of the punishment for breaking the covenant of the Lord and committing folly in Israel.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience Joshua 7:15

2. The Danger of Transgressing the Lord s Covenant Joshua 7:15

1. Leviticus 26:14-16 If you will not listen to the Lord and keep his commandments and statutes that he has commanded you, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-19 But if you will not obey the Lord your God by diligently observing to do all his commandments and his statutes, which I command you this day, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

Joshua 7:16 So Joshua rose up early in the morning, and brought Israel by their tribes; and the tribe of Judah was taken:

Joshua leads Israel to take the tribe of Judah:

1. Taking on Challenges: The Courage of Joshua

2. Strength in Unity: The Power of a Unified Israel

1. Deuteronomy 31:6-8 - Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Joshua 7:17 And he brought the family of Judah; and he took the family of the Zarhites: and he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man; and Zabdi was taken:

The Israelites sinned by taking and keeping the plunder from the city of Jericho, and God demanded that they confess their sin and return what they had taken. Zabdi was taken as the representative for Judah's family.

1. God's justice and mercy are in perfect balance.

2. God's ways are higher than our ways, and we must always be willing to obey Him.

1. Leviticus 5:5-6 - When a person is guilty of a sin that carries a penalty of a guilt offering, he must confess his sin and bring to the Lord as his penalty a female lamb or goat from the flock.

6. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Joshua 7:18 And he brought his household man by man; and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

Achan, a man from the tribe of Judah, was taken from his household.

1. God will judge those who turn away from Him.

2. We must be faithful to the Lord even when it s difficult.

1. Matthew 22:1-14 - The Parable of the Wedding Feast

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Joshua 7:19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide it not from me.

Joshua commanded Achan to glorify and confess to the Lord God of Israel, and to tell him what he had done, without hiding anything.

1. Understanding and Acknowledging God's Power

2. The Importance of Confession

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Joshua 7:20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:

Achan admits to disobeying the Lord and confesses his sin.

1. "The Value of Confession: Achan's Example"

2. "The Power of Obedience: Learning from Achan's Mistake"

1. James 5:16 "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

2. Romans 6:16 "Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?"

Joshua 7:21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

Achan found a Babylonish garment, 200 shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold in the spoils of battle and took them, hiding them in the ground at the midst of his tent with the silver underneath.

1. The Danger of Covetousness

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Galatians 6:7 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap."

Joshua 7:22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it.

Joshua's discovery of Achan's hidden sin.

1: Sin is often hidden, but God will always reveal it in His own time.

2: Sin has consequences, but God's mercy is greater.

1: Proverbs 28:13 - Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Joshua 7:23 And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD.

Joshua and the Israelites brought the stolen goods from the tent they had raided to Joshua and the other Israelites, and laid them out before the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Can Bring Blessings

2. The Importance of Honesty: Choosing Righteousness Over Deception

1. Deuteronomy 5:16-20 Honor God by Obeying His Commands

2. Proverbs 11:1 Honesty Leads to Integrity and Righteousness

Joshua 7:24 And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.

Joshua and all of Israel took Achan, his family, and all of his possessions and brought them to the valley of Achor.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Joshua 7:24

2. The Power of God's Justice - Joshua 7:24

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Joshua 7:25 And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.

Joshua commanded that all of Israel stone Achan and burn him with fire for troubling them.

1. The Consequence of Disobeying God: Achan's Story

2. The Power of Obedience: Israel's Example

1. Luke 6:37-38 - "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Joshua 7:26 And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Wherefore the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, unto this day.

The Israelites built a pile of stones as a memorial to commemorate God's mercy and forgiveness, and the place was called the Valley of Achor.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - How do we apply the message of the Valley of Achor to our own lives?

2. The Unconditional Love of God - Reflecting on God's mercy and grace in the Valley of Achor.

1. Luke 23:34 - Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

2. Micah 7:18-19 - Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Joshua 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 8:1-17 describes the second conquest of Ai. God instructs Joshua to take the entire fighting force and set an ambush behind the city. They are to use a strategy similar to the one employed against Jericho, but this time they are allowed to plunder the city and livestock. Joshua follows God's instructions, and they successfully defeat Ai. The king of Ai is captured and executed, and the city is burned.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 8:18-29, it is recorded that after conquering Ai, Joshua builds an altar on Mount Ebal as instructed by Moses. He writes a copy of the law of Moses on stones before all Israel while they stand between Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim the mountains representing blessings and curses respectively. This ceremony serves as a reminder of God's covenant with Israel and His expectations for their obedience.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 8 concludes with an emphasis on obedience to God's commands in Joshua 8:30-35. Joshua reads aloud all the words of the law the blessings and curses as written in the Book of the Law before all Israel men, women, children, foreigners included reaffirming their commitment to obeying Yahweh's commandments.

In summary:

Joshua 8 presents:

Second conquest of Ai successful ambush;

Building altar on Mount Ebal remembrance of covenant;

Reading aloud Book of Law reaffirmation of obedience.

Emphasis on second conquest of Ai successful ambush;

Building altar on Mount Ebal remembrance of covenant;

Reading aloud Book of Law reaffirmation of obedience.

The chapter focuses on the second conquest of Ai through a successful ambush strategy, building an altar on Mount Ebal as a remembrance of the covenant, and the reading aloud of the Book of Law to reaffirm obedience. In Joshua 8, God instructs Joshua to take the entire fighting force and set an ambush behind Ai. They follow God's instructions, defeat Ai, capture its king, and burn the city a victory that contrasts with their initial defeat at Ai.

Continuing in Joshua 8, after conquering Ai, Joshua builds an altar on Mount Ebal as instructed by Moses. He writes a copy of the law on stones before all Israel while they stand between Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim a ceremony that symbolizes blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience. This serves as a reminder of God's covenant with Israel and His expectations for their faithfulness.

Joshua 8 concludes with an emphasis on obedience to God's commands. Joshua reads aloud all the words of the law the blessings and curses as written in the Book of the Law before all Israel men, women, children, foreigners included reaffirming their commitment to obeying Yahweh's commandments. This public reading reinforces their understanding of God's expectations and underscores the importance of obedience in maintaining their covenant relationship with Him.

Joshua 8:1 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear not, neither be thou dismayed: take all the people of war with thee, and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the king of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land:

Joshua leads the Israelites to conquer Ai and take possession of the land:

1. The Lord is with us, so we should not fear any obstacles in our path.

2. Through faith and courage, we can overcome any challenge.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Joshua 8:2 And thou shalt do to Ai and her king as thou didst unto Jericho and her king: only the spoil thereof, and the cattle thereof, shall ye take for a prey unto yourselves: lay thee an ambush for the city behind it.

Joshua is instructed to do to the city of Ai and its king the same as what was done to the city of Jericho and its king, only taking the spoils and cattle as a reward.

1. God s justice is both fair and consistent.

2. God s reward comes with obedience and faithfulness.

1. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.

2. Psalm 37:3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.

Joshua 8:3 So Joshua arose, and all the people of war, to go up against Ai: and Joshua chose out thirty thousand mighty men of valour, and sent them away by night.

Joshua leads an army to conquer Ai: Joshua chose 30,000 mighty men of valour and sent them away by night.

1. "The Power of Purpose: Using Our Gifts to Conquer Obstacles"

2. "Rising to the Challenge: God s Strength in Doing the Difficult"

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil."

Joshua 8:4 And he commanded them, saying, Behold, ye shall lie in wait against the city, even behind the city: go not very far from the city, but be ye all ready:

The Lord instructed the Israelites to lie in wait behind the city of Ai, being ready to attack.

1. The Power of Obedience: Demonstrated through the Israelites in Joshua 8:4

2. The Importance of Preparation: Lessons from the Israelites in Joshua 8:4

1. Proverbs 21:5 - "The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty."

2. Matthew 25:1-13 - Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Joshua 8:5 And I, and all the people that are with me, will approach unto the city: and it shall come to pass, when they come out against us, as at the first, that we will flee before them,

Passage All the people with Joshua will approach the city, and when the enemy comes out to fight, they will flee.

1. Don't be afraid of the enemy, God will protect you.

2. Trust in God's plan, even when it looks like you're retreating.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Psalm 18:29 - "For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall."

Joshua 8:6 (For they will come out after us) till we have drawn them from the city; for they will say, They flee before us, as at the first: therefore we will flee before them.

The passage speaks about how enemies will come out of the city and will think the Israelites are fleeing before them.

1. God is always with us in times of fear and uncertainty.

2. Even when we appear to be fleeing, God is with us and can lead us to victory.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Joshua 8:7 Then ye shall rise up from the ambush, and seize upon the city: for the LORD your God will deliver it into your hand.

Joshua and the Israelites are commanded to ambush a city and take it, as the LORD will give them victory.

1. God's Promises: Relying on the Faithfulness of the LORD

2. Overcoming Challenges Through Trusting in the LORD

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

Joshua 8:8 And it shall be, when ye have taken the city, that ye shall set the city on fire: according to the commandment of the LORD shall ye do. See, I have commanded you.

God commands the Israelites to take the city and set it on fire according to His command.

1. Obeying God in the midst of chaos

2. The power of faith to stand firm in obedience to God

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Joshua 8:9 Joshua therefore sent them forth: and they went to lie in ambush, and abode between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of Ai: but Joshua lodged that night among the people.

Joshua sent two groups to lie in ambush between Bethel and Ai on the west side of Ai, while he himself stayed with the people.

1. The importance of having a plan and trusting God to carry it out.

2. The power of intercessory prayer and what it can accomplish.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

Joshua 8:10 And Joshua rose up early in the morning, and numbered the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai.

Joshua led the Israelites in a victory over the city of Ai.

1. Victory comes through faithfulness to God.

2. The power of leadership and commitment.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

Joshua 8:11 And all the people, even the people of war that were with him, went up, and drew nigh, and came before the city, and pitched on the north side of Ai: now there was a valley between them and Ai.

The people of Israel, led by Joshua, went up to Ai and camped on its north side. There was a valley between Ai and them.

1. The importance of God's guidance in our lives.

2. Trusting God in the midst of challenges.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Joshua 8:12 And he took about five thousand men, and set them to lie in ambush between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.

Joshua took 5000 men and set them in ambush between the cities of Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.

1. God uses everyday people to do extraordinary things.

2. God s power is not limited by our limited understanding.

1. Matthew 28:20 - teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you

2. 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 - My speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Joshua 8:13 And when they had set the people, even all the host that was on the north of the city, and their liers in wait on the west of the city, Joshua went that night into the midst of the valley.

Joshua and the Israelites set up an ambush around the city of Ai, with people stationed north and west of the city. Joshua then went into the valley during the night.

1. God's protection and provision always precedes our victory.

2. God honors those who obey His commands.

1. Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 8:14 And it came to pass, when the king of Ai saw it, that they hasted and rose up early, and the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people, at a time appointed, before the plain; but he wist not that there were liers in ambush against him behind the city.

The king of Ai saw the Israelites and went out to battle against them at a time appointed, unaware of the ambush behind the city.

1. We need to be wise and mindful of potential dangers around us.

2. God can protect us from danger even when we are unaware.

1. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Psalm 91:11 - For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Joshua 8:15 And Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the wilderness.

Joshua and the Israelites pretended to be defeated in battle and fled from their enemies.

1. How to Be Courageous in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of Integrity in Challenging Situations

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Joshua 8:16 And all the people that were in Ai were called together to pursue after them: and they pursued after Joshua, and were drawn away from the city.

The people of Ai were called to pursue Joshua and his army, and were drawn away from the city.

1. God can use even the most unlikely of people to accomplish His will.

2. The Lord is faithful to guide us through difficult times.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 73:26 - My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Joshua 8:17 And there was not a man left in Ai or Bethel, that went not out after Israel: and they left the city open, and pursued after Israel.

The inhabitants of Ai and Bethel followed Israel in pursuit, leaving their own cities open and unprotected.

1: We must be brave and obedient to God, even if it means leaving our own safety and security behind.

2: We must be willing to follow God's will, even if it means leaving our own comfort zone.

1: Hebrews 11:8- By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2: Matthew 10:37-38 Whoever loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.

Joshua 8:18 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Stretch out the spear that is in thy hand toward Ai; for I will give it into thine hand. And Joshua stretched out the spear that he had in his hand toward the city.

God instructed Joshua to stretch out his spear towards the city of Ai, which God promised to give into Joshua's hand.

1. God's Promises - Trust and Obedience

2. God's Power - Faith and Miracles

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Joshua 8:19 And the ambush arose quickly out of their place, and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand: and they entered into the city, and took it, and hasted and set the city on fire.

The ambush sprung into action when Joshua gave the signal, and they took the city and set it alight.

1. The Power of Obedience - how following the Lord's commands can bring unexpected success.

2. The Swiftness of Faith - trusting and acting on God's word can bring powerful results.

1. John 15:7 - "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it will be done for you."

2. James 2:17-18 - "Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

Joshua 8:20 And when the men of Ai looked behind them, they saw, and, behold, the smoke of the city ascended up to heaven, and they had no power to flee this way or that way: and the people that fled to the wilderness turned back upon the pursuers.

The men of Ai were unable to escape the pursuing Israelites and were forced to turn back.

1: When it feels like we are stuck, God can open the way for us.

2: Surrendering to God's will brings freedom and peace.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 43:19 - See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Joshua 8:21 And when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, then they turned again, and slew the men of Ai.

Joshua and the Israelites ambushed the city of Ai, causing smoke to ascend from the city. Upon seeing this, they turned and slew the men of Ai.

1. God's power is greater than any earthly force.

2. Even when facing overwhelming odds, we must trust in the Lord.

1. Isaiah 40:29: He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Isaiah 41:10: Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 8:22 And the other issued out of the city against them; so they were in the midst of Israel, some on this side, and some on that side: and they smote them, so that they let none of them remain or escape.

Israel fought against the city of Ai and killed all of those inside, allowing none to escape.

1. The power of faith: when we trust in God and His promises, He will bring us victory.

2. The importance of obedience: when God calls us to a task, it is important to obey Him and follow through.

1. Romans 8:37: "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Deuteronomy 28:7: "The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways."

Joshua 8:23 And the king of Ai they took alive, and brought him to Joshua.

The people of Israel captured the king of Ai alive, and presented him to Joshua.

1. The Power of Faith: How trusting in God leads to victory

2. The Value of Mercy: How showing mercy can bring about transformation

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Joshua 8:24 And it came to pass, when Israel had made an end of slaying all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness wherein they chased them, and when they were all fallen on the edge of the sword, until they were consumed, that all the Israelites returned unto Ai, and smote it with the edge of the sword.

Passage After the Israelites had killed all the inhabitants of Ai in the wilderness, they returned to Ai and killed it with the sword.

1. God's Justice: The Destruction of Ai

2. The Power of Obedience: Israel's Victory

1. Deuteronomy 7:2, And when the Lord your God delivers them over to you, you must conquer them and completely destroy them. You must make no covenant with them and show them no mercy.

2. Joshua 6:21, They utterly destroyed everything in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

Joshua 8:25 And so it was, that all that fell that day, both of men and women, were twelve thousand, even all the men of Ai.

The total number of casualties in the battle of Ai was 12,000 men and women.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the fulfillment of His promises to His people.

2. We must remember to trust in the Lord, even when the odds seem stacked against us.

1. Joshua 1:5-9 - "No man shall be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

2. Psalm 20:7-8 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God. They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.

Joshua 8:26 For Joshua drew not his hand back, wherewith he stretched out the spear, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.

Joshua's unwavering commitment to God's commands led to the utter destruction of the inhabitants of Ai.

1. Faithful Obedience: The Key to Victory

2. The Power of Dedication and Commitment

1. Proverbs 16:3 Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

2. James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Joshua 8:27 Only the cattle and the spoil of that city Israel took for a prey unto themselves, according unto the word of the LORD which he commanded Joshua.

Joshua and the Israelites conquered the city of Ai and they took the spoils of war as the Lord commanded Joshua.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing - God promised Israel a victory if they followed Him and He kept His promise.

2. The Power of Faithful Prayer - When Joshua prayed, God answered and granted him the victory.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Deuteronomy 28:7 - The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

Joshua 8:28 And Joshua burnt Ai, and made it an heap for ever, even a desolation unto this day.

Joshua burnt the city of Ai and made it a desolation forever.

1. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Difficulties with God's Help

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commands

1. Joshua 24:15 - But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Joshua 8:29 And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree until eventide: and as soon as the sun was down, Joshua commanded that they should take his carcase down from the tree, and cast it at the entering of the gate of the city, and raise thereon a great heap of stones, that remaineth unto this day.

Joshua commanded that the king of Ai be hanged on a tree until sunset, and that his body be taken down and thrown at the entrance of the city, with a pile of stones being built to mark the spot.

1. The Greatness of God's Justice and Mercy

2. The Immeasurable Cost of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 49:15-16 - Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Joshua 8:30 Then Joshua built an altar unto the LORD God of Israel in mount Ebal,

Joshua built an altar to honor the Lord God of Israel on Mount Ebal.

1. Remembering God's Faithfulness: The Story of Joshua and the Altar at Mount Ebal

2. Knowing God's Call: The Example of Joshua and Mount Ebal

1. Deuteronomy 27:1-4

2. Joshua 24:15-25

Joshua 8:31 As Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones, over which no man hath lift up any iron: and they offered thereon burnt offerings unto the LORD, and sacrificed peace offerings.

The children of Israel obeyed Moses' command and built an altar of uncut stones, and they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings to the LORD.

1. The Obedience of Faith - How our faithfulness to God's commands brings Him glory

2. The Sacrifice of Praise - How offering our whole selves in worship brings Him honor

1. 1 Samuel 15:22 - Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice..."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Let us continuously offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Joshua 8:32 And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel.

Moses wrote a copy of the law of Moses on stones in the presence of the children of Israel.

1. Living by the Law of Moses

2. The Importance of Obeying the Law of God

1. Deuteronomy 31:9-13

2. Psalm 119:97-105

Joshua 8:33 And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and their judges, stood on this side the ark and on that side before the priests the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, as well the stranger, as he that was born among them; half of them over against mount Gerizim, and half of them over against mount Ebal; as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel.

All of Israel, including the elders, officers, and judges, stood before the priests and Levites who held the ark of the covenant of the LORD, both strangers and natives. Half of the people were on Mount Gerizim and the other half on Mount Ebal in accordance with Moses' instructions to bless the people of Israel.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: How We Reap the Rewards of Following God's Will

2. The Power of Unity: How Putting Our Differences Aside Brings Us Closer to God

1. Deuteronomy 27:4-8 - Moses commands the people of Israel to obey the laws and receive blessings

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 - Paul emphasizes that we are all part of the same body of Christ, despite our differences.

Joshua 8:34 And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law.

Joshua read aloud from the book of the law, which included both blessings and curses.

1. The Blessings and Curses of Obedience

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Faithfulness to God

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14

2. Joshua 1:7-9

Joshua 8:35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them.

Joshua read aloud all of the commands given by Moses to the entire congregation of Israel, including the women, children, and strangers.

1. The Importance of Obedience - A lesson from Joshua 8:35 on the power of following God's commands.

2. The Power of Community - How Joshua 8:35 shows the importance of gathering together as a church body.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - The Shema, the Jewish creed outlining the importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - The early church gathering together in community and following the teachings of the apostles.

Joshua 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 9:1-15 describes the deceit of the Gibeonites. Upon hearing about the victories of Israel, the inhabitants of Gibeon and nearby cities become afraid and resort to deception. They disguise themselves as travelers from a distant land and approach Joshua and the Israelite leaders, pretending to seek a treaty. They present worn-out clothes, old sandals, and moldy bread as evidence that they have traveled from afar. Without seeking God's counsel, Joshua and the leaders make a covenant with them.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 9:16-21, it is revealed that after three days, Joshua discovers that the Gibeonites are actually nearby neighbors who deceived them. Despite realizing their deception, Joshua and the leaders honor their covenant not to harm them because they had sworn by Yahweh's name. However, they assign them to be woodcutters and water carriers for all Israel a consequence of their deceitful actions.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 9 concludes with an emphasis on God's sovereignty in Joshua 9:22-27. When confronted by Joshua about their deception, the Gibeonites admit their fear of Israel's God and acknowledge that they had heard about His mighty deeds. As a result of sparing them due to their oath made in Yahweh's name, Joshua makes them dwell among Israel but ensures they serve in lowly positions as woodcutters and water carriers a reminder of their deceptive tactics.

In summary:

Joshua 9 presents:

Deceit of Gibeonites pretending to seek a treaty;

Discovery of deception honoring covenant despite deceit;

Gibeonites' punishment assigned lowly positions.

Emphasis on deceit of Gibeonites pretending to seek a treaty;

Discovery of deception honoring covenant despite deceit;

Gibeonites' punishment assigned lowly positions.

The chapter focuses on the deceitful actions of the Gibeonites, the discovery of their deception, and the consequences they face. In Joshua 9, upon hearing about Israel's victories, the inhabitants of Gibeon and nearby cities resort to deception. They disguise themselves as travelers from a distant land and approach Joshua and the Israelite leaders, pretending to seek a treaty. Without seeking God's counsel, Joshua and the leaders make a covenant with them based on their deceptive presentation.

Continuing in Joshua 9, after three days, Joshua discovers that the Gibeonites are actually nearby neighbors who deceived them. Despite realizing their deception, Joshua and the leaders honor their covenant not to harm them because they had sworn by Yahweh's name. However, as a consequence of their deceitful actions, they are assigned to be woodcutters and water carriers for all Israel a position that reflects their deceptive tactics.

Joshua 9 concludes with an emphasis on God's sovereignty. When confronted by Joshua about their deception, the Gibeonites admit their fear of Israel's God and acknowledge that they had heard about His mighty deeds. Due to sparing them based on their oath made in Yahweh's name, Joshua makes them dwell among Israel but ensures they serve in lowly positions as woodcutters and water carriers a reminder of both God's justice and His ability to work through even deceptive situations for His purposes.

Joshua 9:1 And it came to pass, when all the kings which were on this side Jordan, in the hills, and in the valleys, and in all the coasts of the great sea over against Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard thereof;

All the kings east of the Jordan River heard about the Israelites and gathered together to form an alliance against them.

1. The Power of Unity - How working together for a common cause can bring strength in times of difficulty.

2. Standing Firm in Faith - How trusting in God can bring peace and strength in the face of adversity.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Joshua 9:2 That they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord.

The people of Canaan gathered together to fight against Joshua and the Israelites.

1: Our unity is a strength that can be used to stand against any adversary.

2: God will grant us victory when we come together as one.

1: Psalm 133:1-3 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

2: Ephesians 4:3-6 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Joshua 9:3 And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai,

Joshua's victory at Jericho and Ai inspired the Gibeonites to seek a peace treaty with Joshua.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises brings victory even when it is unexpected.

2. God's mercy is extended even to those who do not deserve it.

1. Joshua 10:14 - "And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the Lord fought for Israel."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Joshua 9:4 They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up;

This passage describes a strategy used by the Gibeonites to deceive Joshua and the Israelites into making a peace treaty.

1. We must be wise and discerning in the decisions that we make.

2. We must strive to stand on the truth despite the lies of others.

1. Proverbs 14:15 "The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going."

2. Ephesians 4:14 "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."

Joshua 9:5 And old shoes and clouted upon their feet, and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry and mouldy.

The Israelites encountered a group of people who were in need of food and clothing. They had worn clothing and dry, mouldy bread.

1. The Lord Calls Us to Care for Those in Need

2. Understanding God's Provision in Times of Need

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

2. James 2:15-17 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

Joshua 9:6 And they went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal, and said unto him, and to the men of Israel, We be come from a far country: now therefore make ye a league with us.

A group of people from a far country come to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal and ask him to make a covenant with them.

1. God is always ready to forgive and offer a covenant to those who come to him in faith.

2. Be open to making covenants with those who come to you in peace.

1. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2. Luke 1:67-75 - And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people

69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,

70 as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

71 that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us;

72 to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant,

Joshua 9:7 And the men of Israel said unto the Hivites, Peradventure ye dwell among us; and how shall we make a league with you?

The men of Israel asked the Hivites if they wanted to make a league with them, since the Hivites were already living among them.

1. The Importance of Making Connections: Building Relationships with Others

2. The Value of Working Together: The Benefits of Unity

1. Romans 12:15-18 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

2. Proverbs 12:18 - There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Joshua 9:8 And they said unto Joshua, We are thy servants. And Joshua said unto them, Who are ye? and from whence come ye?

The people of Gibeon asked Joshua to make a treaty with them, and Joshua wanted to know more about them before agreeing.

1. We can learn from Joshua's example of taking time to get to know people before making a commitment.

2. God can use us to fulfill His plans, even when we don't know the full story.

1. John 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

2. Proverbs 15:22, "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established."

Joshua 9:9 And they said unto him, From a very far country thy servants are come because of the name of the LORD thy God: for we have heard the fame of him, and all that he did in Egypt,

The Gibeonites heard about the fame of the Lord and his power in Egypt and traveled a great distance to meet with the Israelites.

1. God's Fame Precedes Him: How Our Actions Speak Louder Than Words

2. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Leads to Lasting Success

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts"

2. Psalm 34:3-4 "O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears"

Joshua 9:10 And all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites, that were beyond Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, which was at Ashtaroth.

This passage describes God's victory over the two kings of the Amorites, Sihon and Og, who were located beyond the Jordan River.

1: God's power is unmatched. He has the ability to overcome any obstacle and grant us victory.

2: God's might is seen in his victories over formidable foes. We can trust that no matter the challenge, God will be with us and bring us to success.

1: Isaiah 45:2-3 "I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel."

2: Psalm 33:16-17 "The king is not saved by his great army; a mighty man is not delivered by his much strength. A horse is a vain thing for safety; neither shall he deliver any by his great strength."

Joshua 9:11 Wherefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spake to us, saying, Take victuals with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say unto them, We are your servants: therefore now make ye a league with us.

The elders and inhabitants of the country told the people to take food with them and meet with the strangers, offering to become their servants in exchange for a league.

1. Choose Service Over Fear - Joshua 9:11

2. Building Relationships Through Mutual Respect - Joshua 9:11

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaches us to be servants of all

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Paul encourages humility and selflessness

Joshua 9:12 This our bread we took hot for our provision out of our houses on the day we came forth to go unto you; but now, behold, it is dry, and it is mouldy:

The Israelites took fresh bread with them when they set out to meet the Gibeonites, but when they arrived the bread had gone bad.

1. The Perils of Procrastination: Why We Should Act Quickly

2. The Blessing of Provisions: God's Provision in Times of Need

1. Deuteronomy 8:3, "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live."

2. Genesis 22:14, "And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen."

Joshua 9:13 And these bottles of wine, which we filled, were new; and, behold, they be rent: and these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey.

The Israelites filled new bottles of wine on their journey, but their garments and shoes became old due to the length of the journey.

1. God can use the new and the old: God can use the new and the old to accomplish his purpose.

2. Be prepared for the journey: When embarking on a journey, it is important to be prepared for the unexpected.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Joshua 9:14 And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD.

The men of Israel took supplies from the Gibeonites without consulting God for direction.

1. Trusting God in Every Situation

2. The Power of Seeking God's Wisdom

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Joshua 9:15 And Joshua made peace with them, and made a league with them, to let them live: and the princes of the congregation sware unto them.

Joshua made a covenant with the Gibeonites, allowing them to live and the princes of Israel swore to it.

1: Through Joshua and the princes of Israel, God showed mercy and mercy should be extended to all.

2: The Gibeonites and the covenant between them and Israel is an example of God's faithfulness and loyalty.

1: Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

2: Psalm 89:34 - "My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of my lips."

Joshua 9:16 And it came to pass at the end of three days after they had made a league with them, that they heard that they were their neighbours, and that they dwelt among them.

The Gibeonites made a league with the Israelites after three days, and the Israelites soon found out that the Gibeonites were their neighbors.

1: We can learn from the Israelites to take the time to get to know our neighbors.

2: God can teach us through our neighbors if we take the time to build relationships.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2: Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Joshua 9:17 And the children of Israel journeyed, and came unto their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kirjathjearim.

The Israelites journeyed and arrived at four cities: Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kirjathjearim on the third day.

1. The Power of Perseverance: How the Israelites Triumphed Through Adversity

2. The Strength of Unity: How the Israelites Overcame Difficulties Together

1. Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

2. Psalm 37:23-24 The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

Joshua 9:18 And the children of Israel smote them not, because the princes of the congregation had sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the princes.

The princes of the congregation had made a promise to the Gibeonites that the Israelites would not attack them, however the congregation did not agree and murmured against the princes.

1: We must be true to our word, even when faced with opposition.

2: We must trust in the Lord and have faith that He will provide.

1: Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

2: James 5:12 - But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

Joshua 9:19 But all the princes said unto all the congregation, We have sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel: now therefore we may not touch them.

The princes of Israel refused to break their oath to the Gibeonites.

1. We must always keep our promises even when it is inconvenient.

2. The importance of the integrity of our word.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.' But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all. Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No.' Anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Joshua 9:20 This we will do to them; we will even let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we sware unto them.

The Israelites, bound by an oath, chose to spare their enemies and let them live, even though it could bring wrath upon themselves.

1. Keeping Promises: The Story of the Israelites

2. Oaths and Obligation: Understanding the Consequences of Our Words

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teaching on oaths

2. Exodus 23:1-2 - God's command not to make false promises

Joshua 9:21 And the princes said unto them, Let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them.

The princes of Israel allowed the Gibeonites to live, but required them to be servants to the community, fulfilling the promise the princes had made to them.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How the Princes of Israel Showed Mercy to the Gibeonites

2. Keeping Our Promises: How the Princes of Israel Kept Their Word to the Gibeonites

1. Colossians 3:13 - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Joshua 9:22 And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying, Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We are very far from you; when ye dwell among us?

Joshua confronts the Gibeonites about deceiving him and the Israelites into believing they were from a distant land when they were really living nearby.

1. The Danger of Deception: How to Avoid Being Deceived

2. God Sees All: Learning to be Honest and Transparent

1. Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

2. Colossians 3:9 - "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices."

Joshua 9:23 Now therefore ye are cursed, and there shall none of you be freed from being bondmen, and hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.

The Gibeonites deceived the Israelites, so as a result they were cursed and were to become bondservants of Israel, forced to do hard labor such as hewing wood and drawing water for the house of God.

1. God's justice is always served - Joshua 9:23

2. The danger of deceiving God's people - Joshua 9:23

1. Deuteronomy 28:48 Therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of all things; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you.

2. Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.

Joshua 9:24 And they answered Joshua, and said, Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you, therefore we were sore afraid of our lives because of you, and have done this thing.

Joshua 9:24 is about how the Gibeonites tricked Joshua and the Israelites into making a covenant with them, by claiming that they were from a distant land.

1. We must be wise to avoid being tricked by those who make false claims.

2. We must be obedient to God s commands, even when it is difficult.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Joshua 9:25 And now, behold, we are in thine hand: as it seemeth good and right unto thee to do unto us, do.

The Gibeonites ask Joshua to do with them as he sees fit.

1. Submitting to God's will in all circumstances.

2. Trusting in God's discernment and guidance.

1. Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2. Psalm 25:12-14 What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth. The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

Joshua 9:26 And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not.

The Israelites spared the Gibeonites and did not kill them, despite their deception.

1. God's grace is bigger than our mistakes.

2. Compassion conquers deceit.

1. Romans 5:20-21 But where sin increased, grace multiplied all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace will reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Joshua 9:27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.

Joshua made a covenant with the Gibeonites, appointing them to do manual labor for the Israelites, and this agreement was still in effect at the time of writing.

1. The power of covenant: upholding our promises even when it's difficult.

2. The importance of discernment and wisdom in making decisions.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:5 - Better not to make a vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it.

2. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes anything, but the prudent gives thought to their steps.

Joshua 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 10:1-15 describes the conquest of the southern Canaanite kings. Adoni-Zedek, the king of Jerusalem, forms an alliance with four other Amorite kings to fight against Joshua and the Israelites. However, Joshua receives a message from God assuring him of victory. The Israelite army marches all night to surprise attack their enemies and defeats them with a hailstorm and extended daylight. The five kings flee and hide in a cave while Joshua orders large stones to be placed over its entrance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 10:16-28, it is recorded that after the battle, Joshua brings out the captured kings and commands his men to put their feet on their necks a symbolic act of triumph over their enemies. The southern cities are then conquered one by one by Israel as they advance further into Canaan's territory.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 10 concludes with an emphasis on further conquests and victories in Joshua 10:29-43. The chapter records various battles where numerous cities are captured by Israel. From Makkedah to Libnah, Lachish, Gezer, Eglon, Hebron, Debir, and more Joshua leads the Israelites in conquering these territories according to God's commandments.

In summary:

Joshua 10 presents:

Conquest of southern Canaanite kings victory assured by God;

Symbolic act over defeated kings triumph proclaimed;

Further conquests cities captured according to God's commandments.

Emphasis on conquest of southern Canaanite kings victory assured by God;

Symbolic act over defeated kings triumph proclaimed;

Further conquests cities captured according to God's commandments.

The chapter focuses on the conquest of the southern Canaanite kings, a symbolic act over the defeated kings, and further conquests of various cities in Canaan. In Joshua 10, Adoni-Zedek, the king of Jerusalem, forms an alliance with four other Amorite kings to fight against Joshua and the Israelites. However, Joshua receives a message from God assuring him of victory. The Israelite army surprises their enemies with a night march and defeats them through divine intervention a hailstorm and extended daylight. The five kings flee and hide in a cave while Joshua orders stones to be placed over its entrance.

Continuing in Joshua 10, after the battle, Joshua brings out the captured kings and commands his men to put their feet on their necks a symbolic act proclaiming triumph over their enemies. This act signifies their complete victory over these southern Canaanite kings. Subsequently, Israel continues its conquests by capturing various cities one by one according to God's commandments Makkedah, Libnah, Lachish, Gezer, Eglon, Hebron, Debir, among others.

Joshua 10 concludes with an emphasis on further conquests and victories as recorded in various battles where numerous cities are captured by Israel. From Makkedah to Libnah, Lachish to Gezer Joshua leads the Israelites in fulfilling God's commandments for conquering these territories as they continue their campaign throughout Canaan.

Joshua 10:1 Now it came to pass, when Adonizedec king of Jerusalem had heard how Joshua had taken Ai, and had utterly destroyed it; as he had done to Jericho and her king, so he had done to Ai and her king; and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel, and were among them;

Adonizedec, the king of Jerusalem, heard of the victories of the Israelites led by Joshua in taking the cities of Ai and Jericho, and of how Gibeon had made peace with Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: Lessons from Joshua 10

2. God's Sovereignty: How He Directs History

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Joshua 10:2 That they feared greatly, because Gibeon was a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all the men thereof were mighty.

Joshua and the Israelites were greatly afraid of Gibeon due to its size and strength.

1. God often calls us to do great things despite our fear.

2. We should not let fear paralyze us from doing God's will.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."

Joshua 10:3 Wherefore Adonizedec king of Jerusalem sent unto Hoham king of Hebron, and unto Piram king of Jarmuth, and unto Japhia king of Lachish, and unto Debir king of Eglon, saying,

Adonizedec, the king of Jerusalem, sent a message to Hoham (king of Hebron), Piram (king of Jarmuth), Japhia (king of Lachish), and Debir (king of Eglon).

1. "The Power of Unity"

2. "The Importance of Connecting with Others"

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Joshua 10:4 Come up unto me, and help me, that we may smite Gibeon: for it hath made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.

Joshua calls on the people of Israel to join him in order to attack the city of Gibeon, who had made peace with the Israelites.

1. God has a mission for us all, and sometimes we must take risks in order to accomplish it.

2. We must not forget the importance of peace, even in times of conflict.

1. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

2. Isaiah 2:4 - He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Joshua 10:5 Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together, and went up, they and all their hosts, and encamped before Gibeon, and made war against it.

The five kings of the Amorites united and went to battle against the city of Gibeon.

1: Unity in the face of adversity brings strength and courage.

2: We must trust God to fight for us in the midst of our battles.

1: Ephesians 6:10-18 - Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

2: 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Joshua 10:6 And the men of Gibeon sent unto Joshua to the camp to Gilgal, saying, Slack not thy hand from thy servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us: for all the kings of the Amorites that dwell in the mountains are gathered together against us.

The people of Gibeon sent a plea to Joshua asking for his help against the kings of the Amorites who were attacking them.

1. God is our help in times of trouble (Psalm 46:1).

2. We must be willing to help our neighbor in need (Galatians 6:2).

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Galatians 6:2 - Carry each other s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Joshua 10:7 So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he, and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valour.

Joshua leads the army to victory against their enemies.

1. God is with us in our battles, knowing that He will bring us to victory.

2. Victory comes from trusting in God and relying on Him for strength.

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Joshua 10:8 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.

God's promise of protection and victory.

1: God promises to protect and provide victory for His people.

2: God will never leave us nor forsake us and will always be with us in the midst of our struggles.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

2: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Joshua 10:9 Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all night.

Joshua led the Israelites to a sudden victory over the Amorites.

1: When facing seemingly insurmountable obstacles, have faith that God will provide a way to success.

2: Trust in the Lord to deliver you from all your enemies.

1: Isaiah 43:2 - When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Joshua 10:10 And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.

God enabled Israel to defeat their enemies with a mighty victory at Gibeon.

1: God is powerful and He will protect His people when they put their trust in Him.

2: Fear not, for the Lord is with us and will give us victory.

1: Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 10:11 And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.

The Lord destroyed enemies of Israel with hailstones from Heaven, causing more deaths than were caused by Israel's sword.

1. God is the ultimate judge and defender of his people.

2. God's power is infinitely greater than the power of man.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Ezekiel 20:33-34 - As I live, declares the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out I will be king over you. I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out.

Joshua 10:12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.

Joshua commanded the sun and moon to stand still in the battle against the Amorites.

1: God gives us the power to stand still and trust in Him in any battle we face.

2: We must trust in God's power and timing for the outcome of our battles.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Joshua 10:13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

God's miraculous power is demonstrated in the story of Joshua's victory against his enemies, where He made the sun and moon stand still until the battle was won.

1. The Miraculous Power of God: A Study of Joshua 10:13

2. God's Miraculous Interventions: Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 78:12-13 - "He divided the sea and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters stand up like a heap. He led them with the cloud by day and all the night with a light of fire."

2. Isaiah 40:25-26 - "To whom then will you liken Me, or to whom shall I be equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these things, who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, by the greatness of His might and the strength of His power; not one is missing."

Joshua 10:14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.

On this day, the LORD hearkened to the voice of a man and fought for Israel.

1. "The Power of One Voice: How God Listens"

2. "God's Unconditional Faithfulness to His People"

1. Psalm 46:7-11 "The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah."

2. Isaiah 41:10-13 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

Joshua 10:15 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

After defeating the Amorite kings, Joshua and the Israelites returned to their camp in Gilgal.

1. "The Power of Unity: Joshua and the Israelites"

2. "The Importance of Following God's Plan: The Story of Joshua"

1. John 13:34-35 - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Joshua 10:16 But these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.

Five kings fled and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.

1. God's protection: The five kings found refuge in a cave, and so can we find refuge in God.

2. Trusting God: When we are surrounded by danger, we should trust in God's protection.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Joshua 10:17 And it was told Joshua, saying, The five kings are found hid in a cave at Makkedah.

The five kings were discovered hiding in a cave in Makkedah and the news was reported to Joshua.

1. God will use us to bring justice, even if it doesn't seem possible. (Joshua 10:17)

2. We must have faith that God will use us in remarkable ways. (Joshua 10:17)

1. Psalm 37:5-6 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Joshua 10:18 And Joshua said, Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave, and set men by it for to keep them:

Joshua sealed the mouth of the cave to keep the kings of the Amorites safe from their enemies.

1: We are called to protect our neighbors, even our enemies.

2: We must seek peace and safety for all, even those who oppose us.

1: Psalm 82:3-4 Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

2: Matthew 5:43-45 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Joshua 10:19 And stay ye not, but pursue after your enemies, and smite the hindmost of them; suffer them not to enter into their cities: for the LORD your God hath delivered them into your hand.

God commanded the Israelites to pursue their enemies and not allow them to enter their cities, as God had delivered them into their hands.

1. "The Power of Pursuit"

2. "God's Promise of Victory"

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Ephesians 6:12 - "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Joshua 10:20 And it came to pass, when Joshua and the children of Israel had made an end of slaying them with a very great slaughter, till they were consumed, that the rest which remained of them entered into fenced cities.

Joshua 10:21 And all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace: none moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel.

Joshua led Israel to victory against their enemies and all returned to the camp in peace.

1. God's protection can ensure our victory, even against strong enemies.

2. We can all live in peace even after conflict, if we trust in God.

1. Matthew 28:20 - "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Joshua 10:22 Then said Joshua, Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out those five kings unto me out of the cave.

Joshua leads the Israelites in a decisive victory against their enemies, and commands the kings to be brought out of the cave.

1. God gives us strength to overcome our enemies and the courage to face them.

2. When God is with us, no obstacle is too difficult to overcome.

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Joshua 10:23 And they did so, and brought forth those five kings unto him out of the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon.

The Israelites captured five kings from their cave and brought them to Joshua.

1. God's power and faithfulness to His people allow them to triumph in the face of great odds.

2. When we put our trust in God, He will help us in our battles.

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Joshua 10:24 And it came to pass, when they brought out those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings. And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them.

Joshua humbled the five kings by having the captains of the men of war put their feet upon the necks of the kings.

1. The Power of Humility

2. Strength in Submission

1. Matthew 11:29 - Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Joshua 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.

Joshua encourages the Israelites to be strong and courageous against their enemies.

1. Be Brave: The Lord Will Fight for You

2. Stand Firm: Strength and Courage in the Lord

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Joshua 10:26 And afterward Joshua smote them, and slew them, and hanged them on five trees: and they were hanging upon the trees until the evening.

Joshua executed five enemies by hanging them on five trees until the evening.

1. God's Justice: The Exemplary Life of Joshua.

2. Examples of Faithful Obedience to God s Commandments.

1. Deuteronomy 21:22-23 - And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Joshua 10:27 And it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, that Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave's mouth, which remain until this very day.

Passage Joshua commanded that the five kings who had been hiding in a cave be taken down from the trees and thrown into the cave. Stones were then put at the entrance of the cave which remain there to this day.

1. God's judgement is swift and sure.

2. We should always be prepared to follow God's commands.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Romans 13:1-4 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God s servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

Joshua 10:28 And that day Joshua took Makkedah, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof he utterly destroyed, them, and all the souls that were therein; he let none remain: and he did to the king of Makkedah as he did unto the king of Jericho.

Joshua defeated the king of Makkedah and destroyed all the inhabitants.

1. The Power of God to Overcome Evil

2. The Consequences of Rebellion Against God

1. Isaiah 59:19 - So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:17 - You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you.

Joshua 10:29 Then Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, unto Libnah, and fought against Libnah:

Joshua led the Israelites to victory against the town of Libnah.

1: God is with us in battle, and He will grant us strength to overcome our enemies.

2: We should trust in the Lord to bring us to victory when we face challenges.

1: Isaiah 41:10, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2: Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Joshua 10:30 And the LORD delivered it also, and the king thereof, into the hand of Israel; and he smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that were therein; he let none remain in it; but did unto the king thereof as he did unto the king of Jericho.

Joshua conquered the city of Makkedah and all the souls that were therein.

1. God will help us to overcome our enemies if we remain faithful to Him.

2. We are called to have courage and trust in the Lord even when facing the most difficult of adversaries.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Joshua 10:31 And Joshua passed from Libnah, and all Israel with him, unto Lachish, and encamped against it, and fought against it:

Joshua conquered Libnah and Lachish in his conquests of the Promised Land.

1. Living Bravely: Lessons from Joshua s Conquests

2. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Obstacles in the Promised Land

1. Joshua 1:6-9

2. Hebrews 11:30-31

Joshua 10:32 And the LORD delivered Lachish into the hand of Israel, which took it on the second day, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that were therein, according to all that he had done to Libnah.

The LORD delivered Lachish into the hands of Israel who took it on the second day and destroyed it with the edge of the sword, killing all its inhabitants.

1. God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises

2. The consequences of disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - Consequences of disobedience to God's commands

2. Isaiah 54:10 - God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises

Joshua 10:33 Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish; and Joshua smote him and his people, until he had left him none remaining.

Joshua defeated Horam king of Gezer and all of his people, leaving none alive.

1. Never give up in the face of adversity.

2. Victory can come through faith in God.

1. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Joshua 10:34 And from Lachish Joshua passed unto Eglon, and all Israel with him; and they encamped against it, and fought against it:

Joshua and the Israelites marched from Lachish to Eglon and fought against it.

1. God Provides Strength and Courage in the Face of Battle

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubts Through Faith in God

1. Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Mark 11:24, "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

Joshua 10:35 And they took it on that day, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that were therein he utterly destroyed that day, according to all that he had done to Lachish.

Joshua and his people conquered Lachish, destroying all its inhabitants with the sword.

1. The Power of Faith: How faith can overcome any obstacle

2. The Power of Unity: How working together can conquer any challenge

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God

2. Hebrews 11:32-40 - Examples of faith throughout history

Joshua 10:36 And Joshua went up from Eglon, and all Israel with him, unto Hebron; and they fought against it:

Joshua defeats Eglon and leads Israel to Hebron to fight against it.

1. Victory in God: How to Overcome Adversity by Trusting in the Lord

2. Unwavering Faith: Standing Firm in the Face of Opposition

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 10:37 And they took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof, and all the souls that were therein; he left none remaining, according to all that he had done to Eglon; but destroyed it utterly, and all the souls that were therein.

Joshua and his army completely destroyed the city of Eglon and all its inhabitants.

1. Life is short and fleeting - Joshua 10:37

2. The power of God's justice - Joshua 10:37

1. Deuteronomy 20:16-17 - "But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee for an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:

2. Psalm 37:13-14 - The LORD shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation.

Joshua 10:38 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to Debir; and fought against it:

Joshua led a successful attack against Debir and returned to Israel with all his people.

1. God Gives Us the Victory: A Reflection on Joshua 10:38

2. Be Courageous: Taking on Challenges with Faith in Joshua 10:38

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Joshua 10:39 And he took it, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof; and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and utterly destroyed all the souls that were therein; he left none remaining: as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir, and to the king thereof; as he had done also to Libnah, and to her king.

Joshua and the Israelites destroyed all of the inhabitants of Debir, Hebron, and Libnah with the edge of the sword.

1. God's Justice: Understanding the Biblical Consequences of Sin

2. God's Mercy: Appreciating the Grace He Offers Us

1. Exodus 20:5-6 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

2. Jeremiah 32:18-19 You show steadfast love to thousands, but you repay the guilt of fathers to their children after them, O great and mighty God, whose name is the Lord of hosts, great in counsel and mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of the children of man, rewarding each one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds.

Joshua 10:40 So Joshua smote all the country of the hills, and of the south, and of the vale, and of the springs, and all their kings: he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded.

Joshua obeyed God's command and destroyed all living creatures in the hills, south, vale, and springs of the land.

1. Obeying God's Commands in All Situations

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

2. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Joshua 10:41 And Joshua smote them from Kadeshbarnea even unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon.

Joshua conquered the land from Kadeshbarnea to Gaza and all of Goshen as far as Gibeon.

1. The Lord's faithfulness in fulfilling promises and providing victory.

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord and leaning not on our own understanding.

1. Deuteronomy 1:21 - "Behold, the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Joshua 10:42 And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

Joshua successfully conquered all the kings and their lands with the help of the LORD God of Israel.

1.The Lord will always fight for us and help us to overcome obstacles.

2.We can achieve great things with the help of the Lord.

1.Deuteronomy 20:4 - For the LORD your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.

2.Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Joshua 10:43 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

Joshua and all of Israel returned to the camp of Gilgal.

1. The faith and obedience of Joshua and the Israelites: How we can learn from them.

2. God's faithfulness: How we can rely on Him in times of difficulty.

1. Matthew 19:26 - But Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Joshua 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 11:1-9 describes the alliance of Canaanite kings against Israel. Jabin, the king of Hazor, forms a coalition with other northern kings to fight against Joshua and the Israelites. They gather together a massive army, described as numerous as the sand on the seashore. However, God reassures Joshua of victory and instructs him not to fear them. The Israelite forces surprise attack their enemies at the waters of Merom and defeat them completely.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 11:10-15, it is recorded that after defeating these northern kingdoms, Joshua captures Hazor the stronghold of Jabin and burns it down. He also conquers and destroys other cities in this region, killing all their inhabitants as commanded by God. The conquest extends from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza, including all the land of Goshen.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 11 concludes with an emphasis on fulfilling God's promises in Joshua 11:16-23. The chapter highlights how Joshua conquered this vast territory according to God's commandments and how none of His promises failed every city was taken by Israel. Furthermore, it mentions that they took spoils from these cities but destroyed everything else completely.

In summary:

Joshua 11 presents:

Alliance of Canaanite kings defeated by Israel;

Capture and destruction of Hazor fulfillment of God's commands;

Conquest and fulfillment victory over promised territories.

Emphasis on alliance of Canaanite kings defeated by Israel;

Capture and destruction of Hazor fulfillment of God's commands;

Conquest and fulfillment victory over promised territories.

The chapter focuses on the alliance formed by Canaanite kings against Israel, the capture and destruction of Hazor, and the conquest and fulfillment of God's promises. In Joshua 11, Jabin, the king of Hazor, forms a coalition with other northern kings to fight against Joshua and the Israelites. However, God reassures Joshua of victory and instructs him not to fear. The Israelite forces surprise attack their enemies at the waters of Merom and achieve a complete victory.

Continuing in Joshua 11, after defeating these northern kingdoms, Joshua captures Hazor the stronghold of Jabin and burns it down as commanded by God. He also conquers and destroys other cities in this region, following God's instructions to eliminate all their inhabitants. The conquest extends from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza, encompassing all the land of Goshen an extensive fulfillment of God's commands.

Joshua 11 concludes with an emphasis on fulfilling God's promises. The chapter highlights how Joshua conquered this vast territory according to God's commandments none of His promises failed as every city was taken by Israel. It also mentions that they took spoils from these cities but destroyed everything else completely a testament to their obedience in carrying out God's instructions for conquest while affirming His faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

Joshua 11:1 And it came to pass, when Jabin king of Hazor had heard those things, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph,

Jabin King of Hazor hears of Israel's conquests and sends a warning to other kings.

1: We can learn from Jabin's example to be aware of the dangers around us and take precautions to protect ourselves and our people.

2: Jabin's warning is a reminder that we should be careful not to underestimate the power of God, which is greater than any earthly force.

1: Deuteronomy 33:27 - The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Joshua 11:2 And to the kings that were on the north of the mountains, and of the plains south of Chinneroth, and in the valley, and in the borders of Dor on the west,

The passage describes the geographic location of the kings to the north of the mountains, south of Chinneroth, in the valley, and on the west of Dor.

1: God is the ultimate provider of our needs and He will provide for us in even the most desolate locations.

2: When we have faith in God, He will help us to navigate through difficult times and guide us to the right place.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way.

Joshua 11:3 And to the Canaanite on the east and on the west, and to the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Jebusite in the mountains, and to the Hivite under Hermon in the land of Mizpeh.

This passage describes the tribes that occupied the land of Canaan during the time of Joshua.

1: God's promise to Joshua and the Israelites to take possession of the land of Canaan was fulfilled.

2: God established the Israelites as the rightful inhabitants of the land of Canaan.

1: Joshua 1:2-3 - "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses."

2: Genesis 15:18-21 - On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates...And I have given to your offspring all these lands. And I will make their offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, then their offspring also can be counted."

Joshua 11:4 And they went out, they and all their hosts with them, much people, even as the sand that is upon the sea shore in multitude, with horses and chariots very many.

Joshua and his army went out to battle with a large number of people, horses, and chariots.

1. God equips us with what we need to succeed.

2. We can rely on God's strength to overcome any obstacle.

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 11:5 And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

All the kings of the nations surrounding Israel came together to fight Israel at the waters of Merom.

1. God's Unshakable Protection: The Story of Israel's Victory at the Waters of Merom

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Opposition: Trusting in God's Strength in the Face of Adversity

1. Deuteronomy 33:27 - The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

Joshua 11:6 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Be not afraid because of them: for to morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.

God promised to deliver the enemies of Israel into the hands of Joshua, and commanded him to hough their horses and burn their chariots with fire.

1. God's Power to Overcome Fear and Defeat Enemies

2. Putting Our Trust in God's Promises

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 33:20-22 - Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Joshua 11:7 So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them by the waters of Merom suddenly; and they fell upon them.

Joshua and his army attacked the enemies of Israel by surprise at the waters of Merom.

1. The faith and courage of Joshua to take on overwhelming odds.

2. The power of God in using the unlikely to achieve His will.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Deuteronomy 20:4 - "For the Lord your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory."

Joshua 11:8 And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephothmaim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.

The Lord delivered the enemies of Israel into their hands and they chased them to great Zidon, Misrephothmaim, and the valley of Mizpeh eastward. They defeated them until none remained.

1. God will fight for us when we are in desperate need.

2. We must trust in the Lord even when we are in difficult battles.

1. Exodus 14:14 The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

Joshua 11:9 And Joshua did unto them as the LORD bade him: he houghed their horses, and burnt their chariots with fire.

Joshua obeyed God's command and destroyed the enemies' horses and chariots.

1. We should always be obedient to God's commands.

2. Faithfulness to God brings victory in battle.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Joshua 11:10 And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.

Joshua led the Israelites in a successful conquest of Hazor, the head of all the other surrounding kingdoms.

1. The Power of Faith in God: How to Achieve Victory

2. The Essentiality of Boldness: Overcoming Adversity with Courage

1. 1 Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. James 1:2-3 "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness."

Joshua 11:11 And they smote all the souls that were therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them: there was not any left to breathe: and he burnt Hazor with fire.

The Israelites defeated the inhabitants of Hazor and completely destroyed them, leaving none alive to breathe and burning the city with fire.

1. God's power conquers all - Joshua 11:11

2. The importance of obedience - Joshua 11:11

1. Isaiah 40:28-29 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

2. Zephaniah 3:17 - "The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing."

Joshua 11:12 And all the cities of those kings, and all the kings of them, did Joshua take, and smote them with the edge of the sword, and he utterly destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the LORD commanded.

Joshua conquered the cities of the kings and destroyed them as God commanded.

1. God's Will Is Perfectly Executed: A Study in Faithfulness

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions

1. Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Joshua 11:13 But as for the cities that stood still in their strength, Israel burned none of them, save Hazor only; that did Joshua burn.

Joshua destroyed Hazor as an example of God's judgement.

1. The Power of God's Judgement

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Hebrews 10:26-31 - "For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries."

Joshua 11:14 And all the spoil of these cities, and the cattle, the children of Israel took for a prey unto themselves; but every man they smote with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them, neither left they any to breathe.

Joshua's army smote all inhabitants of conquered cities with the sword, leaving none alive.

1. The Mercy Of God - His mercy is shown even in the destruction of enemies.

2. Justice & Mercy - How justice and mercy can coexist in God's will.

1. Jeremiah 51:20-23 - "Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms;"

2. Isaiah 53:4-5 - "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."

Joshua 11:15 As the LORD commanded Moses his servant, so did Moses command Joshua, and so did Joshua; he left nothing undone of all that the LORD commanded Moses.

Joshua obeyed all of the commands given to him by Moses, which were from the Lord.

1. The importance of following God's commands.

2. Obeying authority figures appointed by God.

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - You shall be careful therefore to do as the Lord your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that you shall possess.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.

Joshua 11:16 So Joshua took all that land, the hills, and all the south country, and all the land of Goshen, and the valley, and the plain, and the mountain of Israel, and the valley of the same;

Joshua conquered all the land between the hills and the south country, including the land of Goshen, the valley, the plain, the mountain of Israel, and the same valley.

1. We are capable of great accomplishments when we trust God to guide us.

2. God's faithfulness and power are evident in the story of Joshua.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Joshua 11:17 Even from the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir, even unto Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon under mount Hermon: and all their kings he took, and smote them, and slew them.

Joshua conquered the land of Canaan, defeating all the kings from the mount Halak to Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon, under mount Hermon, and slaying them.

1. Our God is Mighty and Merciful: The Story of Joshua and his Victorious Campaign

2. Overcoming Adversity: Lessons from the Victory of Joshua

1. Psalm 46:1: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Joshua 11:18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

Joshua waged a long war against multiple kings.

1. We can trust God to give us strength in difficult times.

2. Through perseverance, we can overcome any obstacle.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Joshua 11:19 There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: all other they took in battle.

Joshua was victorious in battle and conquered cities that did not make peace with the Israelites, except for the Hivites of Gibeon.

1. The Power of Faith and Obedience - How God rewards those who are faithful and obedient to him, even in the midst of difficult battles.

2. The Strength of Forgiveness - How God's mercy and grace can bring peace and reconciliation, even in the midst of conflict.

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Matthew 5:38-42 - You have heard that it was said, Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth. But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Joshua 11:20 For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses.

God hardened the hearts of the enemies of Israel so that they could be destroyed in battle, fulfilling what Moses had commanded.

1. The Power of God's Sovereignty: Understanding God's Plan for Victory

2. The Greatness of God's Faithfulness: Experiencing God's Protection in Difficult Times

1. Deuteronomy 7:22-23: "The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little; you will not be able to make a quick end of them, or the wild animals would become too numerous for you. But the LORD your God will give them over to you and throw them into great confusion until they are destroyed."

2. Exodus 14:14: "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Joshua 11:21 And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities.

Joshua destroyed the Anakims and all of their cities from the mountains of Judah and Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: The story of Joshua and the Anakims reminds us of the power of faith when it comes to facing obstacles.

2. Overcoming Fear: Joshua's courage in the face of danger teaches us to overcome our fears and do what is right.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Joshua 11:22 There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.

The land of the Israelites was cleared of the Anakims, with the exception of the three cities of Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Power of God's Protection

1. Deuteronomy 7:22 - And the Lord your God will put out those nations before you by little and little: you may not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon you.

2. Psalm 91:7 - A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

Joshua 11:23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.

Joshua fulfilled the Lord's commands to Moses and divided the land of Canaan among the tribes of Israel, bringing an end to the wars that had been fought.

1. God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises.

2. The importance of trusting and obeying God.

1. Deuteronomy 7:17-24

2. Joshua 24:14-15

Joshua 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 12:1-6 provides a list of the defeated kings on both sides of the Jordan River. It enumerates the kings conquered by Moses and the Israelites east of the Jordan, including Sihon king of the Amorites and Og king of Bashan. It also lists the kings defeated by Joshua and the Israelites west of the Jordan, such as Jericho, Ai, Jerusalem, Hebron, and others. This passage serves as a summary of their military successes in taking possession of Canaan.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 12:7-24, it further details the defeated kings from various regions. The passage mentions specific locations and territories that were conquered by Joshua and his forces. It includes cities from different areas such as southern Canaan (Debir, Hormah), northern Canaan (Hazor), eastern Canaan (Gilead), central Canaan (Tirzah), and more. This comprehensive list demonstrates how extensively they subdued their enemies throughout Canaan.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 12 concludes with a summary statement in Joshua 12:24 that highlights how Moses was victorious over two kings east of the Jordan River while Joshua was victorious over thirty-one kings west of the Jordan River thus completing their conquests according to God's commandments. The chapter emphasizes that these victories were achieved through God's empowerment and fulfilled His promises to give them possession of the land.

In summary:

Joshua 12 presents:

List of defeated kings both sides of Jordan;

Detailed accounts conquests from various regions;

Summary statement victories accomplished through God's empowerment.

Emphasis on list of defeated kings both sides of Jordan;

Detailed accounts conquests from various regions;

Summary statement victories accomplished through God's empowerment.

The chapter focuses on providing a list of the defeated kings on both sides of the Jordan River, detailing their conquests from various regions, and emphasizing that these victories were accomplished through God's empowerment. In Joshua 12, a list is presented that includes the kings conquered by Moses and the Israelites east of the Jordan River as well as those defeated by Joshua and the Israelites west of the Jordan. It serves as a summary of their military successes in taking possession of Canaan.

Continuing in Joshua 12, further details are provided regarding specific locations and territories conquered by Joshua and his forces. The passage mentions cities from different areas such as southern Canaan, northern Canaan, eastern Canaan, central Canaan, and more. This comprehensive list demonstrates how extensively they subdued their enemies throughout Canaan a testament to their obedience to God's commandments.

Joshua 12 concludes with a summary statement highlighting how Moses was victorious over two kings east of the Jordan River while Joshua was victorious over thirty-one kings west of the Jordan River thus completing their conquests according to God's commandments. The chapter emphasizes that these victories were achieved through God's empowerment and fulfilled His promises to give them possession of the land a testament to His faithfulness throughout their campaign in conquering Canaan.

Joshua 12:1 Now these are the kings of the land, which the children of Israel smote, and possessed their land on the other side Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from the river Arnon unto mount Hermon, and all the plain on the east:

The children of Israel conquered and possessed the land of Canaan, from the river Arnon to mount Hermon and the surrounding plains, by defeating the kings of the land.

1. Trust in God and His Promises - Joshua 1:9

2. The Importance of Keeping the Covenant - Deuteronomy 7:12

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

2. Deuteronomy 7:12 - "Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers."

Joshua 12:2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer, which is upon the bank of the river Arnon, and from the middle of the river, and from half Gilead, even unto the river Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon;

The passage describes the geographical boundaries of the Amorites, ruled by Sihon, from Aroer to the river Jabbok.

1. How God uses boundaries to protect us

2. The importance of obeying God's laws

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Genesis 15:18 - In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.

Joshua 12:3 And from the plain to the sea of Chinneroth on the east, and unto the sea of the plain, even the salt sea on the east, the way to Bethjeshimoth; and from the south, under Ashdothpisgah:

Passage The borders of the Promised Land run from the Jordan River to the Sea of Chinneroth eastward, the Sea of the Plain, also known as the Salt Sea, eastward to Bethjeshimoth and southward under Ashdothpisgah.

1. The Borders of God's Promised Land

2. The Power of God's Promise

1. Joshua 1:3-5, "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses."

2. Numbers 34:1-12, "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land of Canaan; this is the land that shall fall unto you for an inheritance, even the land of Canaan with the coasts thereof."

Joshua 12:4 And the coast of Og king of Bashan, which was of the remnant of the giants, that dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,

God gave Israel the Promised Land as a gift.

1: God's Gift of the Promised Land - Rejoice in the Lord's mercy and care for us.

2: Our Response to God's Gift - Be thankful for all the Lord has given us, and be faithful to Him in return.

1: Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God."

2: Deuteronomy 11:12, "A land which the Lord your God cares for; the eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year."

Joshua 12:5 And reigned in mount Hermon, and in Salcah, and in all Bashan, unto the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites, and half Gilead, the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

The passage describes the reign of Sihon king of Heshbon, which extended from mount Hermon, Salcah, Bashan, to the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites, and half Gilead.

1. God's Blessing Is On Those Who Obey His Commandments - Joshua 12:24

2. Our Obedience Brings Blessing - Deuteronomy 28:1-14

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-14 - God's promise to obey those who obey Him

2. Joshua 24:13 - Choosing to serve God and His commands brings blessings.

Joshua 12:6 Them did Moses the servant of the LORD and the children of Israel smite: and Moses the servant of the LORD gave it for a possession unto the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh.

Moses gave the Reubenites, Gadites, and half tribe of Manasseh a possession.

1. The Lord s Blessings Through His Servant Moses

2. The Faithfulness of God to Provide for His People

1. Deuteronomy 3:12-20 - Moses' apportionment of the Transjordan lands to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh

2. Joshua 1:12-15 - Joshua's blessing and command to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh to stay on their side of the Jordan River.

Joshua 12:7 And these are the kings of the country which Joshua and the children of Israel smote on this side Jordan on the west, from Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon even unto the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir; which Joshua gave unto the tribes of Israel for a possession according to their divisions;

Joshua and the Israelites conquered the kings of the land west of the Jordan River, from Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, and gave the conquered territory to the twelve tribes of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to Israel

2. The importance of trusting God's guidance and direction

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Joshua 12:8 In the mountains, and in the valleys, and in the plains, and in the springs, and in the wilderness, and in the south country; the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

This verse from Joshua 12:8 describes the various locations and peoples of the Promised Land that the Israelites were to conquer.

1. God calls us to conquer the lands that He has promised us.

2. We must trust in God to help us fulfill the promises He has made to us.

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 - "When the Lord your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than yourselves.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shall you dwell in the land and verily you shall be fed. Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way unto the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass."

Joshua 12:9 The king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, which is beside Bethel, one;

The passage speaks of two kings that Joshua defeated.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people.

2. The power of obedience to God.

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 When the Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you.

2. Joshua 1:1-9 After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses assistant, saying: Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory. No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

Joshua 12:10 The king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one;

The passage speaks about two kings of the same region.

1: We can learn from the passage that two people can lead the same area if they work together in unity.

2: The passage reminds us to respect those in authority and recognize their roles.

1: Philippians 2:2-3 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

2: Ephesians 4:2-3 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Joshua 12:11 The king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one;

The passage mentions two kings: the King of Jarmuth and the King of Lachish.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Establishes Kings and Reaffirms His Authority

2. The Power of Unity: How Nations and Leaders Can Achieve Greater Things Together

1. Psalm 33:10-11 "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations."

2. 1 Peter 2:13-14 "Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord s sake, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good."

Joshua 12:12 The king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one;

The passage states that there were two kings, the king of Eglon and the king of Gezer.

1. The Kingdom of God: The Power of Unity

2. The Story of Joshua: Obedience to God's Commands

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

2. Ephesians 4:13 - "Until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

Joshua 12:13 The king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

The passage mentions two kings from different places.

1. God has given us a variety of gifts and talents, and each of us can use those gifts to make a difference in our own unique way.

2. We are all called to have a positive impact on our communities, no matter how small or great.

1. Jeremiah 29:7 - And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

2. Galatians 6:10 - As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Joshua 12:14 The king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one;

This passage mentions two kings, the king of Hormah and the king of Arad.

1. The Power of Unity: Lessons from the Kings of Hormah and Arad

2. The Power of Faith: Victory over Adversity.

1. Ephesians 4:3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Joshua 12:15 The king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one;

The passage mentions two kings from ancient Israel: the king of Libnah and the king of Adullam.

1. The Power of Faith: How the Kings of Libnah and Adullam Showed Courage in the Face of Adversity

2. The Strengthening of Faith: How the Kings of Libnah and Adullam Encouraged Their People

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son

2. Romans 5:3-5 - And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Joshua 12:16 The king of Makkedah, one; the king of Bethel, one;

The passage discusses two kings: the king of Makkedah and the king of Bethel.

1. God gives us strength to stand against all odds.

2. We must remain faithful to God even when faced with difficult challenges.

1. Ephesians 6:13 - Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

2. Daniel 3:17 - If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty s hand.

Joshua 12:17 The king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hepher, one;

The passage mentions two kings, the king of Tappuah and the king of Hepher.

1. The Importance of Recognizing Authority

2. The Power of Unity

1. Matthew 21:1-11 (Jesus Triumphal Entry)

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17 (Submit to Authority)

Joshua 12:18 The king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

This passage lists two kings, the king of Aphek and the king of Lasharon.

1. The importance of leadership and how it affects our lives.

2. The power of unity and the strength of standing together.

1. Luke 10:17: "'The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!'

2. Proverbs 11:14: "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Joshua 12:19 The king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;

This passage mentions two kings of the ancient cities of Madon and Hazor.

1. The Importance of Knowing God's Promises - Joshua 12:19

2. The Power of Faithful Leadership - Joshua 12:19

1. Genesis 12:2 - "And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

2. Exodus 14:14 - "The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

Joshua 12:20 The king of Shimronmeron, one; the king of Achshaph, one;

This passage mentions two kings: the king of Shimronmeron and the king of Achshaph.

1. The importance of loyalty and faithfulness to God, even when kings and rulers oppose Him.

2. The sovereignty of God over all kings and rulers.

1. 1 Samuel 8:7 - And the Lord said to Samuel, Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.

2. Psalm 47:2 - For the Lord Most High is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Joshua 12:21 The king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one;

The passage mentions two kings, the king of Taanach and the king of Megiddo.

1: God has a plan for everyone, no matter the size of their kingdom.

2: Everyone is important in God's eyes, even kings with small domains.

1: 1 Samuel 17:45 - "Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied."

Context: David is facing the giant Goliath in battle.

2: Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Context: Paul is explaining how God can bring good out of even the most difficult situations.

Joshua 12:22 The king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam of Carmel, one;

This passage mentions two kings of two different cities.

1. God's power is made manifest even in the smallest of cities.

2. God's kingdom is vast and His blessings extend to all.

1. Psalm 147:4 - He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

2. Luke 12:7 - Even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Joshua 12:23 The king of Dor in the coast of Dor, one; the king of the nations of Gilgal, one;

There were two kings of the region: the king of Dor in the coast of Dor, and the king of the nations of Gilgal.

1. The Sovereignty of God in the Appointment of Kings

2. The Miracle of Unity in the Midst of Diversity

1. Daniel 2:21 - "He changes times and seasons; He sets up kings and deposes them."

2. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

Joshua 12:24 The king of Tirzah, one: all the kings thirty and one.

This passage mentions that the total number of kings conquered by Joshua was thirty-one, with the king of Tirzah being one of them.

1) God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises: how God helped Joshua conquer 31 kings, despite the odds (Joshua 1:5-9).

2) The importance of obedience: when we obey God, He will grant us the victory (Joshua 1:7-9).

1) Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2) 1 John 4:4 - "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."

Joshua 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 13:1-7 describes God's command to Joshua to divide the remaining unconquered land among the tribes of Israel. The chapter begins by stating that Joshua is old and advanced in years, and there is still much land to be possessed. God reassures Joshua that He Himself will drive out the remaining nations from before the Israelites. The unconquered territories are listed, including the Philistines, all the Geshurites, and parts of Canaanite lands.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 13:8-14, it provides a detailed account of how Moses had previously divided portions of land east of the Jordan River among Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh. These tribes had already received their inheritance according to God's instructions through Moses. The chapter emphasizes that these eastern territories were given as an inheritance to these tribes but not to Levi since their portion was dedicated to serving as priests.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 13 concludes with an emphasis on Caleb's inheritance in Joshua 13:15-33. It recounts how Caleb approached Joshua requesting his promised portion the land where he had spied out Hebron forty-five years earlier. Caleb expresses his strength and faithfulness even at an advanced age and receives Hebron as his inheritance a place inhabited by giants called Anakim. This passage highlights Caleb's unwavering trust in God's promises and serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness throughout Israel's journey.

In summary:

Joshua 13 presents:

God's command to divide remaining land unconquered territories listed;

Account of division east of Jordan inheritance for Reuben, Gad, Manasseh;

Caleb's inheritance Hebron given due to his faithfulness.

Emphasis on God's command to divide remaining land unconquered territories listed;

Account of division east of Jordan inheritance for Reuben, Gad, Manasseh;

Caleb's inheritance Hebron given due to his faithfulness.

The chapter focuses on God's command to Joshua to divide the remaining unconquered land among the tribes of Israel, an account of the division of territories east of the Jordan River, and Caleb's inheritance. In Joshua 13, it is mentioned that Joshua is old and there is still much land to be possessed. God reassures him that He Himself will drive out the remaining nations before the Israelites. The chapter lists various unconquered territories including those inhabited by Philistines and Geshurites, as well as parts of Canaanite lands.

Continuing in Joshua 13, a detailed account is provided regarding how Moses had previously divided portions of land east of the Jordan River among Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh. These tribes had already received their inheritance according to God's instructions through Moses. It highlights that these eastern territories were given as an inheritance specifically for these tribes but not for Levi since their portion was dedicated to serving as priests.

Joshua 13 concludes with an emphasis on Caleb's inheritance. Caleb approaches Joshua requesting his promised portion the land where he had spied out Hebron forty-five years earlier. Despite his advanced age, Caleb expresses his strength and faithfulness in God's promises. As a result, he receives Hebron a place inhabited by giants called Anakim as his inheritance. This passage serves as a testament to Caleb's unwavering trust in God and His faithfulness throughout Israel's journey towards possessing the Promised Land.

Joshua 13:1 Now Joshua was old and stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.

Joshua was old and the Lord told him there was still much land to be possessed.

1. Trusting in God's Plans - Understanding that God's timing is perfect and His plans are greater than our own.

2. Possessing the Promised Land - Seeing God's provision as a source of hope and faith.

1. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Joshua 13:2 This is the land that yet remaineth: all the borders of the Philistines, and all Geshuri,

The passage describes the borders of the Philistine lands and Geshuri.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people as seen in the borders of the land promised to them.

2. Our need to trust in the Lord and His promises, and to have faith in His provision.

1. Genesis 17:8 - And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

2. Isaiah 33:2 - O Lord, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble.

Joshua 13:3 From Sihor, which is before Egypt, even unto the borders of Ekron northward, which is counted to the Canaanite: five lords of the Philistines; the Gazathites, and the Ashdothites, the Eshkalonites, the Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avites:

The passage describes the five Philistine lords and the Avites from Sihor to the border of Ekron, in Canaan.

1. God's power is displayed throughout the world, even in the midst of the Philistines.

2. God is sovereign even in the darkest of places.

1. Romans 8:28-39 - God's power is on display in all things.

2. Psalm 24:1-2 - The earth and everything in it belongs to the Lord.

Joshua 13:4 From the south, all the land of the Canaanites, and Mearah that is beside the Sidonians unto Aphek, to the borders of the Amorites:

This passage describes the southern border of the Promised Land, extending from the Canaanites and Mearah near the Sidonians to Aphek, the border of the Amorites.

1. God s Promises Are Faithful He Fulfilled His Promise to Give Israel the Promised Land

2. God s Sovereignty He Defines the Borders of His People

1. Genesis 15:18-21 God's Covenant with Abraham

2. Deuteronomy 1:7-8 The Boundaries of the Promised Land

Joshua 13:5 And the land of the Giblites, and all Lebanon, toward the sunrising, from Baalgad under mount Hermon unto the entering into Hamath.

The passage discusses the geographic location of Giblites and Lebanon, located east of Baalgad and Hermon and extending to Hamath.

1. God's Provision in Every Place: Exploring the Promised Land

2. The Faithfulness of God: Exploring His Fulfillment of His Promises

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Joshua 13:6 All the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon unto Misrephothmaim, and all the Sidonians, them will I drive out from before the children of Israel: only divide thou it by lot unto the Israelites for an inheritance, as I have commanded thee.

God commands Joshua to divide the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephothmaim as an inheritance for the Israelites, driving out all the inhabitants of the Sidonians.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Providing for His People

2. Obedience Brings Blessing

1. Ephesians 2:8-10 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Joshua 13:7 Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance unto the nine tribes, and the half tribe of Manasseh,

This passage describes how God commanded the tribes of Israel to divide the land among the nine tribes and the half tribe of Manasseh.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated through His provision of land and inheritance for His people.

2. God's justice is seen in His providing each tribe with an equal share of the land.

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

2. Genesis 12:1-3 - The Lord had said to Abram, Go from your country, your people and your father s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

Joshua 13:8 With whom the Reubenites and the Gadites have received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond Jordan eastward, even as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them;

The Reubenites and the Gadites received their inheritance from Moses beyond the Jordan River, eastward, as commanded by the Lord.

1. God's Promises: Trusting in the Lord to Provide

2. God's Faithfulness: Honoring His Covenant

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Psalm 105:42 - For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.

Joshua 13:9 From Aroer, that is upon the bank of the river Arnon, and the city that is in the midst of the river, and all the plain of Medeba unto Dibon;

The passage describes the geographical area given to the tribe of Reuben from Aroer to Dibon.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises - Joshua 13:9

2. God's sovereignty in assigning land - Joshua 13:9

1. Numbers 32:33 - "And Moses gave unto them, even to the children of Gad, and to the children of Reuben, and unto half the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, the land, with the cities thereof in the coasts, even the cities of the country round about."

2. Psalm 78:54 - "And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, even to this mountain, which his right hand had purchased."

Joshua 13:10 And all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites, which reigned in Heshbon, unto the border of the children of Ammon;

This passage describes the extent of Sihon's kingdom from the city of Heshbon to the border of the Ammonites.

1. The extent of God's power: How God can expand a kingdom and how we can trust Him to keep His promises.

2. The importance of obeying God's commands: How faithfulness to God can bring about great blessings.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 20:4 - May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

Joshua 13:11 And Gilead, and the border of the Geshurites and Maachathites, and all mount Hermon, and all Bashan unto Salcah;

Joshua 13:11 describes the borders of the tribes of Israel, extending from Gilead to Mount Hermon and Bashan to Salcah.

1. "Blessed are the Borders of the Lord's People"

2. "Crossing Boundaries with Faith"

1. Hebrews 13:14 - "For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come."

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

Joshua 13:12 All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants: for these did Moses smite, and cast them out.

Moses smote and cast out the remnant of the giants in the kingdom of Og in Bashan which reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei.

1. God's power to overcome giants in life

2. Overcoming obstacles with faith

1. 1 John 4:4 - You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4 - For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

Joshua 13:13 Nevertheless the children of Israel expelled not the Geshurites, nor the Maachathites: but the Geshurites and the Maachathites dwell among the Israelites until this day.

This passage from Joshua 13:13 states that the Geshurites and the Maachathites were not expelled by the Israelites and they continue to live among them to this day.

1. God is a God of restoration and allows us to live in peace with those we were once enemies with.

2. We are called to live in harmony and unity with those around us, regardless of their background or past.

1. Ephesians 2:14-18 - For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

15 By abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

2. Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Joshua 13:14 Only unto the tribe of Levi he gave none inheritance; the sacrifices of the LORD God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance, as he said unto them.

The tribe of Levi was given no inheritance by the LORD, instead they had the privilege of receiving the sacrifices of the LORD in Israel as their inheritance.

1. The Lord's Call on the Tribe of Levi: Understanding the Privilege of Serving God

2. The Blessing of Inheritance in Faith: Knowing the True Riches of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 18:1-2 - "The Levitical priests indeed, the whole tribe of Levi are to have no allotment or inheritance with Israel. They shall live on the food offerings presented to the LORD, for that is their inheritance."

2. Psalm 16:5-6 - LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Joshua 13:15 And Moses gave unto the tribe of the children of Reuben inheritance according to their families.

Moses gave the tribe of Reuben an inheritance according to their families.

1. God provides for His people, even when it may seem like there is little to give.

2. We can find comfort in the fact that God is a generous and faithful provider.

1. Psalm 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.

2. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Joshua 13:16 And their coast was from Aroer, that is on the bank of the river Arnon, and the city that is in the midst of the river, and all the plain by Medeba;

The Israelites were given land from Aroer to Medeba.

1. God is a faithful provider and will always provide for His people.

2. The Israelites were blessed with a beautiful land, and we too can be blessed if we are faithful to Him.

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-9 - For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Joshua 13:17 Heshbon, and all her cities that are in the plain; Dibon, and Bamothbaal, and Bethbaalmeon,

The passage mentions the cities of Heshbon, Dibon, Bamothbaal, and Bethbaalmeon.

1. The importance of unity in the church.

2. The power of faithfulness in following God's will.

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 13:18 And Jahaza, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath,

The passage mentions 3 towns in the region of Gilead - Jahaza, Kedemoth, and Mephaath.

1. God's Provision: How God Provided for the Israelites in Gilead

2. Gratitude and Faith: Showing Gratitude to God for His Faithful Provision

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - Remembering God's Faithful Provision in the Wilderness

2. Psalm 107:1-7 - Giving Thanks for God's Goodness and Provision

Joshua 13:19 And Kirjathaim, and Sibmah, and Zarethshahar in the mount of the valley,

The passage mentions four cities in the mount of the valley: Kirjathaim, Sibmah, Zarethshahar, and the unnamed city of the valley.

1. The Unnamed City of the Valley: A Testimony to God's Provision

2. God's Faithfulness in the Valley of Difficulty

1. Deuteronomy 29:7 - And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them:

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Joshua 13:20 And Bethpeor, and Ashdothpisgah, and Bethjeshimoth,

This passage mentions four geographical locations in the ancient land of Canaan.

1. God's Promises Fulfilled: An Exploration of Joshua 13:20

2. Fulfilling God's Plan: The Story of Bethpeor, Ashdothpisgah, and Bethjeshimoth

1. Ephesians 1:11 - In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, just as I promised to Moses.

Joshua 13:21 And all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, which reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses smote with the princes of Midian, Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, which were dukes of Sihon, dwelling in the country.

Moses smote Sihon king of the Amorites, along with the princes of Midian, Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, who were dukes of Sihon and living in the area.

1. Trust in God's Plans: How faith in the Lord's will can lead to victory.

2. The Power of Obedience: The rewards of following God's commands.

1. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 13:22 Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.

The children of Israel killed Balaam, the son of Beor, the soothsayer, when they were slaying their enemies.

1. The Power of God to Overcome Evil

2. The Faith of the Israelites in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Hebrews 11:32-33 - And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

Joshua 13:23 And the border of the children of Reuben was Jordan, and the border thereof. This was the inheritance of the children of Reuben after their families, the cities and the villages thereof.

This passage describes the borders of the land inherited by the children of Reuben.

1: God has given us all a unique inheritance. Let us use it to serve Him and others.

2: We must acknowledge the blessings we receive from God and use them to glorify Him.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: Ephesians 5:1-2 - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Joshua 13:24 And Moses gave inheritance unto the tribe of Gad, even unto the children of Gad according to their families.

Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of Gad, specifically to their families.

1. God's faithfulness in honoring His promises.

2. The importance of recognizing and valuing family.

1. Genesis 15:18-21 - God's promise to Abraham of the land of Canaan.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - The importance of honoring and respecting our parents.

Joshua 13:25 And their coast was Jazer, and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the children of Ammon, unto Aroer that is before Rabbah;

This passage describes the territorial boundaries of the tribes of Gad and Reuben.

1. Knowing When to Set Boundaries: When to Hold and When to Let Go.

2. Finding Strength in Unity: The Power of Working Together.

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Colossians 3:14 - And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Joshua 13:26 And from Heshbon unto Ramathmizpeh, and Betonim; and from Mahanaim unto the border of Debir;

This passage describes the geographical boundaries of Joshua's conquest, extending from Heshbon to Ramathmizpeh, Betonim, Mahanaim, and the border of Debir.

1. The Lord s Power in Guiding Us Through Uncharted Territory

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt Through Faith in God s Promises

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 13:27 And in the valley, Betharam, and Bethnimrah, and Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, Jordan and his border, even unto the edge of the sea of Chinnereth on the other side Jordan eastward.

This passage describes the territory of Sihon, king of Heshbon, which included the Valley of Betharam, Bethnimrah, Succoth, and Zaphon, ending at the eastern edge of the Sea of Chinnereth.

1. Recognizing the Boundaries of God's Promises - Joshua 13:27

2. Establishing Footprints of Faith - Joshua 13:27

1. Psalm 16:6 - The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Joshua 13:28 This is the inheritance of the children of Gad after their families, the cities, and their villages.

This passage describes the inheritance of the tribe of Gad, including the cities and villages allocated to them.

1. "God is Faithful: The Inheritance of the Tribe of Gad"

2. "The Blessing of God's Provision: The Cities and Villages of Gad"

1. Psalm 115:12-13 - "The Lord has been mindful of us; He will bless us; He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron. He will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Joshua 13:29 And Moses gave inheritance unto the half tribe of Manasseh: and this was the possession of the half tribe of the children of Manasseh by their families.

The half tribe of Manasseh was given an inheritance by Moses.

1. God provides for His people - Psalm 68:19

2. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises - Numbers 23:19

1. Deuteronomy 3:12-13

2. Joshua 14:1-5

Joshua 13:30 And their coast was from Mahanaim, all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which are in Bashan, threescore cities:

The Lord gave the Israelite's the kingdom of Bashan, including the towns of Jair and the cities of Og the king of Bashan.

1: The Lord is generous and faithful in giving us all that we need.

2: We should be thankful to the Lord for the blessings He has given us.

1: Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

2: Psalm 103:2-4 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

Joshua 13:31 And half Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were pertaining unto the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, even to the one half of the children of Machir by their families.

This passage describes the cities of Og, king of Bashan that belonged to Machir, the son of Manasseh.

1. The Importance of Knowing Your Roots: Considering the Legacy of Machir, the Son of Manasseh

2. The Power of Inheritance: How We Receive Blessings from our Ancestors

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-14 - "If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Joshua 13:32 These are the countries which Moses did distribute for inheritance in the plains of Moab, on the other side Jordan, by Jericho, eastward.

Moses distributed land for inheritance in the plains of Moab east of Jericho and across the Jordan River.

1. The Lord's Provision: How God Fulfills His Promises

2. Living in the Promised Land: A Study in Faith

1. 1 Chronicles 16:31-34

2. Hebrews 11:8-16

Joshua 13:33 But unto the tribe of Levi Moses gave not any inheritance: the LORD God of Israel was their inheritance, as he said unto them.

Moses did not give any inheritance to the tribe of Levi, as the Lord God of Israel was their inheritance.

1. God's provision is all we need.

2. We can trust in the Lord's promises to provide.

1. Psalm 34:10 - "Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Joshua 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 14:1-5 provides an account of the inheritance of the land for the tribe of Judah. It mentions that the Israelites had come to Gilgal, and Joshua divides the land among the tribes by casting lots. Caleb, one of the spies who had explored Canaan forty-five years earlier, approaches Joshua and reminds him of God's promise to give him a portion of land in Hebron. Caleb recounts his faithfulness and perseverance during that time and requests his rightful inheritance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 14:6-15, it details Caleb's claim to his promised inheritance. He describes how he followed God wholeheartedly and how God had kept him alive all these years since Moses made that promise. Despite being eighty-five years old at that time, Caleb expresses his vigor and readiness for battle. He asks for permission to conquer Hebron from its current inhabitants the Anakim giants and declares confidence in driving them out with God's help.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 14 concludes with an account of Caleb receiving his inheritance in Joshua 14:13-15. Joshua blesses Caleb and grants him possession of Hebron as he requested. This passage highlights how Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb because he wholeheartedly followed God's commands throughout his life. The chapter ends by mentioning that the name "Hebron" was previously known as Kiriath-arba a city named after Arba, a great man among the Anakim giants.

In summary:

Joshua 14 presents:

Inheritance for tribe of Judah land divided by casting lots;

Caleb's claim to promised land faithfulness recounted;

Caleb receives possession Hebron granted due to lifelong obedience.

Emphasis on inheritance for tribe of Judah land divided by casting lots;

Caleb's claim to promised land faithfulness recounted;

Caleb receives possession Hebron granted due to lifelong obedience.

The chapter focuses on the inheritance of the land for the tribe of Judah, Caleb's claim to his promised portion, and Caleb receiving possession of Hebron. In Joshua 14, it is mentioned that the Israelites have come to Gilgal, and Joshua proceeds to divide the land among the tribes through casting lots. During this process, Caleb approaches Joshua and reminds him of God's promise forty-five years earlier to give him a portion in Hebron. Caleb recounts his faithfulness during that time as one of the spies who explored Canaan.

Continuing in Joshua 14, Caleb presents his claim to his promised inheritance. He testifies how he followed God wholeheartedly and how God had preserved him all these years since Moses made that promise. Despite being eighty-five years old at that time, Caleb expresses his vigor and readiness for battle. He requests permission from Joshua to conquer Hebron from its current inhabitants the Anakim giants and declares confidence in driving them out with God's help.

Joshua 14 concludes with an account of Caleb receiving his inheritance as granted by Joshua. Joshua blesses Caleb and grants him possession of Hebron according to his request. This passage highlights how Hebron became Caleb's inheritance because he wholeheartedly followed God's commands throughout his life a testament to his lifelong obedience and trust in God's promises. The chapter concludes by mentioning that "Hebron" was previously known as Kiriath-arba a city named after Arba, a great man among the Anakim giants who previously inhabited the region.

Joshua 14:1 And these are the countries which the children of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed for inheritance to them.

Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun distributed the countries of Canaan among the children of Israel as an inheritance.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling Promises

2. The Power of Inheritance in our Lives

1. Romans 8:17 - and if children, then heirs heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ

2. Psalm 111:5 - He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

Joshua 14:2 By lot was their inheritance, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses, for the nine tribes, and for the half tribe.

The inheritance of the nine tribes and the half tribe of Israel was determined by lot, as commanded by the Lord through Moses.

1. God's faithfulness in honoring His promises to His people

2. God's will is always accomplished, even through seemingly random means

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Joshua 14:3 For Moses had given the inheritance of two tribes and an half tribe on the other side Jordan: but unto the Levites he gave none inheritance among them.

Moses gave two and a half tribes an inheritance on the other side of the Jordan River but he gave the Levites no inheritance.

1. The Unfairness of Inequality in Divine Distribution

2. The Importance of Generosity in God's Kingdom

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Proverbs 11:25 - The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Joshua 14:4 For the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim: therefore they gave no part unto the Levites in the land, save cities to dwell in, with their suburbs for their cattle and for their substance.

Joshua divided the land among the 12 tribes of Israel, but the two tribes of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim) were given no land, instead they were given cities to dwell in with suburbs for their cattle and possessions.

1. The importance of recognizing our blessings, even when it appears that we have been overlooked.

2. God's provision for all of His children, despite the circumstances.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 - For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

1. Psalm 112:1-3 - Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments! His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.

Joshua 14:5 As the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did, and they divided the land.

The children of Israel divided the land of Canaan as commanded by the Lord.

1. Following God's commands is the only path to success.

2. Obeying God's will in faith leads to blessings.

1. Deuteronomy 1:8 - "See, I have set the land before you; go in and take possession of the land which the Lord swore to your fathers to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to give to them and their descendants after them."

2. Joshua 24:15 - "But if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Joshua 14:6 Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadeshbarnea.

Caleb reminds Joshua of the promise of God to give him a personal inheritance in the Promised Land.

1. God will fulfill His promises to us if we are faithful to Him.

2. Our faithfulness to God is rewarded with blessings.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

Joshua 14:7 Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart.

Caleb was 40 years old when Moses sent him to explore the land of Canaan. He reported back to Moses with his observations.

1. God always has a plan for us and will give us strength to fulfill it.

2. We need to have faith in ourselves and our abilities to carry out God's will.

1. Proverbs 16:9 In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 14:8 Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God.

Caleb followed the Lord wholeheartedly, even though his brethren sought to discourage the people from entering the Promised Land.

1. "The Courage To Follow God"

2. "The Power of Wholehearted Commitment"

1. Psalm 119:30 - "I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid before me."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Joshua 14:9 And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.

Moses swore an oath to Caleb on that day that the land where he had stepped would be his inheritance and his children's inheritance forever, because Caleb had fully followed the Lord.

1. Following God Wholeheartedly Brings Blessings - Joshua 14:9

2. Blessing through Obedience - Joshua 14:9

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Mark 12:30-31 - "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

Joshua 14:10 And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old.

Caleb is reflecting on how the Lord has kept him alive for the past 45 years since the time the Lord spoke to Moses in the wilderness, and he is now 85 years old.

1. Faithful Follower: A Study on Caleb's Loyalty

2. God's Promises: Reflections on God's Faithfulness

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

2. Deuteronomy 1:20-22 - 20 And I said unto you, Ye are come unto the mountain of the Amorites, which the LORD our God doth give unto us. 21 Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged. 22 And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, We will send men before us, and they shall search us out the land, and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what cities we shall come.

Joshua 14:11 As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

Caleb, a faithful warrior, reassures the people of Israel of his strength and ability to fight in battle.

1. "The Strength of Faithful Warriors"

2. "Staying Strong in Difficult Times"

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."

Joshua 14:12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.

Caleb requests the mountain that the Lord had promised him, confident that if the Lord is with him, he will be able to drive out the Anakims and their cities.

1. The Power of Faithful Obedience - Joshua 14:12

2. Overcoming Challenges with Faith - Joshua 14:12

1. Luke 17:5-6 - The importance of faithfulness and trust in God

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - The power of God to overcome physical and spiritual obstacles

Joshua 14:13 And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.

Joshua blessed Caleb and gave him the city of Hebron as an inheritance.

1. God's faithfulness and covenant-keeping: how He blesses those who obey Him.

2. The importance of having a heart of faithfulness and obedience towards God.

1. Isaiah 54:10 - For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Joshua 14:14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

Caleb the son of Jephunneh inherited Hebron because he faithfully followed the Lord God of Israel.

1. Faithfulness Brings Reward

2. Following God's Will Leads to Blessing

1. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Joshua 14:15 And the name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba; which Arba was a great man among the Anakims. And the land had rest from war.

The land of Hebron was formerly known as Kirjatharba and was a great city inhabited by the Anakims. The land had peace and was free from war.

1. The Peace of God in Times of War

2. The Blessing of Rest in a Time of Turmoil

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

2. Romans 5:1 - Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Joshua 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 15:1-12 provides a detailed account of the boundaries and allotments of the land for the tribe of Judah. The chapter begins by describing the southern border of Judah's inheritance, extending from the southernmost part of the Salt Sea (the Dead Sea) to the south side of the Jebusite city of Jerusalem. It then lists various cities and landmarks along Judah's borders, including Adar, Karka, Azmon, and others. This passage serves as a geographical description and demarcation of Judah's allotted portion.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 15:13-19, it recounts Caleb's conquest and possession of Hebron. Caleb drives out three sons of Anak from Hebron Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai and captures it for himself. As promised earlier to Caleb in Joshua 14, he receives this significant city as his inheritance due to his faithfulness to God. Caleb offers his daughter Achsah in marriage to whoever conquers Kiriath-sepher (Debir), another fortified city that he had spied out before.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 15 concludes with an account of various cities within Judah's territory in Joshua 15:20-63. The passage lists numerous cities belonging to different regions within Judah's allotted portion from lowland areas like Zorah and Eshtaol to hill country cities like Maon and Carmel. It also mentions cities such as Lachish, Libnah, Gezer, Keilah, Debir (Kiriath-sepher), Hormah, Arad each with its own significance within the tribal inheritance.

In summary:

Joshua 15 presents:

Boundaries and allotments for tribe of Judah detailed description;

Caleb's conquest of Hebron fulfillment of promise;

Cities within Judah's territory various regions and their significance.

Emphasis on boundaries and allotments for tribe of Judah detailed description;

Caleb's conquest of Hebron fulfillment of promise;

Cities within Judah's territory various regions and their significance.

The chapter focuses on providing a detailed account of the boundaries and allotments for the tribe of Judah, highlighting Caleb's conquest and possession of Hebron, as well as listing various cities within Judah's territory. In Joshua 15, the southern border of Judah's inheritance is described, extending from the southernmost part of the Salt Sea to Jerusalem. The passage lists cities and landmarks along this border, establishing the geographical demarcation.

Continuing in Joshua 15, it recounts Caleb's successful conquest and possession of Hebron the fulfillment of God's promise to him. Caleb drives out three sons of Anak from Hebron and captures it as his inheritance. As promised earlier in Joshua 14, he receives this significant city due to his faithfulness to God. Additionally, Caleb offers his daughter Achsah in marriage to whoever conquers Kiriath-sepher (Debir), another fortified city that he had previously spied out.

Joshua 15 concludes with an account that lists various cities within Judah's allotted portion. These cities belong to different regions from lowland areas like Zorah and Eshtaol to hill country cities like Maon and Carmel. The passage mentions significant locations such as Lachish, Libnah, Gezer, Keilah, Debir (Kiriath-sepher), Hormah, Arad and each carries its own historical or strategic importance within the tribal inheritance. This comprehensive list showcases the diverse territories encompassed by the tribe of Judah.

Joshua 15:1 This then was the lot of the tribe of the children of Judah by their families; even to the border of Edom the wilderness of Zin southward was the uttermost part of the south coast.

Joshua 15:1 describes the land assigned to the tribe of Judah.

1: God is faithful to His promises. He gave the tribes a land, just as He said He would.

2: We should be thankful for all the blessings God has given us, including our homes and land.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul,"

2: Psalm 118:24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Joshua 15:2 And their south border was from the shore of the salt sea, from the bay that looketh southward:

This passage discusses the south border of the land given to the tribe of Judah.

1. True contentment comes from being faithful to God's plan for our lives.

2. God has given us all a unique purpose, and it is our job to discover and fulfill it.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Joshua 15:3 And it went out to the south side to Maalehacrabbim, and passed along to Zin, and ascended up on the south side unto Kadeshbarnea, and passed along to Hezron, and went up to Adar, and fetched a compass to Karkaa:

This passage describes a journey that begins at Maalehacrabbim and ends at Karkaa, passing through Zin, Kadeshbarnea, Hezron, and Adar.

1. Discovering God's Path for Our Lives - Joshua 15:3

2. Making a Compass of Courage - Joshua 15:3

1. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Joshua 15:4 From thence it passed toward Azmon, and went out unto the river of Egypt; and the goings out of that coast were at the sea: this shall be your south coast.

Joshua 15:4 describes the Israelites' southern border, which extended from Azmon to the river of Egypt and ended at the Mediterranean Sea.

1. The Lord is a God of Boundaries: How Establishing Borders Can Bring Us Closer to God

2. The Maritime Miracle: How the Israelites Reached the Mediterranean Sea Through Faith

1. Exodus 23:31 - And I will set your bounds from the Red Sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee.

2. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

Joshua 15:5 And the east border was the salt sea, even unto the end of Jordan. And their border in the north quarter was from the bay of the sea at the uttermost part of Jordan:

The border of the tribe of Judah ran from the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea, and from the north side of the Dead Sea to the bay of the sea at the edge of the Jordan.

1. The Lord's Provision - How the Boundaries of Judah Showcase God's Generosity

2. Following the Lord's Guidance - How the Boundaries of Judah Showcase God's Leadership

1. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Joshua 15:6 And the border went up to Bethhogla, and passed along by the north of Betharabah; and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben:

The border of Judah passed through Bethhogla and Betharabah, and then up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.

1. The Power of Family: God's Faithfulness to His Covenant to Abraham

2. God's Sovereignty in Fulfilling His Promises

1. Genesis 12:7 - And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Joshua 15:7 And the border went up toward Debir from the valley of Achor, and so northward, looking toward Gilgal, that is before the going up to Adummim, which is on the south side of the river: and the border passed toward the waters of Enshemesh, and the goings out thereof were at Enrogel:

The border of Judah extended from the valley of Achor to Debir, Adummim, Enrogel, and the waters of Enshemesh.

1. God's Guidance in Boundary Markers

2. The Need for Clear Boundaries in Life

1. Proverbs 22:28 - Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

2. Isaiah 28:17-18 - Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place. And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

Joshua 15:8 And the border went up by the valley of the son of Hinnom unto the south side of the Jebusite; the same is Jerusalem: and the border went up to the top of the mountain that lieth before the valley of Hinnom westward, which is at the end of the valley of the giants northward:

The border of Judah extended to the south side of Jerusalem, at the end of the valley of the giants northward.

1. The Mighty Hand of God: How God Guides Us To Our Promised Land

2. The Strength of Faith: How God Empowers Us To Overcome Difficulties

1. Joshua 1:6-9 - Be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

Joshua 15:9 And the border was drawn from the top of the hill unto the fountain of the water of Nephtoah, and went out to the cities of mount Ephron; and the border was drawn to Baalah, which is Kirjathjearim:

The border of Judah, from the hill to the fountain of water of Nephtoah, extended to the cities of mount Ephron, and then to Baalah (Kirjathjearim).

1. God's Faithfulness in His Promises - How the Promises and Blessings of God Endure

2. The Importance of Obedience - How Obeying God's Commands Leads to a Blessed Life

1. Joshua 1:1-9 - God's promises of strength and courage to Joshua

2. 1 John 5:3 - Loving God and keeping His commands leads to a life of joy

Joshua 15:10 And the border compassed from Baalah westward unto mount Seir, and passed along unto the side of mount Jearim, which is Chesalon, on the north side, and went down to Bethshemesh, and passed on to Timnah:

The border of Judah encircled from Baalah in the west to Mount Seir, then to Mount Jearim (Chesalon) on the north side, then down to Bethshemesh and on to Timnah.

1. "The Boundaries of Our Faith"

2. "The Importance of Knowing our Borders"

1. Proverbs 22:28 - "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set"

2. Matthew 5:14-16 - "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid"

Joshua 15:11 And the border went out unto the side of Ekron northward: and the border was drawn to Shicron, and passed along to mount Baalah, and went out unto Jabneel; and the goings out of the border were at the sea.

The border of Joshua 15:11 extended as far north as Ekron and continued onward through Shicron, Baalah, and Jabneel, ending at the sea.

1. God's Promises Fulfilled: The Journey from Joshua 15:11 to Our Lives Today

2. Abiding in God's Presence: A Study of Joshua 15:11

1. Isaiah 43:2-3, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Romans 8:38-39, For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Joshua 15:12 And the west border was to the great sea, and the coast thereof. This is the coast of the children of Judah round about according to their families.

This passage describes the west border of Judah, which is the great sea and its coast, and the families of Judah living around it.

1. The Boundaries of God's People: What It Means to be Part of the Family of God

2. The Blessing of Living in the Land He Promised: Experiencing the Fulfillment of God's Promises

1. Deuteronomy 11:12, A land which the Lord your God cares for. The eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

2. Psalm 37:3-4, Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Joshua 15:13 And unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a part among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, even the city of Arba the father of Anak, which city is Hebron.

Caleb was given a portion of the land of Judah in accordance with the Lord's command to Joshua. The city given to Caleb was Arba, the father of Anak, which is Hebron.

1. God is faithful to fulfill His promises - Joshua 15:13

2. Obedience brings blessings - Joshua 15:13

1. Deuteronomy 7:12 - If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, then the LORD your God will keep his covenant of love with you, as he swore to your ancestors.

2. Psalm 105:42 - For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.

Joshua 15:14 And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak.

Caleb drove away the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai, from the land.

1. God can give us the courage and strength we need to overcome obstacles.

2. We can trust in God to guide us when faced with difficult enemies.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Joshua 15:15 And he went up thence to the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before was Kirjathsepher.

Caleb conquers the city of Debir, which was previously known as Kirjathsepher.

1. The Power of Faith: How Caleb's Faith Led Him to Conquering a City

2. The Rewards of Perseverance: Caleb's Story of Overcoming Adversity

1. Hebrews 11:30 - By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 15:16 And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjathsepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.

Caleb promised his daughter Achsah to the one who conquered the city of Kirjathsepher.

1. The Faithfulness of Caleb's Promise.

2. The Power of God's Protection.

1. Genesis 28:15 And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Joshua 15:17 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife.

Othniel, Caleb's brother, takes possession of a certain land and is rewarded with Achsah, Caleb's daughter, as his wife.

1: God rewards those who serve Him faithfully with blessings beyond our understanding.

2: God is faithful to His promises, no matter how long it takes.

1: Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

2: James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Joshua 15:18 And it came to pass, as she came unto him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off her ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou?

Passage Caleb encountered a woman who asked for a field from her father and Caleb asked her what she wanted.

1: God will provide for us in unexpected ways.

2: God hears our requests and desires.

1: Psalm 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

2: James 4:2 - "Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not."

Joshua 15:19 Who answered, Give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs.

This passage from Joshua 15:19 speaks of God's provision and generosity in fulfilling a request for a blessing.

1: God will always provide for us and bless us if we ask Him.

2: God is a generous and faithful provider, no matter our requests.

1: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2: Psalm 145:9 - The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

Joshua 15:20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families.

This passage recounts the inheritance of the tribe of Judah according to their families.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the fulfillment of His promises to His people.

2. God is a God of order who provides for His people according to His will.

1. Ephesians 1:11-12 - In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will.

12. Deuteronomy 8:18 - You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Joshua 15:21 And the uttermost cities of the tribe of the children of Judah toward the coast of Edom southward were Kabzeel, and Eder, and Jagur,

This passage states that the outermost cities of the tribe of Judah were Kabzeel, Eder, and Jagur.

1: God's Promises are Always Fulfilled

2: God's Faithfulness Endures Forever

1: Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Joshua 15:22 And Kinah, and Dimonah, and Adadah,

This verse is part of a list of towns in the region of Judah.

1. God has blessed us with a place to call home.

2. We are all part of God's plan.

1. Acts 17:26-27 - God has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth.

2. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

Joshua 15:23 And Kedesh, and Hazor, and Ithnan,

This verse reveals that Kedesh, Hazor, and Ithnan were part of the land of Judah.

1. The importance of claiming the promises of God for our lives.

2. God's faithful provision of our needs.

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-11; And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers.

2. Joshua 14:9-12; And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.

Joshua 15:24 Ziph, and Telem, and Bealoth,

This verse discusses three places in Israel: Ziph, Telem, and Bealoth.

1. "The Importance of Place: How Where We Live Matters"

2. "The Faithfulness of God: How He Provides for His People"

1. Psalm 78:54-55 - "He brought them to His holy land, to the mountain His right hand had gained."

2. Deuteronomy 6:10-11 - "When the Lord your God brings you into the land He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build."

Joshua 15:25 And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerioth, and Hezron, which is Hazor,

This passage mentions four cities: Hazor, Hadattah, Kerioth, and Hezron.

1. The Lord's Provision in Cities: How God provides for us in urban areas.

2. God's Faithfulness in our Lives: How He guides us through life no matter where we are.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Joshua 15:26 Amam, and Shema, and Moladah,

The passage mentions three cities: Amam, Shema, and Moladah.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: A Look at Joshua 15:26

2. The Promises of God: The Blessing of Living in Amam, Shema, and Moladah

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

2. Psalm 44:1 - We have heard with our ears, O God; our ancestors have told us what you did in their days, in days long ago.

Joshua 15:27 And Hazargaddah, and Heshmon, and Bethpalet,

The passage mentions three places: Hazargaddah, Heshmon, and Bethpalet.

1. God's Faithfulness Is Seen Even In The Most Unfamiliar Places

2. God's Sovereignty Is On Display In All Locations

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Isaiah 45:3-5

Joshua 15:28 And Hazarshual, and Beersheba, and Bizjothjah,

This passage states that Hazarshual, Beersheba, and Bizjothjah are places in the region of Judah.

1. The Promises of God Fulfilled: Joshua 15:28 as a Reminder of His Faithfulness

2. A Study of the Cities of Judah: What Joshua 15:28 Can Teach Us

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:29-30 - The fear of God came on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard how the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel.

Joshua 15:29 Baalah, and Iim, and Azem,

This passage mentions three towns, Baalah, Iim, and Azem, located in the region of Judah.

1. God's plans are revealed through his faithful servants, like Joshua, who named these towns.

2. Our lives are a part of God's plan, just as these towns were part of Joshua's plan.

1. Psalm 57:2 - "I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me."

2. Isaiah 51:16 - "I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand I who set the heavens in place, who laid the foundations of the earth, and who say to Zion, You are my people. "

Joshua 15:30 And Eltolad, and Chesil, and Hormah,

The passage discusses three locations: Eltolad, Chesil, and Hormah.

1. A Study of the Promised Land: Exploring the Significance of Eltolad, Chesil, and Hormah

2. Faithful Fulfillment of God's Promises: Learning from the Examples of Eltolad, Chesil, and Hormah

1. Numbers 33:30-35 - God's guidance and protection as Israel enters the Promised Land

2. Joshua 11:16-23 - The faithfulness of God to fulfill His promises to Israel

Joshua 15:31 And Ziklag, and Madmannah, and Sansannah,

This passage mentions three cities in the tribe of Judah; Ziklag, Madmannah, and Sansannah.

1. God provides us with security in all aspects of our lives, including our homes.

2. We must trust in the Lord to provide us with strength and guidance in our lives.

1. Psalm 121:3-4 - "He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."

2. Psalm 37:23-24 - "The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand."

Joshua 15:32 And Lebaoth, and Shilhim, and Ain, and Rimmon: all the cities are twenty and nine, with their villages:

The passage mentions four cities and their respective villages, located in the area of Judah.

1. "Be Faithful in Serving God"

2. "The Blessing of Following God's Will"

1. Joshua 24:15 - As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2. James 2:18-19 - But someone will say, You have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Joshua 15:33 And in the valley, Eshtaol, and Zoreah, and Ashnah,

Joshua 15:33 describes the cities of Eshtaol, Zoreah, and Ashnah located in the valley.

1. God's plan for us is often revealed in unexpected places.

2. Living with an attitude of gratitude can unlock the blessings of God.

1. Psalm 34:8 - Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Joshua 15:34 And Zanoah, and Engannim, Tappuah, and Enam,

The passage mentions four cities of Judah: Zanoah, Engannim, Tappuah, and Enam.

1. God's love is revealed in the wonderful places He has provided for His people.

2. We must be willing to be a light to our neighbours and to share the good news of the gospel.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

2. Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Joshua 15:35 Jarmuth, and Adullam, Socoh, and Azekah,

The passage mentions four cities: Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, and Azekah.

1. The Power of Four: How God Can Do Big Things with a Small Number

2. The Cities of the Promised Land: Finding Strength in Our Heritage

1. Joshua 15:35

2. Ephesians 4:16 - "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Joshua 15:36 And Sharaim, and Adithaim, and Gederah, and Gederothaim; fourteen cities with their villages:

This passage mentions four cities - Sharaim, Adithaim, Gederah, and Gederothaim - and their fourteen villages.

1. Trusting God to Provide in Times of Need

2. The Importance of Community

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Joshua 15:37 Zenan, and Hadashah, and Migdalgad,

This passage lists three towns in the territory of Judah: Zenan, Hadashah, and Migdalgad.

1: We can find joy in the Lord's provision, even when facing difficult times.

2: God takes care of His people, providing them with the tools to navigate their lives.

1: Psalm 34:10 - "Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

2: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Joshua 15:38 And Dilean, and Mizpeh, and Joktheel,

This passage mentions three towns: Dilean, Mizpeh and Joktheel.

1. The Importance of Place in Our Lives: Exploring the Meaning of Dilean, Mizpeh, and Joktheel

2. Finding Our Identity in God's Plan: Understanding Our Purpose through the Towns of Dilean, Mizpeh, and Joktheel

1. Psalm 16:6 - The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; Yes, I have a good inheritance.

2. Isaiah 33:20 - Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts; Your eyes will see Jerusalem, a quiet home, a tabernacle that will not be taken down; Not one of its stakes will ever be removed, nor will any of its cords be broken.

Joshua 15:39 Lachish, and Bozkath, and Eglon,

Joshua 15:39 mentions the cities of Lachish, Bozkath, and Eglon.

1. "The Perfect Plan of God"

2. "God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises"

1. Isaiah 46:9-11

2. Jeremiah 29:11-14

Joshua 15:40 And Cabbon, and Lahmam, and Kithlish,

The passage mentions three cities, Cabbon, Lahmam, and Kithlish.

1. God's Plan for Us: Our Lives in the Cities He Has Given Us

2. The Power of Unity: How Living in Community Enhances Our Lives

1. Psalm 48:1-2 - "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King."

2. Acts 17:24-28 - "God, who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him."

Joshua 15:41 And Gederoth, Bethdagon, and Naamah, and Makkedah; sixteen cities with their villages:

Joshua 15:41 mentions 16 cities and their villages, including Gederoth, Bethdagon, Naamah, and Makkedah.

1. The Importance of Making Space for Others - Joshua 15:41

2. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling Promises - Joshua 15:41

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Joshua 15:42 Libnah, and Ether, and Ashan,

Libnah, Ether, and Ashan are listed as part of the portion of Judah's inheritance.

1: God gives us what we need and provides for us according to his will.

2: Through our own work and dedication, we can receive God's blessings.

1: Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

2: Proverbs 21:5 - "The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, but those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty."

Joshua 15:43 And Jiphtah, and Ashnah, and Nezib,

This passage mentions three cities, Jiphtah, Ashnah, and Nezib, located in the area of Judah.

1: Make the Most of Every Opportunity - Luke 16:10

2: Overcoming Obstacles - Philippians 4:13

1: Joshua 18:28 - And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which is Jerusalem, Gibeath, and Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages.

2: Joshua 19:2 - And they had in their inheritance Beersheba, and Sheba, and Moladah,

Joshua 15:44 And Keilah, and Achzib, and Mareshah; nine cities with their villages:

Joshua 15:44 mentions nine cities and their villages - Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah.

1. God's Promises are Fulfilled: A Study of Joshua 15:44

2. The Power of Habakkuk's Prayer: An Analysis of Joshua 15:44

1. Deuteronomy 1:8: "See, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them."

2. Habakkuk 2:2: "And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."

Joshua 15:45 Ekron, with her towns and her villages:

Ekron is described as having its own towns and villages.

1: In our lives, we must remember that our purpose and goals are connected to the things in our lives that matter.

2: We must understand that our relationships and the environment in which we live have an impact on our lives and our goals.

1: Proverbs 17:24 - A discerning person keeps wisdom in view, but a fool s eyes wander to the ends of the earth.

2: Philippians 3:13-14 - Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Joshua 15:46 From Ekron even unto the sea, all that lay near Ashdod, with their villages:

This passage describes the boundary lines of the tribe of Judah, extending from Ekron to the Mediterranean Sea, with the city of Ashdod in between.

1. God's Faithfulness - The Boundaries of Judah and How We Can Trust in His Promises

2. The Power of Possession - Claiming What God Has Given Us

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-11 - And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers.

2. Joshua 1:2-3 - Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Joshua 15:47 Ashdod with her towns and her villages, Gaza with her towns and her villages, unto the river of Egypt, and the great sea, and the border thereof:

This passage describes the borders of the land of Judah, from Ashdod and Gaza to the river of Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises - Joshua 15:47

2. Living in God's Promised Land - Joshua 15:47

1. Isaiah 54:3 - "For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Joshua 15:48 And in the mountains, Shamir, and Jattir, and Socoh,

The passage mentions three cities: Shamir, Jattir, and Socoh.

1: Living in God's Provision - We can rest assured that wherever we are living, God will provide for us and show us His grace.

2: The Power of Place - The places we occupy have power to shape us and influence us in ways we can't imagine.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua 15:49 And Dannah, and Kirjathsannah, which is Debir,

The passage mentions two cities, Dannah and Kirjathsannah, which are known as Debir.

1: God's plan for us is far greater than we can imagine as seen through the example of Debir.

2: We can rely on God to provide us with guidance and protection in our lives, just as He did for Debir.

1: Isaiah 55:9 - For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Psalm 73:26 - My flesh and my heart may fail, But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Joshua 15:50 And Anab, and Eshtemoh, and Anim,

This passage mentions the three cities of Anab, Eshtemoh, and Anim.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people (Joshua 15:50).

2. The importance of obedience to God's commands (Joshua 15:50).

1. Deuteronomy 6:17-19; keeping God's commandments.

2. Romans 8:28; God's good purpose in all things.

Joshua 15:51 And Goshen, and Holon, and Giloh; eleven cities with their villages:

This passage lists eleven cities and their associated villages in the area of Goshen, Holon, and Giloh.

1. The Power of Community: How We Thrive Together

2. God's Provision: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Joshua 15:52 Arab, and Dumah, and Eshean,

53 And Janum, and Bethtappuah, and Aphekah,

This passage mentions six towns in the land of Judah.

1: God's faithfulness in fulfilling his promises.

2: The importance of trusting in God's plan.

1: Joshua 21:45 Not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you; all have come to pass for you, not one word of them has failed.

2: 2 Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

Joshua 15:53 And Janum, and Bethtappuah, and Aphekah,

This verse mentions three cities in the region of Judah: Janum, Bethtappuah, and Aphekah.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises of land to His people.

2. The importance of faithfulness to God in all areas of our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Joshua 1:1-9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 15:54 And Humtah, and Kirjatharba, which is Hebron, and Zior; nine cities with their villages:

Joshua 15:54 lists nine cities and their villages, including Humtah, Kirjatharba (which is Hebron), and Zior.

1. Kirjatharba and the Promise of God

2. The Significance of the Nine Cities

1. Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - The Lord our God said to us at Horeb, You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Turn and take your journey, and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, in the hill country and in the lowland and in the Negeb and by the seacoast, the land of the Canaanites, and Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates.

2. Joshua 14:13-15 - So Joshua blessed him, and he gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance. Therefore Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the Lord, the God of Israel.

Joshua 15:55 Maon, Carmel, and Ziph, and Juttah,

Maon, Carmel, and Ziph were four cities of Judah located near the wilderness of Judah.

1: We can find hope in the wilderness when our faith is tested.

2: God will provide for us even in difficult seasons.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Joshua 15:56 And Jezreel, and Jokdeam, and Zanoah,

The passage describes three towns in the area of Judah: Jezreel, Jokdeam, and Zanoah.

1. A Call to Renewal: Remembering God's Promises in Times of Trouble

2. Reaching Out and Serving Others: A Challenge to Live a Life of Faith

1. Joshua 23:14 - And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Joshua 15:57 Cain, Gibeah, and Timnah; ten cities with their villages:

Joshua assigned ten cities with their villages to the tribe of Judah, including Cain, Gibeah, and Timnah.

1. We can trust God to provide us with what we need, just as He provided the tribe of Judah with these ten cities and villages.

2. God has given us the gifts of trust and faith to use in our daily lives.

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Joshua 15:58 Halhul, Bethzur, and Gedor,

Halhul, Bethzur, and Gedor were cities given to the tribe of Judah.

1: The Lord's faithfulness to His people can be seen in the gift of these cities to the tribe of Judah.

2: We can have faith in God's provision, even when it looks like there is not enough.

1: Deuteronomy 1:8 - See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land the Lord swore he would give to your fathers to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and to their descendants after them.

2: Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Joshua 15:59 And Maarath, and Bethanoth, and Eltekon; six cities with their villages:

This passage describes six cities and their villages in the region of Judah.

1. God has provided for us in abundance, even in the smallest of places.

2. Our faithfulness in small things will be blessed by God.

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Matthew 25:21 - His master replied, Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master s happiness!

Joshua 15:60 Kirjathbaal, which is Kirjathjearim, and Rabbah; two cities with their villages:

Joshua 15:60 mentions two cities and their villages - Kirjathbaal (Kirjathjearim) and Rabbah.

1. God's Plan is Perfect: A Study of Joshua 15:60

2. The Importance of Faithful Cities: A Look at Joshua 15:60

1. Deuteronomy 11:30 - "Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you are increased, and you inherit the land."

2. 2 Chronicles 13:19 - "And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that it was not of man that Abijah had conquered Jeroboam."

Joshua 15:61 In the wilderness, Betharabah, Middin, and Secacah,

This verse describes three places that are located in the wilderness.

1. God's faithfulness is revealed in the wilderness, even in the most barren places.

2. The wilderness is a place of testing and growth, as illustrated by the three places mentioned in Joshua 15:61.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

2. Isaiah 43:19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Joshua 15:62 And Nibshan, and the city of Salt, and Engedi; six cities with their villages.

Joshua 15:62 states there were six cities and their villages in the region of Nibshan, the city of Salt, and Engedi.

1. God's Promises: How God's Faithfulness Endures Even Through Conflict

2. The Cities of Refuge: Finding Safety and Security in God

1. Jeremiah 33:18-19 - I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel and will rebuild them as they were at first. I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

2. Exodus 21:13 - But if the accused ever goes outside the boundaries of the city of refuge to which they fled, and the avenger of blood finds them outside the boundaries of their city of refuge, the avenger of blood may kill the accused without being guilty of murder.

Joshua 15:63 As for the Jebusites the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah could not drive them out: but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah at Jerusalem unto this day.

Despite the efforts of the children of Judah, the Jebusites were not able to be driven out and continue to inhabit Jerusalem alongside the children of Judah.

1. The Power of Persistence: How the Jebusites Refused to Give Up

2. The Strength of Unity: How the Children of Judah and the Jebusites Coexisted

1. 1 Corinthians 1:10 "I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment."

2. Psalm 122:6-7 "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and security within your towers! "

Joshua 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 16:1-4 describes the allotment of land for the tribe of Joseph specifically for the descendants of Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh. The chapter begins by stating that the lot fell to the tribe of Joseph, and it mentions their northern border starting from the Jordan River. However, they encountered difficulties in fully driving out the Canaanites who were living in Gezer. Joshua instructs them to clear out this region and promises that they will have success against their enemies.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 16:5-9, it provides a detailed account of the territory allotted to Ephraim within the larger inheritance of Joseph. It describes their southern border extending from Ataroth-addar to Upper Beth-horon. The passage also mentions various cities within Ephraim's territory, such as Bethel, Naaran, Gezer, and others. Despite receiving a significant portion of land, it is noted that Ephraim did not fully drive out all its Canaanite inhabitants.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 16 concludes with an account of failed attempts by different tribes to dislodge Canaanite inhabitants from their territories in Joshua 16:10. It mentions that they did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer but instead forced them into servitude a pattern seen throughout various regions occupied by other tribes as well. This passage highlights how certain tribes were unable or unwilling to completely remove these indigenous populations as commanded by God.

In summary:

Joshua 16 presents:

Allotment for tribe of Joseph difficulties with Canaanites at Gezer;

Territory allotted to Ephraim detailed description;

Failed attempts at driving out Canaanites partial conquests and servitude.

Emphasis on allotment for tribe of Joseph difficulties with Canaanites at Gezer;

Territory allotted to Ephraim detailed description;

Failed attempts at driving out Canaanites partial conquests and servitude.

The chapter focuses on the allotment of land for the tribe of Joseph, specifically the difficulties encountered with the Canaanites in Gezer, a detailed account of Ephraim's territory, and failed attempts by different tribes to dislodge Canaanite inhabitants from their territories. In Joshua 16, it is mentioned that the lot fell to the tribe of Joseph. However, they faced challenges in fully driving out the Canaanites who were residing in Gezer. Joshua instructs them to clear out this region and promises success against their enemies.

Continuing in Joshua 16, a detailed account is provided regarding the territory allotted to Ephraim within the larger inheritance of Joseph. The passage describes their southern border extending from Ataroth-addar to Upper Beth-horon and mentions various cities within Ephraim's territory such as Bethel, Naaran, Gezer, among others. It highlights how Ephraim received a significant portion of land but did not fully drive out all its Canaanite inhabitants a pattern seen throughout different regions occupied by other tribes as well.

Joshua 16 concludes with an account that mentions failed attempts by various tribes to dislodge Canaanite inhabitants from their territories. Specifically referring to Gezer again, it notes that instead of completely driving out these indigenous populations as commanded by God, they forced them into servitude a partial conquest rather than complete removal. This passage underscores how certain tribes were unable or unwilling to fulfill God's instructions regarding complete expulsion and demonstrates a recurring challenge faced during Israel's occupation of the Promised Land.

Joshua 16:1 And the lot of the children of Joseph fell from Jordan by Jericho, unto the water of Jericho on the east, to the wilderness that goeth up from Jericho throughout mount Bethel,

The children of Joseph were given land from the Jordan to the wilderness of Bethel.

1. God rewards faithfulness with blessings

2. Our lives are shaped by the promises of God

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Joshua 16:2 And goeth out from Bethel to Luz, and passeth along unto the borders of Archi to Ataroth,

The passage describes a route from Bethel to Ataroth passing through Luz and Archi.

1: God calls us to take a journey and trust Him for our destination.

2: Whether in life or in faith, we must remain focused on our goals and trust God for the outcome.

1: Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Joshua 16:3 And goeth down westward to the coast of Japhleti, unto the coast of Bethhoron the nether, and to Gezer; and the goings out thereof are at the sea.

Joshua 16:3 describes a region that extends from west to east, from Japhleti to Gezer, and ends at the sea.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty Extends Over All: Exploring Joshua 16:3

2. God's Everlasting Promises: Understanding Joshua 16:3

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'

2. Psalm 107:3 - He gathered the outcasts of Israel; He brought them from the four corners of the earth.

Joshua 16:4 So the children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.

The children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, received their inheritance.

1. God is faithful to fulfill His promises.

2. We should trust that God will provide for us.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Malachi 3:10 - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Joshua 16:5 And the border of the children of Ephraim according to their families was thus: even the border of their inheritance on the east side was Atarothaddar, unto Bethhoron the upper;

The border of the children of Ephraim was Atarothaddar to Bethhoron the upper.

1. God's provision for His people - He gave the children of Ephraim a border and an inheritance.

2. The importance of God-given boundaries - We should seek to remain within the boundaries God has given us.

1. Deuteronomy 19:14 - "You shall not move your neighbor s boundary marker, set up by former generations, on the inheritance you receive in the land the Lord your God is giving you to possess."

2. Joshua 23:15 - "Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good things are come upon you, which the Lord your God promised you; so shall the Lord bring upon you all evil things, until He have destroyed you from off this good land which the Lord your God hath given you."

Joshua 16:6 And the border went out toward the sea to Michmethah on the north side; and the border went about eastward unto Taanathshiloh, and passed by it on the east to Janohah;

The border of Joshua 16:6 ran from Michmethah on the north side, to Taanathshiloh on the east, and then to Janohah.

1. Learning to Adapt: Taking Time to Ponder the Path of Life (Joshua 16:6)

2. The Journey of Faith: God's Guidance for Every Step of the Way (Joshua 16:6)

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Joshua 16:7 And it went down from Janohah to Ataroth, and to Naarath, and came to Jericho, and went out at Jordan.

The passage describes the path of the tribe of Ephraim from Janohah to Jericho, ending at the Jordan River.

1. "The Lord Guides Our Paths" - discussing how God's guidance leads us in our lives.

2. "The Importance of Knowing Our History" - exploring how knowledge of our past brings us understanding of the present.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Joshua 16:8 The border went out from Tappuah westward unto the river Kanah; and the goings out thereof were at the sea. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Ephraim by their families.

The border of Ephraim's inheritance extended from Tappuah to the river Kanah, and ended at the sea.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises of land to His people.

2. Trusting God to provide when we have done our part.

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12; Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength.

2. Psalm 37:3-5; Trust in the Lord, and do good. Dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Joshua 16:9 And the separate cities for the children of Ephraim were among the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages.

The children of Ephraim were allotted separate cities from the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, which included all the cities and their villages.

1. The Importance of Inheritance: How God's Provision Allows Us to Flourish

2. The Responsibility of Stewardship: Honoring God's Gifts to Us

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today."

2. Proverbs 13:22 - "A good person leaves an inheritance for their children s children, but a sinner s wealth is stored up for the righteous."

Joshua 16:10 And they drave not out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer: but the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites unto this day, and serve under tribute.

The Canaanites living in Gezer were not driven out by the Ephraimites, and still remain among them to this day, paying tribute.

1. God's grace and mercy can be seen in the forgiveness of our enemies.

2. God does not always call us to complete victory, but to live in peace and harmony.

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

2. Romans 12:18 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Joshua 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 17:1-6 describes the allotment of land for the tribe of Manasseh. The chapter begins by mentioning that Manasseh was one of Joseph's sons and that his descendants received their inheritance based on their clans. It highlights how the daughters of Zelophehad, from the tribe of Manasseh, approached Joshua and Eleazar the priest to request their father's inheritance since he had no sons. In response, Joshua grants them a possession among their father's brothers in accordance with God's command.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 17:7-13, it provides a detailed account of the territory allotted to the half-tribe of Manasseh. The passage mentions various cities within their allotted portion, including Shechem, which was a prominent city in this region. However, it notes that despite receiving a substantial inheritance, they were unable to fully dislodge certain Canaanite inhabitants who continued to dwell among them as forced laborers.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 17 concludes with an account where the descendants of Joseph express concern about their allotted portion being insufficient due to its dense population and powerful Canaanite chariots in Joshua 17:14-18. They approach Joshua seeking more land and larger territories. In response, Joshua advises them to clear out more forests for themselves in the hill country and reassures them that they have both numerical strength and divine assistance against their enemies.

In summary:

Joshua 17 presents:

Allotment for tribe of Manasseh daughters' request granted;

Territory allotted to half-tribe detailed description;

Concerns about insufficient land advice from Joshua.

Emphasis on allotment for tribe of Manasseh daughters' request granted;

Territory allotted to half-tribe detailed description;

Concerns about insufficient land advice from Joshua.

The chapter focuses on the allotment of land for the tribe of Manasseh, including the granting of inheritance to the daughters of Zelophehad, a detailed account of the territory allotted to the half-tribe of Manasseh, and concerns expressed by Joseph's descendants about insufficient land. In Joshua 17, it is mentioned that Manasseh received their inheritance based on their clans as one of Joseph's sons. The passage highlights how the daughters of Zelophehad approached Joshua and Eleazar to request their father's portion since he had no sons. In response, Joshua grants them an inheritance among their father's brothers in accordance with God's command.

Continuing in Joshua 17, a detailed account is provided regarding the territory allotted to the half-tribe of Manasseh. The passage mentions various cities within this portion, including Shechem a significant city in this region. However, it notes that despite receiving a substantial inheritance, they were unable to completely dislodge certain Canaanite inhabitants who remained among them as forced laborers a partial conquest rather than complete removal.

Joshua 17 concludes with an account where Joseph's descendants express concerns about their allotted portion being insufficient due to population density and powerful Canaanite chariots. They approach Joshua seeking more land and larger territories. In response, Joshua advises them to clear out more forests for themselves in the hill country and reassures them that they possess both numerical strength and divine assistance against their enemies a reminder that with God's help they can overcome any challenges they face in possessing their inheritance.

Joshua 17:1 There was also a lot for the tribe of Manasseh; for he was the firstborn of Joseph; to wit, for Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead: because he was a man of war, therefore he had Gilead and Bashan.

The tribe of Manasseh was given a lot because Manasseh was the firstborn of Joseph. In particular, Machir, the firstborn of Manasseh, was given Gilead and Bashan because he was a man of war.

1: It is important to recognize the accomplishments of our leaders and reward them accordingly.

2: God rewards those who put their trust in Him and put their talents to good use.

1: Proverbs 22:29 "Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; He will not serve before obscure men."

2: Hebrews 11:24-26 "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh s daughter, choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward."

Joshua 17:2 There was also a lot for the rest of the children of Manasseh by their families; for the children of Abiezer, and for the children of Helek, and for the children of Asriel, and for the children of Shechem, and for the children of Hepher, and for the children of Shemida: these were the male children of Manasseh the son of Joseph by their families.

The tribes of Manasseh, Abiezer, Helek, Asriel, Shechem, Hepher, and Shemida receive their respective lots.

1. Trusting in God's Provision - Joshua 17:2

2. The Blessing of Fellowship - Joshua 17:2

1. Deuteronomy 11:8-9 - Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it; And that ye may prolong your days in the land, which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

2. Psalm 33:18-19 - Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Joshua 17:3 But Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, had no sons, but daughters: and these are the names of his daughters, Mahlah, and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

Zelophehad of the tribe of Manasseh had no sons, but five daughters, whose names were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

1. God's Plan for His People: The Daughters of Zelophehad

2. When Life Does Not Go As Planned: A Study of the Daughters of Zelophehad

1. Deuteronomy 25:5-10

2. Numbers 27:1-11

Joshua 17:4 And they came near before Eleazar the priest, and before Joshua the son of Nun, and before the princes, saying, The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brethren. Therefore according to the commandment of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among the brethren of their father.

The Israelites approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the princes to request an inheritance, as they were commanded to do by the Lord. As a result, the Lord gave them an inheritance among the brethren of their father.

1. The Lord Rewards Faith: How Obedience to God's Commandments Can Lead to Fulfillment

2. The Power of Requesting What You Need: Learning to Ask for What We Need from the Lord

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Joshua 17:5 And there fell ten portions to Manasseh, beside the land of Gilead and Bashan, which were on the other side Jordan;

Manasseh received ten portions of land, in addition to the land of Gilead and Bashan, which was located on the other side of the Jordan River.

1. The faithfulness of God in providing for His people: Joshua 17:5

2. The importance of stewardship: How to make the most of what we have been given.

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the talents: For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

Joshua 17:6 Because the daughters of Manasseh had an inheritance among his sons: and the rest of Manasseh's sons had the land of Gilead.

Manasseh's sons were given an inheritance that included the land of Gilead.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His provision for His people.

2. God's love is expressed through His generous gifts.

1. Psalm 37:4-5 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Joshua 17:7 And the coast of Manasseh was from Asher to Michmethah, that lieth before Shechem; and the border went along on the right hand unto the inhabitants of Entappuah.

The border of Manasseh stretched from Asher to Michmethah and then to Entappuah, near Shechem.

1. God's Sovereignty in the Borders of Manasseh - Joshua 17:7

2. The Holy Land as a Blessing and Privilege - Joshua 17:7

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 17:8 Now Manasseh had the land of Tappuah: but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh belonged to the children of Ephraim;

Manasseh received the land of Tappuah, which was on the border of Manasseh and belonged to the children of Ephraim.

1. Working Together In Unity To Accomplish More

2. The Power Of Cooperation In The Body Of Christ

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many.

Joshua 17:9 And the coast descended unto the river Kanah, southward of the river: these cities of Ephraim are among the cities of Manasseh: the coast of Manasseh also was on the north side of the river, and the outgoings of it were at the sea:

The cities of Ephraim were located among the cities of Manasseh on the banks of the River Kanah, south of the river and north of the sea.

1. The Strength of Being Together - The importance of unity and community in times of adversity.

2. The Power of Community - How coming together can bring about great things.

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

2. Acts 4:32 - And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul.

Joshua 17:10 Southward it was Ephraim's, and northward it was Manasseh's, and the sea is his border; and they met together in Asher on the north, and in Issachar on the east.

The tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh were divided with the sea as their border. They met in Asher to the north and Issachar to the east.

1. "The Importance of Boundaries"

2. "The Unity of God's People"

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Joshua 17:11 And Manasseh had in Issachar and in Asher Bethshean and her towns, and Ibleam and her towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, and the inhabitants of Endor and her towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and her towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns, even three countries.

Manasseh had control over several cities in Issachar and Asher including Bethshean, Ibleam, Dor, Endor, Taanach, and Megiddo.

1. The Power of Inheritance: God's Blessing in Manasseh's Land (Joshua 17:11)

2. The Importance of Obedience: Manasseh's Victory over His Opponents (Joshua 17:11)

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

2. Psalm 48:1-3 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. Within her citadels God has made himself known as a fortress.

Joshua 17:12 Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out the inhabitants of those cities; but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.

Manasseh's descendants were unable to drive out the Canaanites from the cities they were given.

1. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Obstacles in Difficult Times

2. Persevere in the Face of Adversity: Learning from the Story of Manasseh

1. Hebrews 11:30-31 - "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

Joshua 17:13 Yet it came to pass, when the children of Israel were waxen strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, but did not utterly drive them out.

The Israelites were strong enough to impose tribute on the Canaanites, but they did not completely drive them out.

1. God's Strength is Enough to Overcome Any Obstacle

2. The Power of Perseverance

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Joshua 17:14 And the children of Joseph spake unto Joshua, saying, Why hast thou given me but one lot and one portion to inherit, seeing I am a great people, forasmuch as the LORD hath blessed me hitherto?

The children of Joseph question why they have only been given one lot and one portion to inherit, as they believe that the Lord has blessed them greatly.

1. God's blessings are not always tangible, and we must recognize that even with what we have we are blessed.

2. We should be thankful for the blessings God has given us, no matter how small they may seem.

1. Psalm 103:2-4 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Joshua 17:15 And Joshua answered them, If thou be a great people, then get thee up to the wood country, and cut down for thyself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the giants, if mount Ephraim be too narrow for thee.

Joshua instructed the tribe of Manasseh to find their own land in the wood country, even if it was already occupied by the Perizzites and giants.

1. God Provides: Even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, God will provide a way.

2. Overcoming: We must have the courage to rise up and take what is already promised to us.

1. Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Joshua 17:16 And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both they who are of Bethshean and her towns, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.

This passage describes the children of Joseph expressing concern that the hill is not enough for them to possess, as the Canaanites of the valley possess chariots of iron.

1. God tests us in different ways, but we can rely on Him to give us the strength to overcome.

2. We must strive to be content with what God has given us, and trust in His plan.

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Joshua 17:17 And Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph, even to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, Thou art a great people, and hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot only:

Joshua encouraged the house of Joseph, specifically Ephraim and Manasseh, to have more than one lot because they were a great people with great power.

1. The Power of Possibility: Embracing the Opportunities Ahead

2. Embracing the Strength of Unity: Working Together for Success

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Joshua 17:18 But the mountain shall be thine; for it is a wood, and thou shalt cut it down: and the outgoings of it shall be thine: for thou shalt drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots, and though they be strong.

Joshua is instructing the Israelites to take possession of the mountain, which is full of wood, and to drive out the Canaanites, even though they have iron chariots and are strong.

1. Overcoming challenges with faith in God.

2. Finding strength in the Lord.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Joshua 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 18:1-10 describes the remaining tribes of Israel gathering at Shiloh to set up the Tent of Meeting. The chapter begins by stating that the land had been subdued before them, and it was time for the remaining seven tribes to receive their inheritances. Joshua instructs the men to survey and map out the land into seven portions, which will be distributed among these tribes. He appoints three men from each tribe as surveyors to carry out this task.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 18:11-28, it provides a detailed account of the boundaries and cities within Benjamin's allotted portion. The passage mentions various landmarks and cities along Benjamin's border, including Jericho, Bethel, Ai, Gibeon, and others. It also notes that Jerusalem known as Jebus at that time was situated within Benjamin's territory but remained under Jebusite control.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 18 concludes with an account where representatives from each of the remaining tribes come before Joshua in Shiloh to receive their inheritances in Joshua 18:2. They cast lots before God to determine their respective territories. The chapter ends by mentioning that after this distribution was complete, the Israelites returned to their allotted portions and possessed their inheritance throughout the land.

In summary:

Joshua 18 presents:

Remaining tribes gather at Shiloh surveying and mapping instructed;

Boundaries and cities within Benjamin's portion detailed description;

Representatives receive inheritances casting lots before God.

Emphasis on remaining tribes gathering at Shiloh surveying and mapping instructed;

Boundaries and cities within Benjamin's portion detailed description;

Representatives receiving inheritances casting lots before God.

The chapter focuses on the remaining tribes of Israel gathering at Shiloh to set up the Tent of Meeting, the surveying and mapping of the land for distribution, a detailed account of Benjamin's allotted portion, and representatives from each tribe receiving their inheritances. In Joshua 18, it is mentioned that the land had been subdued before them, and Joshua instructs the remaining tribes to gather at Shiloh. He assigns men from each tribe as surveyors to divide the land into seven portions.

Continuing in Joshua 18, a detailed account is provided regarding Benjamin's allotted portion. The passage describes various landmarks and cities along Benjamin's border, including Jericho, Bethel, Ai, Gibeon, among others. It notes that Jerusalem known as Jebus at that time was situated within Benjamin's territory but remained under Jebusite control a city yet to be fully conquered by Israel.

Joshua 18 concludes with an account where representatives from each of the remaining tribes come before Joshua in Shiloh to receive their inheritances. They cast lots before God to determine their respective territories. The chapter ends by mentioning that after this distribution was complete, the Israelites returned to their allotted portions and possessed their inheritance throughout the land an important step in fulfilling God's promise of giving them possession of Canaan.

Joshua 18:1 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them.

The whole congregation of the Israelites assembled at Shiloh and set up the tabernacle of the congregation.

1. The importance of gathering together in worship of the Lord.

2. The power of faith to overcome obstacles.

1. Hebrews 10:25 - Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 18:2 And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes, which had not yet received their inheritance.

There were seven tribes of Israel that had not yet received their inheritance.

1. The Importance of Patience - Waiting for God's Timing

2. The Power of Working Together - Unifying the Tribes of Israel

1. Psalm 37:9 - "For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Joshua 18:3 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?

Joshua asked the Israelites how long it would take them to possess the land that the LORD had given them.

1. God has given us all the gifts we need to live a successful life.

2. Obeying God's commands brings us closer to living the life He has ordained for us.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Deuteronomy 11:13-15 - And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

Joshua 18:4 Give out from among you three men for each tribe: and I will send them, and they shall rise, and go through the land, and describe it according to the inheritance of them; and they shall come again to me.

Joshua instructed the Israelites to appoint three men from each tribe to explore and map the Promised Land.

1. God gives us a mission to explore and discover the gifts He has provided for us.

2. Boldly go and explore the blessings of the Lord.

1. Luke 12:48, But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating. Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

2. Isaiah 45:2, I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron.

Joshua 18:5 And they shall divide it into seven parts: Judah shall abide in their coast on the south, and the house of Joseph shall abide in their coasts on the north.

The house of Judah and the house of Joseph are to divide the land of Canaan into seven parts.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to the Israelites

2. The importance of living out the Word of God

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-15 - The Lord's faithfulness in keeping His covenant with the Israelites

2. Joshua 11:23 - The power of obedience to the Lord's commands

Joshua 18:6 Ye shall therefore describe the land into seven parts, and bring the description hither to me, that I may cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.

The Israelites were instructed to divide the land into seven parts and bring the description to Joshua so he could cast lots before the LORD.

1. Trusting God's Plan: Surrendering to His Will

2. The Power of God's Provision: Relying on His Promises

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Joshua 18:7 But the Levites have no part among you; for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance: and Gad, and Reuben, and half the tribe of Manasseh, have received their inheritance beyond Jordan on the east, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them.

This verse highlights the fact that the Levites did not receive any land during the division of the Promised Land, as their inheritance was the priesthood of the Lord.

1. We should be content with our inheritance, even if it does not look like what others have.

2. The Lord's blessings come in many forms, not just possessions.

1. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

2. Psalm 16:5-6 - Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Joshua 18:8 And the men arose, and went away: and Joshua charged them that went to describe the land, saying, Go and walk through the land, and describe it, and come again to me, that I may here cast lots for you before the LORD in Shiloh.

Joshua was instructing the men of Israel to explore the land and return to him to divide the land among them according to God's will.

1. God will direct our paths if we seek out His will.

2. We must be prepared to act on God's will when it is revealed to us.

1. Psalm 37:23 - "The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way".

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths".

Joshua 18:9 And the men went and passed through the land, and described it by cities into seven parts in a book, and came again to Joshua to the host at Shiloh.

Nine men were sent to go throughout the land of Canaan and divide it into seven regions. They documented it in a book and returned to Joshua in Shiloh.

1. The Importance of Documenting Our Experiences

2. The Power of Working Together

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they are warm, but how can one be warm alone?

2. 2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

Joshua 18:10 And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD: and there Joshua divided the land unto the children of Israel according to their divisions.

Joshua divides the land among the Israelites according to the Lord's guidance.

1: God provides for His people - Joshua 18:10

2: Obedience brings blessings - Joshua 18:10

1: Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2: Deuteronomy 8:18 - But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

Joshua 18:11 And the lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families: and the coast of their lot came forth between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph.

The tribe of Benjamin was allocated an area between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph.

1: We must be willing to accept our portion in life and be content with it, understanding that God has a plan for all of us.

2: We can trust that God will provide us with the resources and support we need to fulfill His purpose in our lives.

1: Philippians 4:11-12 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2: Psalm 84:11 - For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Joshua 18:12 And their border on the north side was from Jordan; and the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north side, and went up through the mountains westward; and the goings out thereof were at the wilderness of Bethaven.

This passage describes the northern border of the land of Benjamin, which extended from the Jordan river to the wilderness of Bethaven, passing through the mountains west of Jericho.

1. The faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promise of providing land for the Israelites.

2. How God's faithfulness transcends geographical boundaries and time.

1. Deuteronomy 1:21 - "See, the Lord your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Joshua 18:13 And the border went over from thence toward Luz, to the side of Luz, which is Bethel, southward; and the border descended to Atarothadar, near the hill that lieth on the south side of the nether Bethhoron.

This passage describes the border that extended from the town of Luz to Atarothadar, near the hill on the south side of the nether Bethhoron.

1. The Lord's Protection: A Look at God's Provision for His People in Joshua 18:13

2. Finding Strength in Unexpected Places: A Study of God's Guidance in Joshua 18:13

1. Genesis 28:10-19 - Jacob's dream of a ladder reaching to heaven.

2. Deuteronomy 1:7-8 - The Lord's promise to give the Israelites the promised land.

Joshua 18:14 And the border was drawn thence, and compassed the corner of the sea southward, from the hill that lieth before Bethhoron southward; and the goings out thereof were at Kirjathbaal, which is Kirjathjearim, a city of the children of Judah: this was the west quarter.

This passage describes the borders of the land allotted to the tribe of Judah, which included a corner of the Mediterranean Sea and the city of Kirjathjearim.

1. The Lord has blessed the Tribe of Judah with a land to call their own.

2. God's faithfulness is seen in His provision of land for His people.

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

4. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant and when you eat and are full, then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Joshua 18:15 And the south quarter was from the end of Kirjathjearim, and the border went out on the west, and went out to the well of waters of Nephtoah:

The south quarter of the land of Canaan extended from Kirjathjearim to the well of waters of Nephtoah.

1. The Land of Canaan: A Place of Provision and Promise

2. God's Promise of Provision: A Study of Joshua 18:15

1. Isaiah 41:17-20 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Joshua 18:16 And the border came down to the end of the mountain that lieth before the valley of the son of Hinnom, and which is in the valley of the giants on the north, and descended to the valley of Hinnom, to the side of Jebusi on the south, and descended to Enrogel,

The border of Joshua 18:16 extended from the end of the mountain to the valley of Hinnom, Jebusi, and Enrogel.

1. The Journey of Faith: How Our Faithful Choices Guide Our Lives

2. The Power of Boundaries: Understanding the Limits of Our Lives

1. Psalm 16:6 - "The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance."

2. Hebrews 13:20 - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Joshua 18:17 And was drawn from the north, and went forth to Enshemesh, and went forth toward Geliloth, which is over against the going up of Adummim, and descended to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben,

The boundary of Benjamin's tribe was drawn from the north and went south to the stone of Bohan, the son of Reuben.

1. The Boundaries of our Faith: How Knowing our Spiritual Roots Can Help Guide Our Lives

2. The Stones of Our Lives: How Our Ancestors' Experiences Can Lead Us to Greater Understanding

1. Proverbs 22:28 - "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

2. Romans 15:4 - "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

Joshua 18:18 And passed along toward the side over against Arabah northward, and went down unto Arabah:

The Israelites passed northward from the Arabah and went down into the Arabah.

1. Living by Faith in Unfamiliar Places - Joshua 18:18

2. Following God's Guidance Even When We Don't Understand - Joshua 18:18

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Joshua 18:19 And the border passed along to the side of Bethhoglah northward: and the outgoings of the border were at the north bay of the salt sea at the south end of Jordan: this was the south coast.

This verse of the Bible describes the location of the northern border of the city of Bethhoglah, which is the north bay of the Salt Sea at the south end of the Jordan River.

1. God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises

2. God's Sovereignty in Establishing Boundaries

1. Ezekiel 47:18-20 - And the east side you shall measure from Hauran, and from Damascus, and from Gilead, and from the land of Israel by Jordan, from the border unto the east sea. And this shall be your east coast.

2. Joshua 1:3-4 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

Joshua 18:20 And Jordan was the border of it on the east side. This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, by the coasts thereof round about, according to their families.

This passage describes the inheritance allotted to the tribe of Benjamin, which bordered the Jordan River on the east.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people - Joshua 18:20

2. The importance of stewardship in the inheritance God has given us - Joshua 18:20

1. Deuteronomy 8:18, "But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today."

2. Psalm 16:5-6, "The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance."

Joshua 18:21 Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, and Bethhoglah, and the valley of Keziz,

This passage describes the three cities that were part of the tribe of Benjamin.

1. The Faithfulness of the Tribe of Benjamin - How they upheld their commitment to the Lord even through difficult times.

2. Courage Through Adversity - Standing strong in the face of difficulty and remaining faithful to the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Joshua 18:22 And Betharabah, and Zemaraim, and Bethel,

Joshua 18:22 mentions three cities in the area of Benjamin: Betharabah, Zemaraim, and Bethel.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: How the Promised Land Was Divided Among the Tribes

2. The Three Cities of Benjamin: A Study of Betharabah, Zemaraim, and Bethel

1. Deuteronomy 1:7-8 - "Turn and take your journey, and go to the mountains of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the valleys, and in the hills, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates. Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them."

2. Joshua 13:6 - "All the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon unto Misrephothmaim, and all the Sidonians, them will I drive out from before the children of Israel: only divide thou it by lot unto the Israelites for an inheritance, as I have commanded thee."

Joshua 18:23 And Avim, and Parah, and Ophrah,

The passage speaks of the locations of Avim, Parah, and Ophrah.

1. God's Promises of Provision: Avim, Parah, and Ophrah as Examples

2. The Faithfulness of God: The Story of Avim, Parah, and Ophrah

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on trusting God for our needs.

2. Psalm 23:1-6 - God's promise of provision and protection.

Joshua 18:24 And Chepharhaammonai, and Ophni, and Gaba; twelve cities with their villages:

Joshua 18:24 lists twelve cities with their villages, including Chepharhaammonai, Ophni, and Gaba.

1. Let us be thankful for the cities God has blessed us with.

2. Let us remember to acknowledge our blessings from God.

1. Deut 7:13-14 "And he will love you and bless you and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.

2. Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Joshua 18:25 Gibeon, and Ramah, and Beeroth,

The passage describes four cities in the land of Benjamin, including Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, and Geba.

1: God is a God of Abundance - Joshua 18:25 reminds us that God provides for us even in the midst of a wilderness.

2: Faithful Obedience Brings Blessings - We are called to remain faithful to God and walk in obedience to His Word, and it will bring us blessings.

1: Deuteronomy 8:11-18 - Reminds us of all the blessings God has given us and how He brings us into a land of plenty.

2: Psalm 65:9-13 - Praises God for the abundance of food He provides and the wonderful works He has done.

Joshua 18:26 And Mizpeh, and Chephirah, and Mozah,

The passage mentions three places: Mizpeh, Chephirah, and Mozah.

1. "The Power of Place: Finding Hope in the Locations We Visit"

2. "God's Promises: Relying on Him in Uncharted Territory"

1. Psalm 16:8 - "I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Joshua 18:27 And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah,

This passage mentions three cities in the land of Benjamin: Rekem, Irpeel, and Taralah.

1. The Importance of Knowing Where You Come From

2. The Power of Unity in Community

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity

Joshua 18:28 And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which is Jerusalem, Gibeath, and Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

This passage discusses the fourteen cities and villages which were part of the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

1. The faithfulness of God's promises: how God fulfills His word

2. The importance of recognizing and accepting our inheritance in Christ

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-13 - If you heed these judgments and keep them carefully, then the Lord your God will maintain with you the covenant of mercy that He made to your fathers. He will love you and bless you and increase you.

2. Romans 8:17 - and if children, then heirs heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Joshua 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 19:1-9 describes the allotment of land for the tribe of Simeon. The chapter begins by stating that Simeon's inheritance was taken from within the portion allotted to Judah. It mentions various cities within Simeon's territory, including Beersheba, Sheba, Moladah, and others. The passage highlights how Simeon received their inheritance based on their clans.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 19:10-16, it provides a detailed account of the territory allotted to Zebulun. The passage mentions various cities within Zebulun's portion, such as Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, and others. It also notes that their border extended to the west toward the Mediterranean Sea.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 19 concludes with an account where representatives from each tribe continue to receive their inheritances in Joshua 19:17-51. The passage lists various cities and regions assigned to different tribes such as Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, Dan and provides a comprehensive overview of their allotted portions. This distribution ensures that each tribe receives its designated inheritance within the Promised Land.

In summary:

Joshua 19 presents:

Allotment for tribe of Simeon taken from Judah's portion;

Territory allotted to Zebulun detailed description;

Continued distribution of inheritances representatives receiving portions.

Emphasis on allotment for tribe of Simeon taken from Judah's portion;

Territory allotted to Zebulun detailed description;

Continued distribution of inheritances representatives receiving portions.

The chapter focuses on the allotment of land for various tribes including Simeon and Zebulun, as well as the continued distribution of inheritances to representatives from each tribe. In Joshua 19, it is mentioned that Simeon's inheritance was taken from within the portion allotted to Judah. The passage lists cities within Simeon's territory and highlights how they received their inheritance based on their clans.

Continuing in Joshua 19, a detailed account is provided regarding the territory allotted to Zebulun. The passage mentions various cities within Zebulun's portion and notes that their border extended westward toward the Mediterranean Sea an important geographical detail for understanding their allotted land.

Joshua 19 concludes with an account where representatives from each tribe continue to receive their inheritances. The passage lists various cities and regions assigned to different tribes such as Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, Dan and provides a comprehensive overview of their allotted portions. This distribution ensures that each tribe receives its designated inheritance within the Promised Land a significant step in fulfilling God's promise of settling them in Canaan.

Joshua 19:1 And the second lot came forth to Simeon, even for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families: and their inheritance was within the inheritance of the children of Judah.

Simeon received the second lot within the inheritance of Judah.

1. True joy comes from living in the will of God.

2. We can find contentment in God's provision.

1. Mark 10:29-30 "Jesus said, Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundred times as much now in this present age: houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and fields along with persecutions and in the age to come eternal life."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Joshua 19:2 And they had in their inheritance Beersheba, and Sheba, and Moladah,

This passage discusses the portion of land that was part of the inheritance of the tribe of Simeon.

1. "Blessings of Inheritance: Making the Most of What God Gives Us"

2. "A Heartfelt Thankfulness: Appreciating the Gifts of God"

1. Ephesians 1:3-12 - Praise of the Blessed Hope and Inheritance of the Believers

2. Psalms 16:5-6 - Joy of Inheritance from God and the Pleasures of His Presence

Joshua 19:3 And Hazarshual, and Balah, and Azem,

This passage from Joshua 19:3 mentions four cities belonging to the tribe of Simeon - Hazarshual, Balah, and Azem.

1. "The Gift of Possession: Finding Strength in Our Inheritance"

2. "God's Faithfulness: The Blessing of Possession"

1. Deuteronomy 12:10 - "But when you cross over the Jordan and live in the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, and he gives you rest from all your enemies around you so that you live in safety."

2. Psalm 16:5-6 - "The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance."

Joshua 19:4 And Eltolad, and Bethul, and Hormah,

This passage mentions four cities in the allotment of the tribe of Simeon: Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah, and Ziklag.

1. God's faithfulness to his promises, even in times of difficulty and challenge (Joshua 19:4).

2. The importance of trusting God and obeying his commands (Joshua 19:4).

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Joshua 19:5 And Ziklag, and Bethmarcaboth, and Hazarsusah,

The passage mentions four cities in the territory of Judah: Ziklag, Bethmarcaboth, Hazarsusah, and Beth-lebaoth.

1. God has given us all a unique set of gifts and blessings to use for His glory.

2. We must use our lives to glorify God and serve Him faithfully.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

Joshua 19:6 And Bethlebaoth, and Sharuhen; thirteen cities and their villages:

Joshua 19:6 describes thirteen cities and their villages of Bethlebaoth and Sharuhen.

1. "The Power of Community: The Cities of Bethlebaoth and Sharuhen"

2. "The Purpose of Unity: Lessons from the Cities of Bethlebaoth and Sharuhen"

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Joshua 19:7 Ain, Remmon, and Ether, and Ashan; four cities and their villages:

This verse from Joshua 19:7 mentions four cities and their villages.

1. God has promised to provide for our needs if we trust in Him.

2. No matter how tough life gets, we can find refuge in the Lord.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 62:5 - Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.

Joshua 19:8 And all the villages that were round about these cities to Baalathbeer, Ramath of the south. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families.

This passage describes the inheritance of the tribe of Simeon, which included the cities of Baalathbeer and Ramath of the south.

1. "The Importance of Inheritance: Claiming What Is Ours"

2. "The Blessing of Belonging: A Reflection on Simeon's Inheritance"

1. Romans 8:17 - "and if children, then heirs heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him."

2. Ephesians 1:11 - "In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will."

Joshua 19:9 Out of the portion of the children of Judah was the inheritance of the children of Simeon: for the part of the children of Judah was too much for them: therefore the children of Simeon had their inheritance within the inheritance of them.

The inheritance of the children of Simeon was within the portion of the children of Judah, as their portion was too much for them.

1. God always provides for His people, even when it seems impossible.

2. God's provision is perfect and there is no need to worry.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Joshua 19:10 And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families: and the border of their inheritance was unto Sarid:

This passage details the land inheritance of the tribe of Zebulun.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

1. Deuteronomy 6:16-18 You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested Him at Massah. You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and His testimonies and His statutes, which He has commanded you. And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may be well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land which the Lord swore to your fathers.

2. Joshua 24:13 I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.

Joshua 19:11 And their border went up toward the sea, and Maralah, and reached to Dabbasheth, and reached to the river that is before Jokneam;

This passage describes the border of the tribe of Zebulun, which went up toward the sea, Maralah, Dabbasheth, and the river before Jokneam.

1. "God Gives Each of Us Boundaries"

2. "God Cares for the Details of Our Lives"

1. Psalm 16:6 - The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 19:12 And turned from Sarid eastward toward the sunrising unto the border of Chislothtabor, and then goeth out to Daberath, and goeth up to Japhia,

The boundary of the tribe of Zebulun extended from Sarid eastward to Chislothtabor, then to Daberath and Japhia.

1. A Faithful Journey: Finding Strength in Obedience

2. To the East: Trusting in God's Provision

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 16:8 - I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Joshua 19:13 And from thence passeth on along on the east to Gittahhepher, to Ittahkazin, and goeth out to Remmonmethoar to Neah;

The passage discusses a journey that begins in Joshua 19:13 and passes east to Gittahhepher, Ittahkazin, Remmonmethoar, and Neah.

1. The Journey of Obedience: How God Guides Us Through Life

2. Faith, Perseverance, and a New Land: A Study of Joshua 19:13

1. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Joshua 19:14 And the border compasseth it on the north side to Hannathon: and the outgoings thereof are in the valley of Jiphthahel:

This passage describes the northern border of the tribe of Zebulun.

1. God's faithfulness and provision for His people - Zebulun was given land and protection in the Promised Land.

2. Obedience brings blessings - Zebulun was obedient to God's commands, and that was rewarded with a place in the Promised Land.

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 - "When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations... it is because the LORD your God loves you."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this."

Joshua 19:15 And Kattath, and Nahallal, and Shimron, and Idalah, and Bethlehem: twelve cities with their villages.

Joshua 19:15 describes twelve cities in the region of Judah, each accompanied by villages.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How God Fulfilled His Promise of Land to the Israelites

2. The Power of Community: Working Together to Build a Vibrant Society

1. Deuteronomy 1:8 - See, I have set the land before you. Go in and take possession of the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give to them and to their offspring after them.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Joshua 19:16 This is the inheritance of the children of Zebulun according to their families, these cities with their villages.

This passage describes the cities and villages given to the children of Zebulun as their inheritance.

1. How God faithfully provides for His people and His promises to us

2. The importance of recognizing the blessings and privileges God has given us

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Joshua 19:17 And the fourth lot came out to Issachar, for the children of Issachar according to their families.

Passage The fourth lot of land for the Israelites was given to the family of Issachar.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: The Israelites demonstrated their obedience to God and were rewarded with land.

2. The Faithfulness of God: Despite the Israelites being a rebellious people, God still kept His promise and provided them with land.

1. Deuteronomy 30:20 - That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days.

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

Joshua 19:18 And their border was toward Jezreel, and Chesulloth, and Shunem,

This passage describes the border of the tribe of Issachar, which included Jezreel, Chesulloth, and Shunem.

1. The Power of a Boundary: How God's Borders Bring Blessing

2. Trusting God's Plan: Finding Security in His Design

1. Deuteronomy 32:8-9 - "When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when he divided all mankind, he set up boundaries for the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel.

2. Psalm 16:6 - The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Joshua 19:19 And Haphraim, and Shihon, and Anaharath,

The passage names three cities in the tribe of Judah Haphraim, Shihon, and Anaharath.

1. The God of Provision: How God Gave the Tribe of Judah Abundant Resources

2. The Importance of Obedience: How Obeying God Rewards Us with Abundant Blessings

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promise of blessings for those who obey His commands

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord and He will provide all our needs.

Joshua 19:20 And Rabbith, and Kishion, and Abez,

This verse mentions three cities in Israel: Rabbith, Kishion, and Abez.

1. The Power of Place: How Our Location Affects Our Lives

2. God's Faithfulness in Preserving His People's History

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant and when you eat and are full, then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt

2. Psalm 147:2-3 - The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Joshua 19:21 And Remeth, and Engannim, and Enhaddah, and Bethpazzez;

The passage describes four towns in the geographic area of Joshua 19:21.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises is evident in the towns of Joshua 19:21.

2. God's grace and mercy are seen in the land He has given us.

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-14 - The Lord will keep you as the apple of His eye; He will guard you as He guards His own people, and He will rescue you in times of trouble. The Lord will not forget His promises to His people; His love and mercy will last forever.

2. Psalm 136:1-4 - Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords. His faithful love endures forever. He alone does incredible things. His faithful love endures forever.

Joshua 19:22 And the coast reacheth to Tabor, and Shahazimah, and Bethshemesh; and the outgoings of their border were at Jordan: sixteen cities with their villages.

This verse from Joshua 19 describes the cities and their surrounding villages that have their borders extending to the Jordan River.

1. God's Perfect Provision: Understanding God's Provision for Our Lives Through the Borders of Joshua 19:22

2. The Importance of Knowing Where We Stand: Recognizing Our Borders in Light of Joshua 19:22

1. Deuteronomy 2:24-37: A description of the land of the Amorite and God's victory over them.

2. Psalm 107:33-34: Praise for God's provision and guidance through difficult places.

Joshua 19:23 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families, the cities and their villages.

This passage describes the tribes of Issachar and the cities and villages that were their inheritance.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people - Joshua 19:23

2. The blessing of being part of God's family - Joshua 19:23

1. Deuteronomy 32:9 - For the LORD'S portion is His people; Jacob is the lot of His inheritance.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Joshua 19:24 And the fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families.

The fifth lot of land was given to the tribe of Asher and their families.

1. "The Blessing of Obedience: Learning from the Tribe of Asher"

2. "The Faithfulness of God: A Look at the Tribe of Asher's Inheritance"

1. Deuteronomy 7:13-15 He will love you, bless you, and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land your grain, new wine and olive oil the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you. You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be childless, nor any of your livestock without young.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Joshua 19:25 And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph,

This passage states that the border of a certain group was Helkath, Hali, Beten, and Achshaph.

1. God establishes boundaries for his people, to help them live in security and peace.

2. Boundaries are important for maintaining order and stability, and we can trust in God to provide for us.

1. Psalm 16:5-6 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

2. Proverbs 22:28 Do not move the ancient landmark that your fathers have set.

Joshua 19:26 And Alammelech, and Amad, and Misheal; and reacheth to Carmel westward, and to Shihorlibnath;

This passage describes the borders of the tribe of Asher's territory, which extended from Alammelech to Shihorlibnath, and included Carmel.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises: Asher's inheritance demonstrated God's trustworthiness to fulfill His promises.

2. The importance of proper borders: Asher's borders were clearly defined, emphasizing the value of delineating territories.

1. Genesis 15:18-21 - God's covenant with Abraham in which He promised to give the land of Canaan to his descendants.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:1-12 - Paul's teaching on proper boundaries and wise use of resources.

Joshua 19:27 And turneth toward the sunrising to Bethdagon, and reacheth to Zebulun, and to the valley of Jiphthahel toward the north side of Bethemek, and Neiel, and goeth out to Cabul on the left hand,

Joshua 19:27 describes a journey to the north from Bethdagon to Zebulun, Jiphthahel, Bethemek, Neiel, and Cabul.

1. The Journey of Faith: Trusting God to Lead Us on a New Path

2. Reaching Out with Faith: Taking Risks and Trying New Things

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Joshua 19:28 And Hebron, and Rehob, and Hammon, and Kanah, even unto great Zidon;

This passage mentions five cities in the region of Zidon: Hebron, Rehob, Hammon, Kanah, and Zidon.

1. The Cities of God: A Study of the Faithfulness of God in Joshua 19:28

2. The Power of Unity: Examining the Examples of Hebron, Rehob, Hammon, and Kanah

1. Psalm 48:1-2 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

2. Psalm 87:2-3 - The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.

Joshua 19:29 And then the coast turneth to Ramah, and to the strong city Tyre; and the coast turneth to Hosah; and the outgoings thereof are at the sea from the coast to Achzib:

The coast of the land of Israel turns from Ramah to the strong city of Tyre and then to Hosah, with its outgoings ending at the sea near Achzib.

1. God's Plan for Us: Our Blessed Hope

2. Overcoming Adversity in a World of Change

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Joshua 19:30 Ummah also, and Aphek, and Rehob: twenty and two cities with their villages.

Joshua 19:30 mentions Ummah, Aphek, and Rehob as cities and their respective villages, totaling 22 cities in all.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Providing: God s faithfulness is demonstrated in His provision for His people throughout the ages.

2. The Abundance of God s Blessings: God s blessings are abundant and available to all who seek Him.

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. Ephesians 4:8 - "Therefore it says, When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.

Joshua 19:31 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families, these cities with their villages.

This passage describes the inheritance of the tribe of Asher according to their families, including cities and villages.

1. The Faithful Provision of God: Celebrating the Inheritance of Asher

2. Making the Most of Our Blessings: Leveraging the Benefits of Our Inheritance

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-18 - God's faithfulness in providing for His people

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trusting in the Lord and His promises of provision

Joshua 19:32 The sixth lot came out to the children of Naphtali, even for the children of Naphtali according to their families.

The sixth region of the Israelite tribes' inheritance was given to the Naphtali tribe.

1. The importance of trusting in God's plan and purpose.

2. The power of unity and working together.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Acts 4:32 - All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

Joshua 19:33 And their coast was from Heleph, from Allon to Zaanannim, and Adami, Nekeb, and Jabneel, unto Lakum; and the outgoings thereof were at Jordan:

The coast of the tribe of Simeon included the cities of Heleph, Allon, Zaanannim, Adami, Nekeb, Jabneel, and Lakum, and extended to the Jordan River.

1. God's faithfulness in providing boundaries for His people - Joshua 19:33

2. The importance of trusting in God's promises - Joshua 19:33

1. Psalm 16:6 - The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

2. Isaiah 54:2 - "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.

Joshua 19:34 And then the coast turneth westward to Aznothtabor, and goeth out from thence to Hukkok, and reacheth to Zebulun on the south side, and reacheth to Asher on the west side, and to Judah upon Jordan toward the sunrising.

The coast of the land of the tribe of Naphtali extended from Aznothtabor to Hukkok on the south side, reaching Zebulun, Asher, and Judah on the west side, and ending at the Jordan River towards the east.

1. The Lord's Blessings for His People: A Study of the Land of Naphtali

2. Boundaries of Faith: Joshua 19:34 and the Journey of the Israelites

1. Genesis 28:10-15 - Jacob's dream at Bethel.

2. Deuteronomy 11:24 - The blessing of the Lord on the land of Israel.

Joshua 19:35 And the fenced cities are Ziddim, Zer, and Hammath, Rakkath, and Chinnereth,

This passage mentions five cities located in the tribal allotment of Joshua: Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, and Chinnereth.

1: God provides for us in all places, even in the most unexpected of places.

2: Our faithfulness will be rewarded when we obey God's commands.

1: Psalm 37:3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

2: Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Joshua 19:36 And Adamah, and Ramah, and Hazor,

The passage mentions four locations: Adamah, Ramah, Hazor, and Zaanannim.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises is evident in the borders of the land of Israel as described in Joshua 19:36.

2. God's continued presence in our lives is found in the places He has promised to be.

1. Joshua 19:36 - And Adamah, and Ramah, and Hazor,

2. Isaiah 54:10 - For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.

Joshua 19:37 And Kedesh, and Edrei, and Enhazor,

This passage mentions three cities in the area of Naphtali: Kedesh, Edrei, and Enhazor.

1. God's faithfulness is displayed in His provision of cities of refuge for His people.

2. Even in times of difficulty, God will always provide safe and secure places for us.

1. Deuteronomy 19:2-3 "You shall set apart three cities for yourself in the land that the Lord your God is giving you to possess. You shall prepare the roads for yourself and divide into three parts the territory of your land which the Lord your God is giving you to inherit, that any manslayer may flee there."

2. Psalm 31:1-3 "In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me."

Joshua 19:38 And Iron, and Migdalel, Horem, and Bethanath, and Bethshemesh; nineteen cities with their villages.

Joshua 19:38 describes 19 cities and their respective villages.

1. Living Together in Harmony: How to Cultivate Unity in Our Communities

2. The Importance of Respecting Our Neighbors

1. Matthew 22:39 - And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2. Leviticus 19:18 - You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Joshua 19:39 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Naphtali according to their families, the cities and their villages.

Naphtali's inheritance was cities and villages.

1. God's provisions are abundant and diverse - nothing is too small to be blessed.

2. We can trust in God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises.

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Joshua 19:40 And the seventh lot came out for the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families.

This passage describes the seventh lot for the tribe of the Dan, outlining its families.

1. Trusting in God's Perfect Plan - Joshua 19:40

2. Finding Strength in Community - Joshua 19:40

1. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

2. Acts 17:26-27 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him.

Joshua 19:41 And the coast of their inheritance was Zorah, and Eshtaol, and Irshemesh,

This passage describes three cities in the inheritance of the tribe of Judah.

1. The Blessings of Inheritance: Learning to Appreciate What We Have

2. The Importance of Remembering Our Roots

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-18 - Remembering the Lord's faithfulness and provision

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trusting in the Lord and His plan for our lives

Joshua 19:42 And Shaalabbin, and Ajalon, and Jethlah,

The passage mentions three cities in the territory of Judah: Shaalabbin, Ajalon, and Jethlah.

1. Reflecting on the Faithfulness of God: Despite our own failings, God remains faithful to His covenant and promises.

2. Finding Strength in Community: We can find strength and support in the community of believers around us.

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20 "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

2. Psalm 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Joshua 19:43 And Elon, and Thimnathah, and Ekron,

The passage mentions Elon, Thimnathah, and Ekron.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the fulfilling of his promises.

2: God's sovereignty is seen in his ability to provide for his people.

1: Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."

2: Matthew 6:33 "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Joshua 19:44 And Eltekeh, and Gibbethon, and Baalath,

The passage describes the towns of Eltekeh, Gibbethon, and Baalath.

1. The Faithfulness of God: A Look at Joshua 19:44

2. The Power of Promises: How God Kept His Word to the Israelites

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Joshua 19:45 And Jehud, and Beneberak, and Gathrimmon,

Joshua 19:45 describes the three cities of Jehud, Beneberak, and Gathrimmon that were given to the tribe of Dan as their inheritance.

1. God is faithful to provide for His people.

2. Even in difficult times, God is faithful to keep His promises.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Joshua 19:46 And Mejarkon, and Rakkon, with the border before Japho.

The border of Japho included Mejarkon and Rakkon.

1. God's Plans for Us Are Perfect - Joshua 19:46

2. God's Boundaries for Us Are Good - Joshua 19:46

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Joshua 19:47 And the coast of the children of Dan went out too little for them: therefore the children of Dan went up to fight against Leshem, and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and possessed it, and dwelt therein, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

The children of Dan, being unable to obtain enough land, decided to take the city of Leshem and make it their own, renaming it Dan after their father.

1. The power of claiming what is righteously yours

2. Reclaiming your inheritance in the face of opposition

1. Romans 8:17 - and if children, then heirs heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

2. Deuteronomy 4:1-2 - Now, Israel, hear the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.

Joshua 19:48 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families, these cities with their villages.

This passage describes the cities and villages that were designated as the inheritance of the tribe of Dan.

1. The importance of having a sense of belonging and ownership in life.

2. How God provides for His people in times of need.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger; but those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing.

Joshua 19:49 When they had made an end of dividing the land for inheritance by their coasts, the children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua the son of Nun among them:

The children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua among them after they had divided the land for inheritance by their coasts.

1. Faithfulness in Following the Lord's Commands

2. The Blessings of Obeying God

1. Deuteronomy 8:18, "But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today."

2. Psalm 37:3-5, "Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun."

Joshua 19:50 According to the word of the LORD they gave him the city which he asked, even Timnathserah in mount Ephraim: and he built the city, and dwelt therein.

Joshua was granted the city of Timnathserah in mount Ephraim by the Lord and he built the city and lived there.

1. God will provide and bless us when we seek His will.

2. The Lord always has a plan and purpose for us.

1. Psalm 37:4-5 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Joshua 19:51 These are the inheritances, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, divided for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. So they made an end of dividing the country.

The heads of the tribes of Israel divided the land of Canaan amongst the tribes by lottery in the presence of the Lord at the entrance of the Tabernacle of the Congregation in Shiloh.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Fulfilling His Promises

2. God's Sovereignty in Allocating Inheritances

1. Deuteronomy 32:8-9 - When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

2. Psalm 16:5-6 - The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

Joshua 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 20:1-6 describes the establishment of cities of refuge in accordance with God's command. The chapter begins by stating that the Lord spoke to Joshua, instructing him to set apart cities of refuge where individuals who unintentionally caused someone's death could find safety. These cities would serve as places of asylum for those who had committed accidental manslaughter, protecting them from being avenged by the victim's family until a fair trial could take place.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 20:7-9, it provides a list of the designated cities of refuge. The passage mentions Kedesh in Galilee, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath-arba (Hebron) in the hill country of Judah as three cities appointed for this purpose. Additionally, it designates Bezer in the territory of Reuben across the Jordan River, Ramoth-gilead in Gad's territory east of the Jordan River, and Golan in Manasseh's territory east of the Jordan River as three more cities.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 20 concludes with an account where individuals seeking refuge would present their case before city officials at one of these designated cities. If their case was deemed legitimate that is, if they had unintentionally caused someone's death they would be granted asylum within that city until they received a fair trial. They were to remain there until either acquitted or until the death of the high priest serving at that time. Afterward, they were free to return to their own homes without fear.

In summary:

Joshua 20 presents:

Establishment of cities of refuge God's command;

Designated cities listed Kedesh, Shechem, Kiriath-arba (Hebron), Bezer, Ramoth-gilead, Golan;

Asylum granted to those seeking refuge fair trial and release.

Emphasis on establishment of cities of refuge God's command;

Designated cities listed Kedesh, Shechem, Kiriath-arba (Hebron), Bezer, Ramoth-gilead, Golan;

Asylum granted to those seeking refuge fair trial and release.

The chapter focuses on the establishment of cities of refuge in accordance with God's command. In Joshua 20, it is mentioned that the Lord spoke to Joshua and instructed him to set apart specific cities where individuals who unintentionally caused someone's death could find safety. These cities would serve as places of asylum until a fair trial could take place.

Continuing in Joshua 20, a list is provided of the designated cities of refuge. The passage mentions Kedesh in Galilee, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath-arba (Hebron) in the hill country of Judah as three appointed cities for this purpose. Additionally, it designates Bezer in Reuben's territory across the Jordan River, Ramoth-gilead in Gad's territory east of the Jordan River, and Golan in Manasseh's territory east of the Jordan River as three more cities designated for asylum.

Joshua 20 concludes with an account where individuals seeking refuge would present their case before city officials at one of these designated cities. If their case was deemed legitimate that is if they had unintentionally caused someone's death they would be granted asylum within that city until they received a fair trial. They were to remain there until either acquitted or until the death of the high priest serving at that time. Afterward, they were free to return to their own homes without fear a provision established by God for justice and protection within Israelite society.

Joshua 20:1 The LORD also spake unto Joshua, saying,

The Lord instructs Joshua to choose cities of refuge for people who have committed unintentional murder.

1. The Lord's Mercy for Those Who Have Unintentionally Sinned

2. The Responsibility of the Innocent in Providing Refuge

1. Exodus 21:13 - "And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee."

2. Numbers 35:11-15 - "Then ye shall appoint you cities to be cities of refuge for you; that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person at unawares."

Joshua 20:2 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses:

The Lord instructed the Israelites to designate cities of refuge in accordance with what Moses had spoken.

1. The importance of following God's instructions for the safety of His people.

2. The power of obedience and the consequences of disobedience.

1. Deuteronomy 19:1-13 - The Lord instructs the Israelites to build cities of refuge for the protection of those who have committed manslaughter.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

Joshua 20:3 That the slayer that killeth any person unawares and unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.

This passage speaks about providing refuge for those who have killed someone inadvertently.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness for the Unwitting Sinner

2. The Refuge of God's Grace

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 25:4 - For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

Joshua 20:4 And when he that doth flee unto one of those cities shall stand at the entering of the gate of the city, and shall declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city, they shall take him into the city unto them, and give him a place, that he may dwell among them.

This passage describes how a person in need of refuge can find safety and shelter in a city of refuge.

1: No one should have to go through life alone, and God provides a refuge for us in times of need.

2: We can find comfort and security in the presence of God, even in the midst of our trials and troubles.

1: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2: Isaiah 25:4 For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

Joshua 20:5 And if the avenger of blood pursue after him, then they shall not deliver the slayer up into his hand; because he smote his neighbour unwittingly, and hated him not beforetime.

If someone kills someone else unintentionally, they will not be handed over to the avenger of blood, as the person was not previously hostile towards the victim.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness in Unexpected Situations

2. The Weight of Unintentional Actions

1. Exodus 21:12-14 - Laws regarding unintentional killing

2. Luke 6:37 - Forgive others as we would want to be forgiven

Joshua 20:6 And he shall dwell in that city, until he stand before the congregation for judgment, and until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days: then shall the slayer return, and come unto his own city, and unto his own house, unto the city from whence he fled.

A slayer of a person must flee to a designated city of refuge and remain there until the death of the High Priest. After this, he may return to his own city and house.

1. God's Gift of Mercy and Justice: Exploring the Cities of Refuge

2. Experiencing Refuge: Where to Turn in Troubled Times

1. Matthew 5:7- Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2. Psalm 34:18- The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.

Joshua 20:7 And they appointed Kedesh in Galilee in mount Naphtali, and Shechem in mount Ephraim, and Kirjatharba, which is Hebron, in the mountain of Judah.

The Israelites appointed three cities as Cities of Refuge: Kedesh in Galilee, Shechem in Ephraim, and Kirjatharba, also known as Hebron, in Judah.

1. The Gift of Refuge: Understanding God's Mercy and Compassion

2. A Place of Safety: The Blessing of Protection Through God's Word

1. Psalm 91:2 "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Deuteronomy 19:2-3 "That three cities shall be opened in the midst of thy land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee to possess it...that innocent blood be not shed in thy land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and so blood be upon thee."

Joshua 20:8 And on the other side Jordan by Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness upon the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh were assigned cities on the east side of the Jordan River.

1. The importance of following God s commands and responding to His callings.

2. The importance of God s people living together in unity.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Joshua 20:9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them, that whosoever killeth any person at unawares might flee thither, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation.

The passage discusses cities that were appointed for all the children of Israel and strangers that sojourn among them, to provide protection from the avenger of blood in the case of unintentional homicide.

1. God's Protection for All - How God provided protection for intentional and unintentional homicide through designating cities of refuge for all the children of Israel and strangers.

2. The Power of Unity - How unified action and an understanding of mutual protection and safety can provide a strong foundation for all of God's people.

1. Numbers 35:6-34 - Details of the cities of refuge and the rules surrounding them.

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - God's promise of protection from harm for those who trust and rely on Him.

Joshua 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 21:1-8 describes the allocation of cities to the Levites. The chapter begins by stating that the heads of the Levite clans approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua, and the leaders of Israel to request their allotted cities. The Levites were given specific cities from among the territories of other tribes as their inheritance. The passage lists various cities assigned to each clan within different tribal territories.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 21:9-40, it provides a detailed account of the cities allocated to each tribe for the Levites. The passage mentions numerous cities distributed among Kohathite, Gershonite, and Merarite clans within Ephraim, Dan, Manasseh, Judah, Simeon, Benjamin, and other tribes' territories. It highlights how these cities were designated for both dwelling places and pasturelands for their livestock.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 21 concludes with an account where all these assigned cities were given to the Levites as their inheritance in Joshua 21:41-45. The passage emphasizes that God fulfilled His promise by granting them rest and peace within these allotted cities. It states that not one word of God's promises had failed everything He had spoken regarding Israel's possession of Canaan was accomplished.

In summary:

Joshua 21 presents:

Allocation of cities to Levites request made by clan heads;

Detailed account of allocated cities assigned to different tribes;

Fulfillment of God's promises rest and peace granted.

Emphasis on allocation of cities to Levites request made by clan heads;

Detailed account of allocated cities assigned to different tribes;

Fulfillment of God's promises rest and peace granted.

The chapter focuses on the allocation of cities to the Levites, providing a detailed account of the cities assigned to each tribe for the Levites' inheritance. In Joshua 21, it is mentioned that the heads of the Levite clans approached Eleazar, Joshua, and the leaders of Israel to request their allotted cities. The passage lists various cities assigned to each clan within different tribal territories.

Continuing in Joshua 21, a comprehensive account is provided regarding the cities allocated to each tribe for the Levites. The passage mentions numerous cities distributed among different clans within various tribal territories. It highlights how these cities were designated not only as dwelling places but also as pasturelands for their livestock a provision made for their sustenance.

Joshua 21 concludes with an account where all these assigned cities were given to the Levites as their inheritance. The passage emphasizes that God fulfilled His promise by granting them rest and peace within these allotted cities. It states that not one word of God's promises had failed everything He had spoken regarding Israel's possession of Canaan was accomplished a testament to God's faithfulness in fulfilling His covenant with His people.

Joshua 21:1 Then came near the heads of the fathers of the Levites unto Eleazar the priest, and unto Joshua the son of Nun, and unto the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel;

The heads of the Levite families approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the tribes of Israel.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in the faithful service of the Levites.

2: We can find strength in the unity of God's people.

1: Hebrews 10:23-25 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2: Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Joshua 21:2 And they spake unto them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, The LORD commanded by the hand of Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with the suburbs thereof for our cattle.

The Israelites spoke to the people at Shiloh in Canaan and said that the Lord commanded Moses to give them cities to live in, as well as the surrounding countryside for their livestock.

1. God's Promise of Provision: Seeing God's Faithfulness in the Promises He Has Given Us

2. Living in the Land of Promise: Trusting in God's Provision Despite Uncertainty

1. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

2. Psalm 84:11 - For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Joshua 21:3 And the children of Israel gave unto the Levites out of their inheritance, at the commandment of the LORD, these cities and their suburbs.

The children of Israel gave the Levites cities and their suburbs as part of their inheritance, as commanded by the Lord.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

2. The Blessing of Serving in the Lord's House

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, as they still do today.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Joshua 21:4 And the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites: and the children of Aaron the priest, which were of the Levites, had by lot out of the tribe of Judah, and out of the tribe of Simeon, and out of the tribe of Benjamin, thirteen cities.

The children of Aaron the priest, which were of the Levites, were given thirteen cities by lot from the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin.

1. God's Allocation of Resources: Finding Peace and Contentment When We Don't Get What We Want

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting God with Our Provision

1. Philippians 4:11-13: Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Psalm 37:25: I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

Joshua 21:5 And the rest of the children of Kohath had by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, and out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities.

The children of Kohath were given ten cities divided between the families of the tribe of Ephraim, Dan, and the half tribe of Manasseh.

1: God provides for all of his people.

2: God's love and provision is equal for all.

1: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2: Acts 17:26-27 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him.

Joshua 21:6 And the children of Gershon had by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.

The children of Gershon were given thirteen cities by lot from four tribes, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

1. God's Sovereignty and Providence in Allocating Resources

2. The Blessings of Fulfilling Our Covenantal Responsibilities

1. Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - The Lord maintained His covenant with Israel by granting them the promised land.

2. 2 Chronicles 1:12 - God gave Solomon the wisdom to allocate land and resources to Israel.

Joshua 21:7 The children of Merari by their families had out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.

The children of Merari were given twelve cities from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun.

1. God rewards faithfulness with blessings.

2. Sharing resources is an act of faith.

1. Ephesians 4:28 - "Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Joshua 21:8 And the children of Israel gave by lot unto the Levites these cities with their suburbs, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

The children of Israel gave cities and their suburbs to the Levites as commanded by the Lord through Moses.

1. We must obey the Lord's commands.

2. We must be generous in our gifts to those in need.

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

2. Philippians 2:1-4 - So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Joshua 21:9 And they gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, these cities which are here mentioned by name,

The tribe of Judah and the tribe of Simeon were assigned specific cities in the Promised Land.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people

2. Obedience to God's commands brings blessing

1. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God.

Joshua 21:10 Which the children of Aaron, being of the families of the Kohathites, who were of the children of Levi, had: for theirs was the first lot.

The children of Aaron were given the first lot of land, which was of the families of the Kohathites, who were of the children of Levi.

1: We are blessed to be chosen for a special purpose, and through faithfulness, God can reward us with the best.

2: We can find joy in the special gifts God has given us, and strive to be faithful stewards of these gifts.

1: Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2: Colossians 3:17 - Whatever you do, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Joshua 21:11 And they gave them the city of Arba the father of Anak, which city is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, with the suburbs thereof round about it.

The Lord gave the city of Arba to the Levites, which is now known as Hebron located in the hill country of Judah with its surrounding suburbs.

1. How the Lord Provides for His People

2. The Promise of Blessing in Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 12:7 - "And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee."

2. John 14:15 - "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Joshua 21:12 But the fields of the city, and the villages thereof, gave they to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for his possession.

Caleb was given the fields and villages of the city as his possession.

1. Rejoice in the blessings of God: Celebrate the gifts God has given us.

2. Remember the promises of God: Trust in God's faithfulness to keep his promises.

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:4- Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Joshua 21:13 Thus they gave to the children of Aaron the priest Hebron with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Libnah with her suburbs,

The children of Aaron were given Hebron and Libnah as cities of refuge for the slayer.

1. The Responsibility of Refuge: Protecting the Guilty and Innocent Alike

2. God's Love for His People: Comfort and Security in a Dangerous World

1. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

2. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Joshua 21:14 And Jattir with her suburbs, and Eshtemoa with her suburbs,

The Israelites were given Jattir and Eshtemoa as their allotment.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Provision: An Examination of Joshua 21:14

2. Finding Contentment in God's Plan: A Study of Joshua 21:14

1. Psalm 34:10 - "Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Joshua 21:15 And Holon with her suburbs, and Debir with her suburbs,

The passage mentions Holon and Debir with their respective suburbs.

1. The importance of cities and their suburbs in the Bible

2. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - God's promise to Abraham

2. Psalms 107:1-3 - God's faithfulness to His people

Joshua 21:16 And Ain with her suburbs, and Juttah with her suburbs, and Bethshemesh with her suburbs; nine cities out of those two tribes.

The tribes of Ephraim and Dan were given nine cities, including Ain, Juttah and Bethshemesh.

1. God's provision for His people: how God provided for the tribes of Ephraim and Dan.

2. Relying on God's promises: trusting in God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises.

1. Deuteronomy 12:10-12 - When you cross the Jordan and live in the land which the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, and He gives you rest from all your enemies around you so that you live in security, then it shall come about that the place in which the Lord your God shall choose for His name to dwell, there you shall bring all that I command you.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Joshua 21:17 And out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon with her suburbs, Geba with her suburbs,

The tribe of Benjamin was given the cities of Gibeon and Geba and their suburbs.

1. God cares for all his people and provides for their needs.

2. We should take courage in the Lord and trust that He will provide for us.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joshua 21:18 Anathoth with her suburbs, and Almon with her suburbs; four cities.

The Israelites were given four cities in the land of Benjamin: Anathoth, Almon, and their respective suburbs.

1. God's faithfulness is shown through His provision of a home for His people.

2. The land of Benjamin was a sign of God's covenant with His people.

1. Deuteronomy 10:9 ( Therefore, Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers; the LORD is his inheritance, as the LORD your God promised him. )

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 ( By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. )

Joshua 21:19 All the cities of the children of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities with their suburbs.

The children of Aaron, the priests, were given thirteen cities and their suburbs to live in.

1. "God's Faithfulness: A Blessing for His Chosen People"

2. "Living By Faith: An Example from the Priests of Israel"

1. Numbers 35:7 - So the LORD commanded Moses to give the Levites towns to live in from the inheritance of the Israelites, and pasture lands around the towns.

2. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today. Therefore, Levi has no portion or inheritance with his fellow Israelites; the LORD is his inheritance, as the LORD your God told him.

Joshua 21:20 And the families of the children of Kohath, the Levites which remained of the children of Kohath, even they had the cities of their lot out of the tribe of Ephraim.

This passage from Joshua 21:20 describes the cities that the Levites of the Kohath family received from the tribe of Ephraim.

1. God's Care for His People: A Study of the Levites

2. A Reflection on Faithfulness: The Story of Joshua 21:20

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi, to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day. Therefore Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers. The Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God said to him.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

Joshua 21:21 For they gave them Shechem with her suburbs in mount Ephraim, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Gezer with her suburbs,

The Israelites were given the cities of Shechem and Gezer as a place of refuge for those who had killed someone unintentionally.

1: God shows mercy to those who have made mistakes.

2: We must seek refuge in God's grace and mercy.

1: Isaiah 1:18- Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

2: Psalm 103:12- As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Joshua 21:22 And Kibzaim with her suburbs, and Bethhoron with her suburbs; four cities.

Joshua 21:22 lists four cities and their suburbs: Kibzaim, Bethhoron, and two unnamed.

1. The beauty and importance of cities in the Bible.

2. The significance of the number four in scripture.

1. Revelation 21:10-14 - The city of God.

2. Psalm 122:3 - Jerusalem is a city that is united together.

Joshua 21:23 And out of the tribe of Dan, Eltekeh with her suburbs, Gibbethon with her suburbs,

The tribe of Dan was given Eltekeh and Gibbethon as cities with their suburbs.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for us even in the smallest details.

2. Learning to be content with what God has provided.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Joshua 21:24 Aijalon with her suburbs, Gathrimmon with her suburbs; four cities.

Joshua 21:24 describes four cities allocated to the Kohathites as part of their inheritance: Aijalon and its suburbs, Gathrimmon and its suburbs.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Fulfillment of His Promises

2. The Importance of Obedience to the Commandments of God

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day. Therefore Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers. The Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God promised him.

2. Joshua 1:2-3 Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.

Joshua 21:25 And out of the half tribe of Manasseh, Tanach with her suburbs, and Gathrimmon with her suburbs; two cities.

The tribe of Manasseh was given two cities: Tanach and Gathrimmon.

1. How We Receive the Blessings God Gives

2. The Blessing of Contentment in Our Lives

1. Philippians 4:11-13 -"Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

2. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 -"But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content."

Joshua 21:26 All the cities were ten with their suburbs for the families of the children of Kohath that remained.

All the cities and their suburbs were given to the remaining Kohathites.

1. God is faithful in fulfilling His promises.

2. God provides for our needs.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

Joshua 21:27 And unto the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, out of the other half tribe of Manasseh they gave Golan in Bashan with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Beeshterah with her suburbs; two cities.

The children of Gershon, from the Levite families, were given two cities from the other half tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan and Beeshterah, as cities of refuge for those who have committed unintentional manslaughter.

1. The Mercy of God: How God's Generosity Protects Those Who Have Lost Their Way

2. A Place of Refuge: The Mercy of the Cities of Refuge

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD s hand double for all her sins."

2. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Joshua 21:28 And out of the tribe of Issachar, Kishon with her suburbs, Dabareh with her suburbs,

The Israelites were given towns in Issachar, including Kishon and Dabareh.

1: God is faithful to His promises. He always keeps His word and gives us what He has promised.

2: Even in the midst of a chaotic and uncertain world, we can trust God to provide for us and take care of us.

1: Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2: Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

Joshua 21:29 Jarmuth with her suburbs, Engannim with her suburbs; four cities.

Joshua 21:29 mentions four cities; Jarmuth, Engannim, and their suburbs.

1. "God's Provision for His People"

2. "The Power of Faithful Obedience"

1. Joshua 24:15-16 - But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Joshua 21:30 And out of the tribe of Asher, Mishal with her suburbs, Abdon with her suburbs,

Joshua 21:30 explains how out of the tribe of Asher, Mishal and Abdon were given their respective suburbs.

1. The Generosity of God: How He Provides for His People

2. The Provision of the Lord: Appreciating What He Has Given Us

1. Romans 8:32 - And he that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

2. Philippians 4:19 - But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Joshua 21:31 Helkath with her suburbs, and Rehob with her suburbs; four cities.

This passage is about Joshua dividing land among the tribes of Israel.

1: We can learn from Joshua's example of giving generously and fairly to others.

2: We can be encouraged by the faithfulness of God to provide for His people.

1: Matthew 7:12, "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

2: Deuteronomy 10:18-19, "He [God] defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt."

Joshua 21:32 And out of the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Hammothdor with her suburbs, and Kartan with her suburbs; three cities.

Joshua 21:32 mentions three cities belonging to the tribe of Naphtali - Kedesh in Galilee, Hammothdor, and Kartan - which were designated as cities of refuge for those guilty of manslaughter.

1. The Mercy of the Lord: Understanding Cities of Refuge in the Bible

2. What Does it Mean to be a City of Refuge?

1. Exodus 21:14 - "But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die."

2. Deuteronomy 19:2-3 - "Thou shalt separate three cities for thee in the midst of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it. Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to inherit, into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither."

Joshua 21:33 All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were thirteen cities with their suburbs.

The Gershonites were given thirteen cities with their suburbs as their portion.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises for His people

2. Finding contentment in what God has provided

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

9 And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

2. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Joshua 21:34 And unto the families of the children of Merari, the rest of the Levites, out of the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with her suburbs, and Kartah with her suburbs,

The Levites from the tribe of Zebulun were given Jokneam and its surrounding suburbs, as well as Kartah and its surrounding suburbs.

1. God is generous and provides us with all that we need

2. Our faithfulness towards God is rewarded

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

Joshua 21:35 Dimnah with her suburbs, Nahalal with her suburbs; four cities.

Joshua 21:35 mentions four cities: Dimnah, Nahalal, and their respective suburbs.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people.

2. The importance of putting our trust in God.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 4:20-21 - He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Joshua 21:36 And out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with her suburbs, and Jahazah with her suburbs,

This passage mentions two cities from the tribe of Reuben: Bezer and Jahazah.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises and His people - Joshua 21:36

2. The importance of staying true to the covenant - Joshua 21:36

1. 1 Corinthians 1:9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Jeremiah 33:20-21 Thus says the Lord: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time, then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne.

Joshua 21:37 Kedemoth with her suburbs, and Mephaath with her suburbs; four cities.

Joshua 21:37 mentions four cities, Kedemoth and its suburbs, and Mephaath and its suburbs.

1. "The Power of Faithful Dedication: Lessons from the Cities of Kedemoth and Mephaath"

2. "God's Promises to His People: The Fulfillment of Kedemoth and Mephaath"

1. Deuteronomy 7:12; "That thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them:"

2. Romans 8:28; "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Joshua 21:38 And out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Mahanaim with her suburbs,

The tribes of Gad were given two cities, Ramoth in Gilead and Mahanaim, both with their suburbs, to be cities of refuge for the slayer.

1. The Gift of Refuge: How God Provides Safety and Security for All

2. A Refuge from Our Troubles: God's Protection from Life's Struggles

1. Isaiah 32:2 - A man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest.

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Joshua 21:39 Heshbon with her suburbs, Jazer with her suburbs; four cities in all.

Joshua 21:39 describes four cities, Heshbon and its suburbs, and Jazer and its suburbs.

1. God's Provision: The Four Cities of Joshua 21:39.

2. God's Faithfulness: The Miraculous Retaking of the Promised Land.

1. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

2. Deuteronomy 7:12-13 - And because you listen to these rules, and keep and do them, the Lord your God will keep with you the covenant and the steadfast love that he swore to your fathers. He will love you, bless you, and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.

Joshua 21:40 So all the cities for the children of Merari by their families, which were remaining of the families of the Levites, were by their lot twelve cities.

The children of Merari were allotted twelve cities according to their families, which were the remaining cities of the Levites.

1. Allocating Our Resources: The Wise Use of What We Have

2. Living by Faith: Trusting God to Provide for Our Needs

1. Luke 16:10-12 - Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Joshua 21:41 All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty and eight cities with their suburbs.

Israel was given 48 cities and their surrounding suburbs to be inhabited by the Levites.

1. The importance of God's provisions for His people

2. God's faithfulness and abundance

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want."

2. Deuteronomy 7:12 - "And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them; and He brought you out of Egypt with His Presence, with His mighty power."

Joshua 21:42 These cities were every one with their suburbs round about them: thus were all these cities.

Joshua 21:42 describes the borders of each of the cities given to the tribes of Israel, including the surrounding suburbs.

1. Learning to Respect Boundaries: Understanding the Significance of Borders in Joshua 21:42

2. God's Provision for His People: The Promised Land of Joshua 21:42

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

2. Joshua 21:45 - Not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

Joshua 21:43 And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein.

The LORD fulfilled the promise He made to the Israelite fathers, giving them the land He promised and they dwelt in it.

1. God Always Keeps His Promises

2. Faithful Fulfillment of God's Covenant

1. Hebrews 10:23-25 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

2. Numbers 14:21-24 - But truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

Joshua 21:44 And the LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand.

The LORD fulfilled His promise to the Israelites and gave them rest from their enemies, delivering them all into their hands.

1. God's Faithfulness: Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Power of God: Overcoming Enemies

1. Isaiah 54:17, "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD."

2. Psalm 46:1-2, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

Joshua 21:45 There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.

God kept His promise to the house of Israel and everything He said came to pass.

1. God's Promise is Sure - Romans 4:20-21

2. God is Faithful - 1 Corinthians 1:9

1. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the LORD is right and all his work is done in faithfulness.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Joshua 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 22:1-9 describes the return of the two and a half tribes Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh to their allotted territories on the east side of the Jordan River. The chapter begins by highlighting how Joshua blessed them and sent them off with words of encouragement and admonition. He commends them for their faithfulness in keeping God's commandments and urges them to continue to love the Lord and walk in His ways.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 22:10-20, it recounts an incident where the eastern tribes built an altar near the Jordan River. Upon hearing this news, representatives from all the other tribes gathered at Shiloh to prepare for war against their brethren. They accused the eastern tribes of rebelling against God by building an unauthorized altar for offerings instead of worshiping at the central sanctuary.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 22 concludes with an account where Phinehas, son of Eleazar the priest, along with ten tribal leaders, is sent to investigate this matter. They approach Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh to inquire about their intentions behind building this altar. The eastern tribes clarify that they did not build it as a place for sacrifices but as a memorial a witness between them and future generations that they too belong to Israel despite living on the east side of Jordan. Understanding their explanation, Phinehas and his companions return satisfied without taking any hostile action.

In summary:

Joshua 22 presents:

Return of two-and-a-half tribes blessed by Joshua;

Incident regarding unauthorized altar accusations from other tribes;

Investigation by Phinehas clarification provided by eastern tribes.

Emphasis on return of two-and-a-half tribes blessed by Joshua;

Incident regarding unauthorized altar accusations from other tribes;

Investigation by Phinehas clarification provided by eastern tribes.

The chapter focuses on the return of the two and a half tribes Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh to their allotted territories on the east side of the Jordan River. In Joshua 22, it is mentioned that Joshua blessed them and sent them off with words of encouragement, commending their faithfulness in keeping God's commandments. He urges them to continue to love the Lord and walk in His ways.

Continuing in Joshua 22, an incident unfolds where representatives from all the other tribes gather at Shiloh upon hearing that the eastern tribes built an altar near the Jordan River. They accuse Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh of rebelling against God by establishing an unauthorized altar for offerings instead of worshiping at the central sanctuary a serious offense in Israelite worship.

Joshua 22 concludes with an account where Phinehas, accompanied by ten tribal leaders, is sent to investigate this matter. They approach Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh to inquire about their intentions behind building this altar. The eastern tribes clarify that they did not build it as a place for sacrifices but as a memorial a visible witness between them and future generations that they too belong to Israel despite living on the east side of Jordan. Understanding their explanation, Phinehas and his companions return satisfied without taking any hostile action an example of conflict resolution within Israelite community.

Joshua 22:1 Then Joshua called the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh,

The tribes of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh were called to a meeting by Joshua.

1: We should always be ready to answer the call of our leaders.

2: Leaders should always be willing to call on their followers when needed.

1: John 10:3-5 - The shepherd calls his sheep by name and leads them out.

2: Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

Joshua 22:2 And said unto them, Ye have kept all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all that I commanded you:

The Israelites had kept all of God's commands and followed His instruction.

1: God's commands should be followed with obedience.

2: God rewards faithfulness with blessings.

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

2: 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Joshua 22:3 Ye have not left your brethren these many days unto this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God.

This passage is about the Israelites following God's commandments and staying with their brethren.

1. Staying with our brethren is an important part of following God's commandments.

2. It is important to remember our obligations to God even when times are difficult.

1. Hebrews 10:24-25: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13: "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good?"

Joshua 22:4 And now the LORD your God hath given rest unto your brethren, as he promised them: therefore now return ye, and get you unto your tents, and unto the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side Jordan.

The LORD God has granted rest to the Israelites' brethren, as promised, and now they must return to their tents and the land given to them by Moses.

1. Trust in the LORD: He is Faithful to His Promises

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Reaping the Rewards of Following God s Command

1. Deuteronomy 1:21 - Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Joshua 22:5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

The Israelites are encouraged to love, obey, and serve the Lord with all their heart and soul.

1. Jesus' Love and Commandments: How to Obey and Serve with All Your Heart

2. The Heart of Obedience: Loving and Serving the Lord with All Your Soul

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Matthew 22:37 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

Joshua 22:6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away: and they went unto their tents.

Joshua blessed the Israelites and sent them away to their respective tents.

1. We should always take time to show our gratitude and appreciation for others.

2. We must not forget to look out for one another in times of need.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

2. Acts 20:35 - I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Joshua 22:7 Now to the one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan: but unto the other half thereof gave Joshua among their brethren on this side Jordan westward. And when Joshua sent them away also unto their tents, then he blessed them,

Joshua 22:7 tells of the land that was given to the half of the tribe of Manasseh, east of the Jordan River, by Moses and the other half was given by Joshua to the other half on the western side of the Jordan. After Joshua had given the land to them, he blessed them.

1. Faithfulness in God's Promises - Joshua 22:7

2. The Blessing of Obedience to God - Joshua 22:7

1. Genesis 28:20-22 - Jacob's vow of faithfulness to God

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - Moses' exhortation to the Israelites to fear and serve God.

Joshua 22:8 And he spake unto them, saying, Return with much riches unto your tents, and with very much cattle, with silver, and with gold, and with brass, and with iron, and with very much raiment: divide the spoil of your enemies with your brethren.

This passage is about the Israelites being instructed to return to their tents with the spoils of their enemies and to divide the spoils with their brethren.

1. "Generosity in Victory: Sharing Our Blessings With Others"

2. "The Blessing of Brotherhood: Caring for Each Other"

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2. 1 John 3:16-17 - Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

Joshua 22:9 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go unto the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession, whereof they were possessed, according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

The children of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh left Shiloh in Canaan and returned to their own land of Gilead, as the Lord had commanded through Moses.

1. Trusting God's Plan - Learning to recognize and follow God's will for our lives.

2. The Power of Obedience - Understanding the importance of following God's commands.

1. Ephesians 5:17 - Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2. Deuteronomy 6:17 - You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you.

Joshua 22:10 And when they came unto the borders of Jordan, that are in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by Jordan, a great altar to see to.

The children of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh built an altar at the borders of the Jordan in the land of Canaan.

1. The Power of Unity in Building an Altar

2. The Importance of Acknowledging God in Times of Blessing

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. 1 Chronicles 16:29 - "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him. Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness."

Joshua 22:11 And the children of Israel heard say, Behold, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh have built an altar over against the land of Canaan, in the borders of Jordan, at the passage of the children of Israel.

The children of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh constructed an altar near the border of Jordan in the land of Canaan.

1. "The Power of Faith: An Analysis of the Altar Built by Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh"

2. "The Importance of Unity: Lessons Learned from the Altar Built by Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh"

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?

Joshua 22:12 And when the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh, to go up to war against them.

The children of Israel gathered together to go to war against the tribe of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

1. The importance of gathering together in unity for a common cause

2. The power of faith in times of conflict

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Joshua 22:13 And the children of Israel sent unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest,

Phinehas, the son of Eleazar the priest, was sent by the children of Israel to the children of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh, in the land of Gilead.

1. The importance of honoring the priesthood and its vital role in the life of a believer.

2. The power of unity and the necessity of working together in order to achieve God s will.

1. Exodus 28:1 - And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

2. Deuteronomy 17:18 - And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites.

Joshua 22:14 And with him ten princes, of each chief house a prince throughout all the tribes of Israel; and each one was an head of the house of their fathers among the thousands of Israel.

Ten princes from each of the tribes of Israel, each representing the head of their respective father's households, joined with Joshua to represent the thousands of Israel.

1. The Importance of Representation and Family Leadership

2. Making the Right Choices and Following Good Leaders

1. Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. James 3:17-18 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Joshua 22:15 And they came unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, unto the land of Gilead, and they spake with them, saying,

Representatives from the tribes of Reuben, Gad and half of Manasseh spoke to the children of Gilead about a potential conflict.

1. "Be Wise in Conflict Resolution: Lessons from Joshua 22:15"

2. "Finding Peace through Understanding: An Exposition of Joshua 22:15"

1. Ecclesiastes 7:8 - "The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride."

2. Proverbs 15:18 - "A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel."

Joshua 22:16 Thus saith the whole congregation of the LORD, What trespass is this that ye have committed against the God of Israel, to turn away this day from following the LORD, in that ye have builded you an altar, that ye might rebel this day against the LORD?

The whole congregation of the Lord asked the Israelites what wrong they had committed by turning away from the Lord and building an altar.

1. Reaffirming Our Commitment to God: The Israelites' Example of Turning Away from the Lord

2. Returning to the Lord: Refocusing on Our Relationship with God

1. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. Psalm 73:25 - Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

Joshua 22:17 Is the iniquity of Peor too little for us, from which we are not cleansed until this day, although there was a plague in the congregation of the LORD,

The iniquity of Peor still stains the people of Israel, as it has not been cleansed even to this day.

1. A call to repentance - recognizing our need to seek God's forgiveness and the consequences of sin.

2. The importance of holiness - why it is necessary to stay close to God and to live in His presence.

1. Psalm 51:1-2 - "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!"

2. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Joshua 22:18 But that ye must turn away this day from following the LORD? and it will be, seeing ye rebel to day against the LORD, that to morrow he will be wroth with the whole congregation of Israel.

This passage speaks of rebelling against the Lord and the consequences of it.

1. The Price of Rebellion: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience to God

2. The Importance of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 6:15-17 - "For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God. Be careful to follow all the commands I give you today, so that you may have the strength to go in and take over the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, and so that you may live long on the land the LORD your God is giving you for all time."

2. James 4:7-10 - "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

Joshua 22:19 Notwithstanding, if the land of your possession be unclean, then pass ye over unto the land of the possession of the LORD, wherein the LORD's tabernacle dwelleth, and take possession among us: but rebel not against the LORD, nor rebel against us, in building you an altar beside the altar of the LORD our God.

The people of the Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh are warned not to rebel against the Lord by building their own altar for worship, but to pass over to the land of the Lord's tabernacle and worship there.

1. Live in Obedience to the Lord: The Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh were warned not to rebel against the Lord by building their own altar for worship, but to pass over to the land of the Lord's tabernacle and worship there.

2. Choose the Lord s Way: We are reminded through the story of the Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh that when we face difficult decisions, we should look to the Lord and his ways for guidance.

1. Joshua 22:19 - Notwithstanding, if the land of your possession be unclean, then pass ye over unto the land of the possession of the LORD, wherein the LORD's tabernacle dwelleth, and take possession among us: but rebel not against the LORD, nor rebel against us, in building you an altar beside the altar of the LORD our God.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Joshua 22:20 Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity.

Achan committed a grave sin, and the whole congregation of Israel suffered the consequences, resulting in Achan's death.

1. The Power of Sin - Achan's story of how one man's sin can affect an entire community.

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - A lesson from Achan's life about the results of straying from God's commands.

1. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

2. Galatians 6:7 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Joshua 22:21 Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh answered, and said unto the heads of the thousands of Israel,

The children of Reuben and Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh responded to the heads of the thousands of Israel by expressing their loyalty and commitment to the Lord.

1. "Commitment to the Lord"

2. "Loyalty to the Covenant"

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength".

2. Joshua 24:15 - "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord".

Joshua 22:22 The LORD God of gods, the LORD God of gods, he knoweth, and Israel he shall know; if it be in rebellion, or if in transgression against the LORD, (save us not this day,)

The Lord God knows and will make Israel aware if they are in rebellion or transgression against Him.

1. God Knows: Trusting in the Omniscience of God

2. Rebellion and Transgression: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Psalm 139:1 4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

2. Romans 3:9 10 - What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: None is righteous, no, not one.

Joshua 22:23 That we have built us an altar to turn from following the LORD, or if to offer thereon burnt offering or meat offering, or if to offer peace offerings thereon, let the LORD himself require it;

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh built an altar near the Jordan to remind them of their commitment to the LORD. They ask God to judge them if they are using it to turn away from Him or to offer sacrifices that are not allowed.

1. God will judge our actions - Joshua 22:23

2. We must remain true to God's commands - Joshua 22:23

1. Deuteronomy 12:13-14 - Do not offer your burnt offerings everywhere you please, but only at the place the Lord will choose in one of your tribes.

2. 1 John 3:4 - Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

Joshua 22:24 And if we have not rather done it for fear of this thing, saying, In time to come your children might speak unto our children, saying, What have ye to do with the LORD God of Israel?

The children of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh express their concern that in the future, their children might be asked why they built a great altar.

1. God's Children: Uniting Through Shared Faith

2. Taking Responsibility for Our Actions

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. 1 John 4:20-21 - "If anyone says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen."

Joshua 22:25 For the LORD hath made Jordan a border between us and you, ye children of Reuben and children of Gad; ye have no part in the LORD: so shall your children make our children cease from fearing the LORD.

The children of Reuben and Gad are warned that they have no part in the LORD and will cause the children of Israel to stop fearing the LORD.

1. The Fear of the Lord is an Essential Element of Holiness

2. Seeking Godliness in the Midst of a Secular World

1. Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Joshua 22:26 Therefore we said, Let us now prepare to build us an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice:

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh had built an altar which caused alarm among the other tribes, but it was intended as a symbol of their unity rather than a place for sacrifices.

1. "The Power of Unity"

2. "Examining Our Motives"

1. Romans 12:4-5 - "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Joshua 22:27 But that it may be a witness between us, and you, and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not say to our children in time to come, Ye have no part in the LORD.

This passage encourages us to serve the Lord with our offerings of burnt, sacrifice, and peace offerings so that our children may not forget their part in the Lord in the future.

1. The Legacy of Serving the Lord

2. Fulfilling Our Responsibility to God

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

2. Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Joshua 22:28 Therefore said we, that it shall be, when they should so say to us or to our generations in time to come, that we may say again, Behold the pattern of the altar of the LORD, which our fathers made, not for burnt offerings, nor for sacrifices; but it is a witness between us and you.

This passage refers to the importance of the altar as a witness between two generations.

1. "The Power of Witness: The Altar as a Symbol of Unity"

2. "The Altar: A Constant Reminder of God's Faithfulness"

1. Deuteronomy 27:5-6 - "And there shall ye build an altar unto the LORD your God, an altar of stones: thou shalt not lift up any iron tool upon them. Thou shalt build the altar of the LORD thy God of whole stones: and thou shalt offer burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD thy God"

2. Exodus 20:24 - "An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen"

Joshua 22:29 God forbid that we should rebel against the LORD, and turn this day from following the LORD, to build an altar for burnt offerings, for meat offerings, or for sacrifices, beside the altar of the LORD our God that is before his tabernacle.

The people of Israel affirm their loyalty to God and reject the idea of building an altar for burnt offerings beside the altar of the LORD.

1. The Importance of Obedience to the Lord

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness to God

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Joshua 22:30 And when Phinehas the priest, and the princes of the congregation and heads of the thousands of Israel which were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spake, it pleased them.

Phinehas the priest, and the other leaders of the congregation of Israel were pleased with the words spoken by the children of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh.

1. God Is Pleased With Our Words: A Study of Joshua 22:30

2. Choosing Our Words Wisely: How Our Words Can Please God

1. James 3:5-10 - A discussion of how the tongue can be used for good or evil.

2. Psalm 19:14 - A reminder that God desires that our words be pleasing to Him.

Joshua 22:31 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, This day we perceive that the LORD is among us, because ye have not committed this trespass against the LORD: now ye have delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of the LORD.

Phinehas, the son of Eleazar the priest, acknowledges the LORD's presence among the children of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh, as they have not committed a trespass against the LORD and thus have freed the children of Israel from the LORD's hand.

1. The Power of and Blessing from Acknowledging the Lord's Presence

2. The Benefits of Fidelity to the Word of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Joshua 22:32 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the princes, returned from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, unto the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and brought them word again.

Phinehas, son of the priest Eleazar, and the princes, returned from the land of Gilead to the land of Canaan to the children of Israel and reported back to them.

1. Faithful Obedience Brings Rewards

2. A Journey of Return to God

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Psalm 51:1 - "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

Joshua 22:33 And the thing pleased the children of Israel; and the children of Israel blessed God, and did not intend to go up against them in battle, to destroy the land wherein the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt.

The children of Israel were pleased with the plan that Reuben and Gad proposed and blessed God for it, so they did not intend to go to battle against them and destroy their land.

1. God is always at work in our lives - even when we don't realize it.

2. God calls us to seek peace and reconciliation over conflict and destruction.

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Psalm 33:18 - "But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love."

Joshua 22:34 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called the altar Ed: for it shall be a witness between us that the LORD is God.

The children of Reuben and Gad built an altar called Ed, which was intended to serve as a witness between them that the Lord is God.

1. The Importance of Witnessing the Power of the Lord

2. Building a Foundation of Faith in God

1. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Joshua 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 23:1-5 describes Joshua's farewell address to the leaders of Israel. The chapter begins by stating that Joshua was old and advanced in years. He calls for all the leaders, elders, judges, and officials of Israel to gather before him. Joshua reminds them of all that the Lord had done for them, including the conquest of nations and the division of land among the tribes. He encourages them to be strong and obedient to God's commands.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 23:6-11, Joshua warns against turning away from God and intermingling with the remaining nations. He reminds them that their strength lies in their faithfulness to God's laws and instructions. Joshua emphasizes that if they remain devoted to God, He will continue to drive out these nations before them and fulfill His promises.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 23 concludes with an account where Joshua exhorts the people once again to be very strong in keeping all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses. He warns against making alliances or intermarrying with these nations, as it would lead them astray from serving God alone. Finally, he assures them that if they remain faithful, not one promise made by God will fail they will experience His blessings.

In summary:

Joshua 23 presents:

Farewell address by Joshua reminding leaders of God's faithfulness;

Warning against turning away from God emphasis on obedience;

Exhortation to remain faithful promises fulfilled through obedience.

Emphasis on farewell address by Joshua reminding leaders of God's faithfulness;

Warning against turning away from God emphasis on obedience;

Exhortation to remain faithful promises fulfilled through obedience.

The chapter focuses on Joshua's farewell address to the leaders of Israel. In Joshua 23, it is mentioned that Joshua, being old and advanced in years, calls for all the leaders, elders, judges, and officials of Israel to gather before him. He reminds them of all that the Lord had done for them and encourages them to be strong and obedient to God's commands.

Continuing in Joshua 23, Joshua warns against turning away from God and intermingling with the remaining nations. He emphasizes that their strength lies in their faithfulness to God's laws and instructions. Joshua reminds them that if they remain devoted to God, He will continue to drive out these nations before them and fulfill His promises an assurance of victory as long as they remain faithful.

Joshua 23 concludes with an account where Joshua exhorts the people once again to be very strong in keeping all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses. He warns against making alliances or intermarrying with these nations as it would lead them astray from serving God alone. Finally, he assures them that if they remain faithful, not one promise made by God will fail they will experience His blessings a reminder of the importance of obedience and trust in fulfilling God's covenant with His people.

Joshua 23:1 And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old and stricken in age.

Joshua had grown old and was nearing the end of his life after having led Israel to rest from their enemies.

1. The Lord Provides Strength and Comfort in Our Final Days

2. Appreciating the Blessings of Rest and Peace

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 23:2 - "He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters."

Joshua 23:2 And Joshua called for all Israel, and for their elders, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers, and said unto them, I am old and stricken in age:

Joshua calls for all of Israel to hear his words before his death.

1: The Power of Legacy - Joshua's example of leaving a legacy of wisdom and faith for the next generation.

2: Life's Greatest Gift - Embracing the time we have while we can and cherishing the moments with our friends and family.

1: Matthew 6:34 - "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

2: Psalm 90:12 - "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Joshua 23:3 And ye have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the LORD your God is he that hath fought for you.

God has fought for the people of Israel and has done great things for them.

1. The Lord is Our Protector How God Guides and Fights for Us

2. The Power of Faith How God Rewards Our Belief

1. Deuteronomy 1:30 The LORD your God, which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Joshua 23:4 Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward.

God divided the nations that were left to the tribes of Israel as an inheritance, from Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea.

1. The Power of the Lord in Allocating Provision

2. Finding Strength in God's Promises

1. Deuteronomy 10:22 - Your fathers went down into Egypt with seventy persons, and now the Lord your God has made you as the stars of heaven for multitude.

2. Psalm 84:11 - For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Joshua 23:5 And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you.

God promises to drive out the enemies of the Israelites and give them possession of their land.

1. The Faithfulness of God in fulfilling His Promises

2. The Power of God to Overcome All Obstacles

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 - "When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou;"

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Joshua 23:6 Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left;

Be strong and faithful to God's law.

1: Trust in God and His Word; be courageous in your faith and obedience.

2: Seek to obey and uphold God's law, and do not waver from it.

1: Deuteronomy 7:9; Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2: Psalm 119:105; Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Joshua 23:7 That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them:

Be steadfast in your faith and remain committed to your beliefs.

1: Be dedicated to your faith and resist compromise.

2: Maintain your devotion to God and reject the influence of other gods.

1: Deuteronomy 6:13 - Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

2: Matthew 4:10 - Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Joshua 23:8 But cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day.

Joshua urged the Israelites to remain faithful to God, just as they had been doing up to that point.

1. Remain Steadfast in Your Faith: The Challenge of Joshua 23:8

2. Staying True to God: The Promise of Joshua 23:8

1. Deuteronomy 10:20 - You shall fear the Lord your God; you shall serve Him, and to Him you shall hold fast, and take oaths in His name.

2. Hebrews 10:22-23 - Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Joshua 23:9 For the LORD hath driven out from before you great nations and strong: but as for you, no man hath been able to stand before you unto this day.

God has enabled the Israelites to triumph over many strong nations, and no one has been able to stand against them.

1. The Strength of the Lord: How Faith in God Can Overcome All Odds

2. The Lord is Our Shield: How to Rely on God in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Joshua 23:10 One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you.

God has promised to fight for His people and they will be victorious, as one man will be able to defeat a thousand.

1. God is Our Refuge and Strength

2. Stand Your Ground in Faith

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Joshua 23:11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God.

This passage emphasizes the importance of loving God.

1. God's Love For Us: An Exploration of Joshua 23:11

2. Loving God: A Practical Guide Based on Joshua 23:11

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

2. 1 John 4:19 - "We love Him, because He first loved us."

Joshua 23:12 Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, even these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you:

The Israelites are warned against intermarrying with the remaining nations in the land or else they risk turning away from God.

1. "Staying Faithful in the Midst of Temptation"

2. "The Power of Covenant Keeping"

1. Romans 12:2 - "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything."

Joshua 23:13 Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out any of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

God will no longer remove the nations from the Israelites, but instead they will become snares, traps, scourges, and thorns that will cause them to perish from the land that God has given them.

1. "The Dangers of Disobedience: A Study of Joshua 23:13"

2. "God's Promise: From Provision to Peril in Joshua 23:13"

1. Hebrews 12:6-7 - "For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country. Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Cursed shall be the fruit of your body and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

Joshua 23:14 And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

Passage God has fulfilled all the promises that He made to the Israelites.

1. Faithfulness of God: Trusting in His Promises

2. Following God's Will: Reaping the Rewards of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Joshua 23:15 Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

The Lord has brought all good things upon the people of Israel, but warns them that if they are disobedient, they will face destruction from the land which God has given them.

1. "The Blessing and Curse of Obedience"

2. "The Lord's Promise of Blessing and Cursing"

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The Lord's promise of blessing and cursing depending on obedience or disobedience.

2. Psalm 37:1-4 - The Lord's promise of stability for the righteous.

Joshua 23:16 When ye have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed yourselves to them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he hath given unto you.

Joshua warns the people of Israel that they will quickly perish if they disobey God and serve other gods.

1. "The Danger of Disobedience - A Warning from Joshua 23:16"

2. "The Blessing of Obedience - A Promise from Joshua 23:16"

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28

2. Isaiah 55:6-7

Joshua 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Joshua 24:1-13 describes Joshua's assembly of all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. The chapter begins by stating that Joshua gathered the people to present them before the Lord. He recounts their history, starting from Abraham's call and their journey through Egypt, highlighting God's faithfulness in delivering them from slavery and leading them to the Promised Land. Joshua emphasizes that it was God who fought for them against their enemies and gave them victory.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Joshua 24:14-28, Joshua calls upon the people to choose whom they will serve whether the gods of their ancestors or the Lord. He urges them to fear and serve the Lord wholeheartedly, reminding them of God's faithfulness and warning against idolatry. The people respond by declaring their commitment to serving and obeying the Lord.

Paragraph 3: Joshua 24 concludes with an account where a covenant is made between God, represented by Joshua, and the people of Israel. They reaffirm their commitment to worshiping only Yahweh as their God and following His commands. A stone is set up as a witness to this covenant near a large oak tree at Shechem. The chapter ends with Joshua dismissing the people, each returning to his own inheritance.

In summary:

Joshua 24 presents:

Assembly at Shechem history recounted;

Call to choose whom they will serve commitment declared;

Covenant made reaffirmation of worshiping Yahweh.

Emphasis on assembly at Shechem history recounted;

Call to choose whom they will serve commitment declared;

Covenant made reaffirmation of worshiping Yahweh.

The chapter focuses on Joshua's assembly of all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. In Joshua 24, it is mentioned that Joshua gathered the people to present them before the Lord. He recounts their history, starting from Abraham's call and their journey through Egypt, emphasizing God's faithfulness in delivering them and giving them victory.

Continuing in Joshua 24, Joshua calls upon the people to choose whom they will serve whether the gods of their ancestors or the Lord. He urges them to fear and serve the Lord wholeheartedly, reminding them of God's faithfulness and warning against idolatry. The people respond by declaring their commitment to serving and obeying the Lord a significant moment of rededicating themselves to God.

Joshua 24 concludes with an account where a covenant is made between God, represented by Joshua, and the people of Israel. They reaffirm their commitment to worshiping only Yahweh as their God and following His commands. A stone is set up as a witness near a large oak tree at Shechem a symbol of this covenantal agreement. The chapter ends with Joshua dismissing the people, each returning to his own inheritance an important milestone in solidifying Israel's allegiance to Yahweh as they continue living in Canaan.

Joshua 24:1 And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.

Joshua gathered the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders, heads, judges, and officers to present themselves before God.

1. The Power of Unity: How Gathering Together Can Lead to Spiritual Growth

2. Making Godly Choices: Our Responsibility to Listen to and Follow God's Guidance

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

2. Psalm 132:7-8 - Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool! Arise, O Lord, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might.

Joshua 24:2 And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.

Joshua reminds the people of Israel of their ancestors' service to other gods.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God.

2. The consequences of idolatry.

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 - "You shall fear the Lord your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you (for the Lord your God is a jealous God among you), lest the anger of the Lord your God be aroused against you and destroy you from the face of the earth.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; eyes they have, but they do not see; they have ears, but they do not hear; noses they have, but they do not smell; they have hands, but they do not handle; feet they have, but they do not walk; nor do they mutter through their throat. Those who make them are like them; so is everyone who trusts in them.

Joshua 24:3 And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.

God led Abraham from the other side of the river and blessed him with a large family in the land of Canaan.

1. The Lord is faithful to those who seek Him and will bless them beyond measure.

2. Even in the midst of difficulties, God can do great things in our lives and bless us.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Joshua 24:4 And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt.

God blessed both Jacob and Esau, giving Jacob and his children a new home in Egypt.

1: God's blessings can come in unexpected ways.

2: We should be thankful for the blessings God gives us.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about the future, for God will provide.

2: Psalm 103:1-5 - Bless the Lord for all his benefits and mercy.

Joshua 24:5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out.

God sent Moses and Aaron to plague Egypt, and later He liberated the Israelites from their bondage.

1. God will always protect and provide for His people.

2. No matter how dark and dire our circumstances, God is faithful and will deliver us.

1. Isaiah 26:3-4 You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.

Joshua 24:6 And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea.

The Israelites were brought out of Egypt by God and were pursued by the Egyptians to the Red Sea.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Joshua 24:7 And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.

The Israelites cried to the Lord, and He responded by bringing a dark cloud between them and the Egyptians, followed by the sea crashing over the Egyptians and covering them. The Israelites had witnessed God's power in Egypt and had spent a long time in the wilderness.

1. God is Faithful - He will answer prayers and provide protection to those who call out to Him.

2. God is Powerful - He can do mighty things to protect His people in times of need.

1. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Joshua 24:8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you.

God led the Israelites to the land of the Amorites, where they fought and defeated them, allowing the Israelites to possess their land.

1. God is with us in every battle, and will help us to overcome our enemies.

2. We can trust God to bring us victory if we remain faithful to Him.

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Joshua 24:9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you:

Balak, the king of Moab, waged war against Israel and hired Balaam to curse them.

1. The power of faith in the face of opposition

2. The importance of persevering in the face of adversity

1. Deuteronomy 31:6, Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Psalm 46:1, God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Joshua 24:10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he blessed you still: so I delivered you out of his hand.

God delivered the Israelites from the hand of Balaam, who attempted to curse them, but instead gave them a blessing.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness and Protection

2. Overcoming Temptation and Persevering in Faith

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their vindication is from Me," declares the Lord.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea.

Joshua 24:11 And ye went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho: and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I delivered them into your hand.

The Israelites crossed the Jordan river and conquered Jericho, and God delivered their enemies into their hands.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Delivered the Israelites Enemies Into Their Hands

2. A Testimony of God s Provision: The Israelites Victory Over Jericho

1. Isaiah 41:10 - fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 24:12 And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow.

God sent "the hornet" to help drive out the two kings of the Amorites from the Israelites, not by their own swords or bows.

1. God is our protector and will always be there to help us when we are in need.

2. Victory is possible without force - sometimes God will provide us with the tools to win without violence.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The armor of God.

2. Psalm 91 - The Lord is our refuge and strength.

Joshua 24:13 And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat.

God has given the Israelites a land and cities that they did not build, and they are able to benefit from vineyards and oliveyards that they did not plant.

1. God gives us all things, even if we don't earn them.

2. The power of faith and how God can provide us with unexpected blessings.

1. Psalm 115:15 - "Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth."

2. Ephesians 2:8-10 - "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Joshua 24:14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.

Joshua commands the Israelites to serve the LORD in sincerity and truth, and to put away their fathers' gods.

1. "The Choice We Make: Serving the LORD in Truth and Sincerity"

2. "Examining our Service: Is it Godly or Pagan?"

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-14 - "Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other."

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Joshua encourages the Israelites to choose between serving the God of their ancestors, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land they dwell. He and his household will serve the Lord.

1. The Choice of Serving God: Exploring the Urgency of Making a Choice in Worship

2. The Power of the Household: Serving God Together as a Family

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Joshua 24:16 And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods;

The people of Israel declared that they would never forsake the LORD and serve other gods.

1. The power of commitment: standing firm in faith.

2. The risk of idolatry: why it is important to remain devoted to God.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Galatians 5:1 - For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Joshua 24:17 For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:

God brought the Israelites out of Egypt and guided them through all their travels, protecting them from all the people they encountered.

1. The faithfulness of God in protecting His people

2. The importance of recognizing God's work in our lives

1. Exodus 12:37-42 - The Israelites' journey out of Egypt

2. Psalm 46:7-11 - God's protection and guidance of His people

Joshua 24:18 And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God.

The LORD drove out the Amorites who lived in the land, so the Israelites chose to serve the LORD as their God.

1. The Power of God: Seeing the Lord's Hand in Our Lives

2. The Beauty of Serving God: Making the Choice to Follow Him

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

5. Matthew 22:37-38 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

Joshua 24:19 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.

The people are warned not to serve the Lord due to His holiness and jealousy.

1. God's Holiness is Uncompromising - Joshua 24:19

2. The Jealousy of God - Joshua 24:19

1. Exodus 34:14 - "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:"

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Joshua 24:20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.

Joshua warns the Israelites that forsaking and serving strange gods will lead to the LORD punishing them after doing them good.

1. The Danger of Forsaking the Lord

2. God's Punishment in Response to Disobedience

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Deuteronomy 8:19-20 - "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish."

Joshua 24:21 And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD.

Joshua and the people of Israel declared their commitment to serve the Lord.

1. The Power of Commitment: Choosing to Serve the Lord

2. A Covenant of Faith: Standing Firm in Servitude to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus told his disciples, If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Joshua 24:22 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses.

Joshua challenged the people of Israel to serve God and they accepted the challenge, affirming that they are witnesses to their own decision.

1. The Power of Choice: How Will You Choose to Serve God?

2. Witnesses to Our Faith: Standing as Testimony of Our Commitment to Serve God.

1. Deuteronomy 30:19 - I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Joshua 24:23 Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel.

Joshua encourages the people to put away their foreign gods and incline their hearts to the LORD God of Israel.

1. The Importance of Dedication to the LORD God of Israel

2. Rejecting False Gods and Embracing True Worship

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Matthew 22:37-38 - And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

Joshua 24:24 And the people said unto Joshua, The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.

The people of Israel declared to Joshua that they were willing to serve the Lord and obey His commands.

1. Obedience: The Key to True Worship

2. Faithful Service: A Response to God s Promises

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Jesus parable of the wise and foolish builders

2. Psalm 119:33-37 - The psalmist s plea for understanding and obedience

Joshua 24:25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

Joshua made a covenant with the people and set a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

1. God's Covenant of Protection: Lessons from Joshua 24

2. The Power of Covenant: Establishing God's Statutes and Ordinances

1. Psalm 78:5-7 - For he established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Joshua 24:26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

Joshua wrote the words of God in a book and placed a large stone as a monument under an oak tree near the sanctuary of the LORD.

1. God's Word is Permanent and Unchanging

2. Monumental Decisions Made in Faith

1. Deuteronomy 31:24-26 - And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished,

2. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Joshua 24:27 And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.

Joshua urges people to be loyal to God and not deny Him.

1: We are called to remain faithful to God despite the temptations of the world.

2: We must remain committed to God and never deny Him.

1: Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

2: Philippians 2:12-13 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Joshua 24:28 So Joshua let the people depart, every man unto his inheritance.

Joshua allowed the people to leave and return to their own lands.

1. The importance of recognizing and honoring individual rights.

2. The power of grace and mercy in our lives.

1. Matthew 7:12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.

2. Matthew 6:14-15 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Joshua 24:29 And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being an hundred and ten years old.

Joshua, the son of Nun and servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110.

1: We can learn from Joshua's life of faith and dedication to the Lord.

2: We can look to Joshua as an example of a faithful servant of the Lord.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2: James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Joshua 24:30 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash.

Joshua was buried in the border of his inheritance in Timnathserah, located in Mount Ephraim on the north side of the hill of Gaash.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Joshua's Legacy Lives On

2. A Life of Faith: Joshua's Example of Commitment to God

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Joshua 24:31 And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.

Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua and the elders that lived after him, who had witnessed all the works the Lord did for Israel.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness in Times of Change

2. The Legacy of Faithful Service

1. Psalm 136:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Joshua 24:32 And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

The bones of Joseph, which were brought up from Egypt by the Israelites, were buried in Shechem in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem, for 100 pieces of silver. This parcel of ground became the inheritance of Joseph's children.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for our needs - Joshua 24:32

2. The importance of honoring our Ancestors - Joshua 24:32

1. Genesis 33:19 - And he bought the piece of land where he had pitched his tent, at the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for an hundred pieces of silver.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:33 And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in a hill that pertained to Phinehas his son, which was given him in mount Ephraim.

Eleazar, the son of Aaron, died and was buried in a hill given to his son Phinehas in Mount Ephraim.

1. The Importance of Legacy: How We Can Carry On Through Our Descendants

2. Making the Most of Our Time: A Look at Eleazar's Life

1. Psalm 39:4-5 - "Show me, O Lord, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest.

Judges 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 1:1-7 describes the initial victories of the tribes of Judah and Simeon in their conquest of Canaan. The chapter begins by stating that after Joshua's death, the Israelites sought guidance from the Lord regarding who should go up first to fight against the Canaanites. The Lord instructs them to send Judah, and they engage in battle against various cities and tribes. With God's help, Judah defeats Adoni-bezek and captures Jerusalem, Hebron, and Debir.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 1:8-21, it recounts the victories and partial successes of other tribes in their respective territories. The passage mentions Benjamin's failure to drive out the Jebusites from Jerusalem, but they live among them instead. Ephraim also fails to fully conquer their allotted land but coexists with the Canaanites. Other tribes such as Manasseh, Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan experience varying degrees of success in driving out or subjugating their enemies.

Paragraph 3: Judges 1 concludes with an account where some Canaanite strongholds remain unconquered despite efforts made by several tribes. In Judges 1:27-36, it is mentioned that Manasseh does not drive out all the inhabitants of certain cities; likewise, Ephraim does not drive out some Canaanites living in Gezer. As a result, these remaining inhabitants become forced labor for Israel but continue dwelling within their midst.

In summary:

Judges 1 presents:

Initial victories Judah conquers various cities;

Partial successes tribes experience varying degrees of success;

Remaining strongholds some Canaanite inhabitants remain.

Emphasis on initial victories Judah conquers various cities;

Partial successes tribes experience varying degrees of success;

Remaining strongholds some Canaanite inhabitants remain.

The chapter focuses on the initial victories and subsequent challenges faced by the tribes of Israel in their conquest of Canaan. In Judges 1, it is mentioned that after Joshua's death, the Israelites seek guidance from the Lord regarding who should go up first to fight against the Canaanites. The Lord instructs them to send Judah, and they engage in battle against various cities and tribes, achieving significant victories.

Continuing in Judges 1, the passage recounts the victories and partial successes of other tribes in their respective territories. While some tribes like Benjamin and Ephraim fail to fully drive out their enemies, others experience varying degrees of success in subjugating or expelling them from their allotted lands. These accounts highlight both triumphs and challenges faced by different tribes as they strive to establish their presence in Canaan.

Judges 1 concludes with an account where certain Canaanite strongholds remain unconquered despite efforts made by several tribes. Some tribes choose not to completely drive out or exterminate these remaining inhabitants but instead subject them to forced labor while allowing them to dwell within Israelite territory a decision that will have consequences later on as these populations continue to coexist with Israel.

Judges 1:1 Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?

After Joshua's death, the Israelites wondered who would lead them to fight against the Canaanites.

1. Following in the Footsteps of Great Leaders

2. The Promise of Victory in Faith

1. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2. Romans 8:37 - Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Judges 1:2 And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.

The Lord promised Judah victory and success in the land.

1: God will give us the power to overcome any obstacle in life.

2: God will provide us with the resources to succeed if we put our trust in Him.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Judges 1:3 And Judah said unto Simeon his brother, Come up with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I likewise will go with thee into thy lot. So Simeon went with him.

Judah asked his brother Simeon to join him in a fight against the Canaanites, and Simeon agreed.

1. The Power of Unity in Faith - Judges 1:3

2. The Blessing of Having a Faithful Brother - Judges 1:3

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Judges 1:4 And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men.

Judah went to battle and the Lord gave them victory over the Canaanites and Perizzites. They slew 10,000 men in Bezek.

1. God is a God of victory and gives us strength when we fight battles for Him.

2. We can trust that God will stand with us no matter what obstacles we face.

1. Joshua 23:10 - "One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Judges 1:5 And they found Adonibezek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

The Israelites defeated Adonibezek in Bezek.

1. God will bring justice to those who do wrong.

2. Victory comes when we trust in Him.

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

Judges 1:6 But Adonibezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.

Adonibezek was punished for his wrongdoings by having his thumbs and great toes cut off.

1. God will punish those who do evil, no matter how powerful they may be.

2. We must be mindful to not stray from the path of righteousness.

1. Proverbs 21:15 - When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.

2. Psalm 37:1-2 - Do not fret because of evildoers or be envious of the wicked, for the evildoer has no future hope, and the lamp of the wicked will be snuffed out.

Judges 1:7 And Adonibezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.

Adonibezek learned the consequences of his actions when God repaid him in kind.

1. God's justice is sure and will not be denied.

2. We reap what we sow - an example from the book of Judges.

1. Isaiah 59:18 - According to their deeds, so He will repay, wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies.

2. Galatians 6:7 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Judges 1:8 Now the children of Judah had fought against Jerusalem, and had taken it, and smitten it with the edge of the sword, and set the city on fire.

The children of Judah defeated Jerusalem, conquering it with a sword and setting the city ablaze.

1. The Power of Faith: How Believing in Yourself Can Lead to Greatness

2. Overcoming Adversity: How to Conquer Challenges and Triumph

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Judges 1:9 And afterward the children of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites, that dwelt in the mountain, and in the south, and in the valley.

The children of Judah went to fight the Canaanites who were living in the mountains, south and valley.

1. The Call To Battle: How We Answer God's Call To Fight For Him

2. Overcoming Our Fears: How We Conquer The Battles That Come Our Way

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Judges 1:10 And Judah went against the Canaanites that dwelt in Hebron: (now the name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba:) and they slew Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai.

Judah went to Hebron to fight against the Canaanites and killed Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai.

1. The Power of Faith: Understanding the Strength of Judah in Judges 1:10

2. Overcoming the Enemy: How to Follow in Judah's Footsteps

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

2. Proverbs 4:23-27 Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you. Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

Judges 1:11 And from thence he went against the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before was Kirjathsepher:

The Israelites fought against the inhabitants of Debir, formerly known as Kirjathsepher.

1. The Power of a Changed Name

2. The Value of Forgiveness in War

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ephesians 6:12 - For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Judges 1:12 And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjathsepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.

Caleb offered his daughter in marriage to anyone who would take Kirjathsepher.

1. The Meaning of Marriage: How Caleb's Offer Demonstrates God's Plan for Marriage

2. The Power of Generosity: Caleb's Offer of His Daughter to Take Kirjathsepher

1. Ephesians 5:31-33 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This is a profound mystery but I am talking about Christ and the church.

2. 1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

Judges 1:13 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife.

Othniel, the son of Kenaz and Caleb's younger brother, took the city of Debir and was given Achsah, Caleb's daughter, as his wife in return.

1. The importance of family loyalty in faith

2. The power of a Godly marriage

1. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:1-7 - Marriage should be held in honor among all.

Judges 1:14 And it came to pass, when she came to him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted from off her ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wilt thou?

Caleb shows generosity and kindness when a young maiden asks for a field from him.

1: Generosity: Always give generously to those who ask.

2: Kindness: Show kindness to those in need.

1: Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you.

2: Proverbs 3:27 - Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due.

Judges 1:15 And she said unto him, Give me a blessing: for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the nether springs.

Caleb gave his daughter the south land and springs of water when she asked for a blessing.

1. The Value of Blessing Others

2. Asking for Blessings

1. Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Judges 1:16 And the children of the Kenite, Moses' father in law, went up out of the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which lieth in the south of Arad; and they went and dwelt among the people.

The children of the Kenite, Moses' father in law, went and settled with the children of Judah in the wilderness of Judah.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Help Us Reach Our Goals

2. Family Bonds: How Moses' Father-in-Law Can Teach Us About the Strength of Family

1. Psalm 133:1: Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!

2. Ruth 1:16-17: But Ruth said: Entreat me not to leave you, or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God.

Judges 1:17 And Judah went with Simeon his brother, and they slew the Canaanites that inhabited Zephath, and utterly destroyed it. And the name of the city was called Hormah.

Judah and his brother Simeon defeated the Canaanites living in Zephath, destroying the city and renaming it Hormah.

1. The Power of Unity: The Victory of Judah and Simeon

2. The Importance of Following God s Commandments

1. Matthew 28:20 - teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you

2. Daniel 3:17 - If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace

Judges 1:18 Also Judah took Gaza with the coast thereof, and Askelon with the coast thereof, and Ekron with the coast thereof.

Judah conquered the cities of Gaza, Askelon, and Ekron and their respective coastlines.

1. God is faithful to His promises, even when we feel we have been conquered.

2. We should seek to conquer our inner battles before trying to conquer those around us.

Cross-

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."

Judges 1:19 And the LORD was with Judah; and he drave out the inhabitants of the mountain; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron.

Despite the Lord being with Judah, the inhabitants of the mountain were driven out but not the inhabitants of the valley since they had chariots of iron.

1. The Strength of God's Presence

2. The Power of Spiritual Warfare

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. Deuteronomy 8:3-5 - The Lord's Provision

Judges 1:20 And they gave Hebron unto Caleb, as Moses said: and he expelled thence the three sons of Anak.

Caleb was given Hebron as Moses had promised, and he drove out the three sons of Anak who were living there.

1. Faithfulness Rewarded: God's faithfulness to those who are faithful to Him.

2. Overcoming Adversity: Having the courage to take on challenges and persevere despite the odds.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

Judges 1:21 And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day.

The Benjaminites failed to drive out the Jebusites from Jerusalem, and the Jebusites still live there to this day.

1. Trusting in the Lord to Overcome Obstacles

2. Believing in the Promises of God

1. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 1:22 And the house of Joseph, they also went up against Bethel: and the LORD was with them.

The tribe of Joseph went up to Bethel and the Lord was with them.

1. God s Protection in Difficult Times

2. The Strength of Faithful Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Judges 1:23 And the house of Joseph sent to descry Bethel. (Now the name of the city before was Luz.)

The House of Joseph sent spies to check out the city of Bethel, which was previously known as Luz.

1. How Our Attitude Towards Our Past Affects Our Future

2. The Transformative Power of Renewal and Restoration

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Judges 1:24 And the spies saw a man come forth out of the city, and they said unto him, Shew us, we pray thee, the entrance into the city, and we will shew thee mercy.

Two spies asked a man from the city to show them the entrance into the city, promising to show him mercy in return.

1. The Power of Mercy - How showing mercy in difficult situations can lead to positive outcomes

2. The Power of Asking - How asking for help can lead to finding the answers we need

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Judges 1:25 And when he shewed them the entrance into the city, they smote the city with the edge of the sword; but they let go the man and all his family.

The Israelites were victorious in battle and took control of the city, but spared the man and his family.

1. The Power of Compassion: Lessons from the Israelites

2. Understanding God's Power of Forgiveness

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

2. Romans 12:21 - "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Judges 1:26 And the man went into the land of the Hittites, and built a city, and called the name thereof Luz: which is the name thereof unto this day.

The man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city, naming it Luz, which is still its name today.

1. God's Faithfulness Through Time - How the Lord's Promises are Fulfilled Over Generations

2. The Gift of Home - How Our Homes Protect Us and Connect Us to Our History

1. Joshua 1:3-5 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before you: for the Lord your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you."

2. Luke 4:16-21 - "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Judges 1:27 Neither did Manasseh drive out the inhabitants of Bethshean and her towns, nor Taanach and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibleam and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns: but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.

Manasseh failed to drive out the Canaanites from Bethshean, Taanach, Dor, Ibleam, and Megiddo.

1. The Sin of Complacency: Rejecting God's Call to Repentance

2. Overcoming Our Fears and Insecurities: Trusting in the Lord's Provision

1. Romans 6:1-2 - What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

2. Revelation 3:19-20 - Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Judges 1:28 And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out.

When the Israelites became powerful, they forced the Canaanites to pay tribute, but did not completely drive them out.

1. God wants us to be strong and use our strengths to help others.

2. We need to remember that our strength comes from God, and use it for His glory.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Judges 1:29 Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them.

The tribe of Ephraim was unable to drive out the Canaanites who were living in Gezer.

1. Refusing to fight against temptation.

2. The power of persistence in pursuing God's will.

1. Matthew 26:41 - "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

2. Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Judges 1:30 Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries.

The people of Zebulun were unsuccessful in driving out the inhabitants of Kitron and Nahalol, and instead the Canaanites remained in the land and were made to pay tribute.

1. "God's Promise of Victory: Zebulun and the Canaanites"

2. "The Power of Perseverance: Zebulun and the Inhabitants of Kitron and Nahalol"

1. Deuteronomy 7:22 - "And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee."

2. Joshua 24:12 - "And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow."

Judges 1:31 Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Zidon, nor of Ahlab, nor of Achzib, nor of Helbah, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehob:

The tribes of Asher failed to drive out the inhabitants of seven cities.

1: We should not be discouraged by our failures, but rather persevere in our efforts to do the will of God.

2: Obey God even when it is difficult, trusting that He will see our efforts and bless us.

1: Hebrews 10:36 - For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Judges 1:32 But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: for they did not drive them out.

The Asherites failed to drive out the Canaanites from the land, and instead chose to live among them.

1. Overcoming Fear to Live as God Commands - Judges 1:32

2. The Power of Choices - Judges 1:32

1. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Judges 1:33 Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Bethshemesh, nor the inhabitants of Bethanath; but he dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: nevertheless the inhabitants of Bethshemesh and of Bethanath became tributaries unto them.

Naphtali failed to drive out the Canaanites from Bethshemesh and Bethanath, and instead dwelt among them and became tributaries to them.

1. Overcoming Fear and Facing Adversity

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Judges 1:34 And the Amorites forced the children of Dan into the mountain: for they would not suffer them to come down to the valley:

The Amorites oppressed the children of Dan, preventing them from coming down to the valley.

1: No matter how oppressing a situation may seem, God will never leave us alone.

2: Despite the challenges we face, we must have faith that God will provide us with strength and courage.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2: Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Judges 1:35 But the Amorites would dwell in mount Heres in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim: yet the hand of the house of Joseph prevailed, so that they became tributaries.

The Amorites were defeated by the house of Joseph and they had to pay tribute.

1. God rewards those who are faithful to Him.

2. Victory comes through perseverance and faith.

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. 1 John 5:4 - "For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."

Judges 1:36 And the coast of the Amorites was from the going up to Akrabbim, from the rock, and upward.

The Amorites occupied the coast from Akrabbim to the rock and beyond.

1. The Covenant of Occupation: Understanding the Promises of God for Our Lives

2. Standing Firm on the Promises of God in the Face of Adversity

1. Joshua 1:3-6 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - "Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Judges 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 2:1-5 describes the angel of the Lord rebuking the Israelites for breaking their covenant with God. The chapter begins by stating that the angel of the Lord comes to Gilgal and addresses the people, reminding them of God's faithfulness in delivering them from Egypt and commanding them not to make covenants with the inhabitants of Canaan. The angel warns that failure to drive out these nations will result in their becoming snares and adversaries to Israel. However, the people weep and offer sacrifices before departing.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 2:6-15, it recounts a cycle of disobedience, oppression, repentance, and deliverance experienced by Israel during this period. After Joshua's death, a new generation arises who do not know Yahweh or His deeds. They turn away from God, worship foreign gods, and provoke His anger. As a consequence, God allows neighboring nations to oppress Israel. When distress becomes unbearable, the people cry out to God for help.

Paragraph 3: Judges 2 concludes with an account where God raises up judges or leaders to deliver Israel from their oppressors. In Judges 2:16-23, it is mentioned that whenever a judge arises among them, he leads Israel into battle against their enemies and brings temporary peace during his lifetime. However, after each judge dies, the people revert back to their wicked ways worshiping idols and forsaking Yahweh leading to further oppression by surrounding nations.

In summary:

Judges 2 presents:

Rebuke for breaking covenant angel warns against intermingling;

Cycle of disobedience oppression repentance deliverance;

Raising up judges temporary peace followed by further disobedience.

Emphasis on rebuke for breaking covenant angel warns against intermingling;

Cycle of disobedience oppression repentance deliverance;

Raising up judges temporary peace followed by further disobedience.

The chapter focuses on the rebuke given to the Israelites for breaking their covenant with God, followed by a cycle of disobedience, oppression, repentance, and deliverance experienced by Israel during this period. In Judges 2, it is mentioned that the angel of the Lord comes to Gilgal and addresses the people, reminding them of God's faithfulness and warning against making covenants with the inhabitants of Canaan. The angel emphasizes that failure to drive out these nations will result in their becoming snares and adversaries to Israel.

Continuing in Judges 2, a pattern emerges where a new generation arises who do not know Yahweh or His deeds. They turn away from God, worship foreign gods, and provoke His anger. As a consequence, neighboring nations are allowed to oppress Israel. However, when distress becomes unbearable, the people cry out to God for help a cycle of disobedience leading to oppression leading to repentance and deliverance.

Judges 2 concludes with an account where God raises up judges or leaders who deliver Israel from their oppressors. These judges lead Israel into battle against their enemies and bring temporary peace during their lifetimes. However, after each judge dies, the people revert back to their wicked ways worshiping idols and forsaking Yahweh which leads to further oppression by surrounding nations an ongoing pattern that repeats throughout this era in Israel's history.

Judges 2:1 And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I sware unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you.

The angel of the Lord reminded the Israelites that God had kept His promise to bring them to the land He had promised.

1: God is Faithful and His Promises are Sure

2: We Can Rely on God s Covenant

1: Joshua 21:45 Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all were fulfilled.

2: Jeremiah 31:33 I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Judges 2:2 And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?

God commands the Israelites not to make alliances with the people of the land and to tear down their altars, but the Israelites disobey.

1. The Danger of Disobedience

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-3 - Destroy all the places where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods, on high mountains and on hills and under every spreading tree. Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and burn their Asherah poles in the fire; cut down the idols of their gods and wipe out their names from those places.

2. 1 Samuel 12:14-15 - If you fear the Lord and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the Lord your God good! But if you do not obey the Lord, and if you rebel against his commands, his hand will be against you, as it was against your ancestors.

Judges 2:3 Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.

God warned the Israelites that when they failed to drive out the people in the promised land, they would become thorns in their sides and their gods would be a snare to them.

1. Overcoming the Thorns in Our Sides

2. Don't Be Entrapped by the Snares of Idolatry

1. Matthew 13:22 - "The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - "Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry."

Judges 2:4 And it came to pass, when the angel of the LORD spake these words unto all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.

The angel of the Lord spoke to the children of Israel and the people wept in response.

1: In times of sorrow, we can gain strength from the Lord.

2: Remember that God is always with us, even in difficult moments.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Judges 2:5 And they called the name of that place Bochim: and they sacrificed there unto the LORD.

The Israelites sacrificed to the Lord at a place called Bochim.

1. The Power of Sacrifice - How Offering to God Can Bring Blessings

2. The Importance of Worship - Being Obedient to the Lord's Commandments

1. Genesis 22:1-18 - God's Test of Abraham's Faith Through Sacrifice

2. Leviticus 7:11-21 - Rules for Sacrificing to the Lord

Judges 2:6 And when Joshua had let the people go, the children of Israel went every man unto his inheritance to possess the land.

The children of Israel received their inheritance and went to possess the land.

1: It is important to take ownership of the gifts we have been given.

2: The Lord is faithful to His promises and will provide for us as we possess the land He has given us.

1: Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2: Philippians 4:12 13 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Judges 2:7 And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD, that he did for Israel.

The people of Israel served the Lord during Joshua's lifetime and the lifetimes of those who lived after him, who had witnessed the Lord's great works for Israel.

1. Serve the Lord with All Your Heart - Joshua 24:14-15

2. Remember the Lord's Faithfulness - Psalm 103:1-6

1. Joshua 24:14-15 - "Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

2. Psalm 103:1-6 - "Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed."

Judges 2:8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being an hundred and ten years old.

Joshua, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of 110.

1. The Faith of Joshua: A Reflection on His Life and Legacy

2. The Importance of Serving the Lord: Lessons from Joshua s Life

1. Deuteronomy 34:7-9 - And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated. And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.

2. Joshua 24:29-31 - And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being an hundred and ten years old. And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash. And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.

Judges 2:9 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathheres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash.

The burial of a man, known as the angel of Jehovah, is described in Judges 2:9. He was laid to rest in Timnathheres, in the mount of Ephraim, north of the hill Gaash.

1. The Power of Inheritance: How We Receive Blessings from Those Before Us

2. God's Care and Protection: How We Receive Comfort in Times of Need

1. Psalm 16:5-6 - The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Judges 2:10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

A new generation arose that did not know the LORD or His works for Israel.

1. Trust in the LORD and His Word

2. Obedience to God and His Ways

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Judges 2:11 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:

The Israelites disobeyed the Lord and served idols.

1: We should always remain obedient to the Lord and serve only Him.

2: We should never forget the consequences of disobeying the Lord.

1: Deuteronomy 6:12-14 - "What does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul"

2: Joshua 24:15 - "But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live?"

Judges 2:12 And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

The Israelites abandoned the Lord, the God who delivered them from Egypt, and instead worshipped the gods of those around them, thus angering the Lord.

1. God is Faithful Despite Our Unfaithfulness

2. Is Anything Too Hard for the Lord?

1. Psalm 78:9-11 - The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle. They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law; And forgat his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

Judges 2:13 And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

The Israelites abandoned God and served false idols.

1. The Danger of False Idols: Refuting Idolatry in Our Lives

2. The Peril of Idolatry: Rejecting False Gods in Our Times

1. Isaiah 44:6-20 - God's rebuke of idolatry

2. Jeremiah 10:1-16 - God's warnings of the futility of idolatry

Judges 2:14 And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

The LORD was angry with Israel and allowed them to be defeated by their enemies.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Example of Israel

2. The Power of God's Mercy: Experiencing God's Grace Despite Our Mistakes

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Isaiah 1:18-20, "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Judges 2:15 Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed.

The LORD had warned the Israelites that wherever they went, His hand would be against them for evil. The Israelites were greatly distressed due to this.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites' Mistakes

2. The Lord's Faithfulness: God's Promises Despite Our Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 7:12-14 - If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, the LORD your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that He swore to your fathers.

2. Joshua 23:15-16 - And if you ever forget the LORD your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I testify against you today that you will surely be destroyed.

Judges 2:16 Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.

The Lord raised up judges to deliver the people from their enemies.

1. God will always provide hope and deliverance in times of struggle

2. God's grace is enough to overcome any obstacle

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Judges 2:17 And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; but they did not so.

Despite being appointed judges, the people of Israel refused to obey their appointed leaders, instead succumbing to idolatry and turning away from the commandments of the Lord.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. Remaining Faithful to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Judges 2:18 And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them.

The Lord raised up judges to deliver His people from their enemies when He heard their cries.

1: God is a loving Father who hears the cries of His children and delivers them from their oppressors.

2: When we cry out to God in distress, He will never leave us or abandon us in our time of need.

1: Psalm 34:17-18 "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2: Psalm 145:18-19 "The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them."

Judges 2:19 And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way.

After the death of the judge, Israel returned to their old ways of worshipping other gods and refusing to repent of their sins.

1. The Danger of Refusing to Repent

2. The Enduring Nature of Sin

1. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. Ezekiel 18:30-31 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin."

Judges 2:20 And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice;

The LORD was angry at Israel for transgressing his covenant and not heeding his voice.

1: We must be faithful to the LORD's covenant and listen to his voice.

2: We must remember that the LORD will discipline us if we turn away from his covenant.

1: Deuteronomy 7:11 - Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them.

2: Jeremiah 11:3-5 - And say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant, Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God.

Judges 2:21 I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died:

The Lord promises not to remove any of the nations which Joshua left when he died.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises

2. God's Mercy towards the Nations

1. Deuteronomy 7:17-18 - "If thou shalt say in thine heart, These nations are more than I; how can I dispossess them? Thou shalt not be afraid of them: but shalt well remember what the Lord thy God did unto Pharaoh, and unto all Egypt;

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Judges 2:22 That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not.

This verse in Judges 2:22 speaks of God testing the people of Israel to see if they will keep the way of the LORD as their ancestors had done.

1. Learning from the Past: How Our Ancestors Show Us the Way

2. God's Tests: How We Can Prove Ourselves Worthy of His Blessing

1. Exodus 20:6 You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Judges 2:23 Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

The Lord did not drive out the nations living in Canaan quickly or give them into the hand of Joshua.

1. God's Patience: How the Lord Waits for Us to Turn to Him

2. God's Sovereignty: How the Lord Transforms Our Lives

1. Romans 2:4 - "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"

2. Isaiah 55:8 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

Judges 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 3:1-8 describes the nations left in the land to test Israel and their subsequent oppression. The chapter begins by stating that these nations were left to test Israel, to see if they would obey God's commandments or not. The names of some of these nations are mentioned, including the Philistines, Canaanites, Sidonians, Hivites, and Jebusites. Israel intermingles with them and starts worshiping their gods. As a result of their disobedience, God allows these nations to oppress Israel for a period of time.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 3:9-11, it recounts the deliverance of Israel through Othniel. When the people cry out to God due to their oppression by Cushan-Rishathaim, a king from Mesopotamia, God raises up Othniel as a judge who delivers them from their enemy. Othniel becomes a strong leader who leads Israel into battle against Cushan-Rishathaim and brings peace to the land for forty years.

Paragraph 3: Judges 3 concludes with an account where Ehud delivers Israel from Eglon, the Moabite king. In Judges 3:12-30, it is mentioned that after Ehud becomes judge over Israel, he crafts a double-edged sword and conceals it on his right thigh since he is left-handed. He presents tribute to Eglon but then stabs him with the hidden sword during a private meeting in Eglon's chamber. Ehud escapes while Eglon's servants believe he is relieving himself in his chamber due to his long absence. This assassination sparks an uprising among the Israelites who rally behind Ehud, and they successfully defeat the Moabites, bringing peace to the land for eighty years.

In summary:

Judges 3 presents:

Nations left to test Israel oppression due to disobedience;

Deliverance through Othniel peace for forty years;

Deliverance through Ehud peace for eighty years.

Emphasis on nations left to test Israel oppression due to disobedience;

Deliverance through Othniel peace for forty years;

Deliverance through Ehud peace for eighty years.

The chapter focuses on the nations left in the land to test Israel and their subsequent oppression, as well as two deliverances experienced by Israel during this period. In Judges 3, it is mentioned that these nations were intentionally left by God to test Israel's obedience. However, instead of driving them out completely, Israel intermingles with them and starts worshiping their gods an act of disobedience that leads to their oppression by these nations.

Continuing in Judges 3, the passage recounts the first deliverance experienced by Israel through Othniel. When they cry out to God due to their oppression by Cushan-Rishathaim from Mesopotamia, God raises up Othniel as a judge who successfully delivers them from their enemy. Othniel becomes a strong leader who leads Israel into battle and brings peace to the land for forty years a period of relief from oppression.

Judges 3 concludes with an account where Ehud delivers Israel from Eglon, the Moabite king. After becoming judge over Israel, Ehud crafts a hidden sword and uses it to assassinate Eglon during a private meeting. This act sparks an uprising among the Israelites who rally behind Ehud and successfully defeat the Moabites an event that brings peace and freedom from oppression for eighty years a significant period of stability in the land.

Judges 3:1 Now these are the nations which the LORD left, to prove Israel by them, even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan;

The Lord left certain nations in Canaan in order to test the Israelites, who had not experienced all the wars that had taken place there.

1. God will always be present to test us, but He will always help us through the process.

2. We should be prepared for the tests God sends us, and trust Him even through difficult times.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Judges 3:2 Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof;

In Judges 3:2, God commanded the Israelites to learn war, so that even those who never knew about it would be aware.

1. The Power of Knowledge: Learning War and Other Life Lessons

2. The Importance of Teaching Others: Passing Down Knowledge and Wisdom

1. Proverbs 19:20-21 Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2. 2 Timothy 1:5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

Judges 3:3 Namely, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baalhermon unto the entering in of Hamath.

This passage refers to the five lords of the Philistines and other nations that had settled in the region of Mount Lebanon.

1. The Sovereignty of God in His Choosing of Nations

2. The Importance of Knowing God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

2. Joshua 23:10-11 - One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you.

Judges 3:4 And they were to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken unto the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.

This passage from Judges highlights the importance of Israel following the commandments of the Lord that were given to them by Moses.

1. Obedience: The Necessity of Following God's Commands

2. Faithfulness: Living Out Our Commitments to God

1. Deuteronomy 8:1-3 Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

2. Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Judges 3:5 And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites:

The children of Israel lived among the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.

1. The Power of Unity in Diversity

2. Learning to Live in Peace with Our Neighbors

1. Matthew 5:43-44 "You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Judges 3:6 And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.

The Israelites made intermarriage alliances with the Canaanites, and then adopted their gods.

1. Adopting the World's Ways: Our Need for Discernment

2. The Consequences of Compromise: Standing Firm in Our Faith

1. Romans 12:2 - "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:1-11 - "For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come."

Judges 3:7 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgat the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.

The Israelites had turned away from God and instead served idols.

1. "A Heart of Idolatry: Unfaithfulness to God"

2. "Returning to the Lord: Rediscovering Faithfulness"

1. Jeremiah 2:13 - "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

2. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 - "Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you; (For the LORD thy God is a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth."

Judges 3:8 Therefore the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushanrishathaim king of Mesopotamia: and the children of Israel served Chushanrishathaim eight years.

The Lord was angry with Israel and allowed them to be sold into the hand of Chushanrishathaim, king of Mesopotamia. The Israelites served Chushanrishathaim for eight years.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God - Judges 3:8

2. The Power of God's Wrath - Judges 3:8

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-33 - The consequences of disobedience to God's commandments

2. Isaiah 30:1-7 - The power of God's wrath against those who disobey Him.

Judges 3:9 And when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.

The Israelites cried out to the LORD for help, and in response He sent them a deliverer, Othniel, son of Kenaz and younger brother of Caleb.

1. God is always ready and willing to answer our prayers.

2. When we trust in God, He will provide deliverance in our time of need.

1. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind."

2. Psalm 50:15 - "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

Judges 3:10 And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushanrishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed against Chushanrishathaim.

The Spirit of the LORD came upon the judge and empowered him to go to battle against Chushanrishathaim, king of Mesopotamia, and win.

1. God's Spirit is powerful and can give us strength in difficult times.

2. God gives us the courage to face our enemies with faith.

1. Isaiah 40:29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Judges 3:11 And the land had rest forty years. And Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

After Othniel the son of Kenaz died, Israel experienced forty years of peace.

1. Othniel's Faithfulness: Examining the Legacy of Othniel's Service to the Lord

2. The Power of Rest: Learning How to Receive God's Gift of Peace

1. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Judges 3:12 And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD.

The Israelites had done evil in the eyes of the Lord, so the Lord strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against them.

1. The Danger of Profaning God's Name

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Leviticus 18:21 - "And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD."

2. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

Judges 3:13 And he gathered unto him the children of Ammon and Amalek, and went and smote Israel, and possessed the city of palm trees.

Ehud, a judge in Israel, gathered an army of Ammonites and Amalekites to fight against Israel, and was successful in taking the city of palm trees.

1. The Importance of Relying on God in Times of Adversity

2. The Consequences of Not Being Obedient to God

1. Deuteronomy 28:47-48 - Because you did not serve the Lord your God joyfully and gladly in the time of prosperity, therefore in hunger and thirst, in nakedness and dire poverty, you will serve the enemies the Lord sends against you.

2. 2 Chronicles 15:2 - The Lord is with you when you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.

Judges 3:14 So the children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

The Israelites were oppressed by Eglon the king of Moab for eighteen years.

1. The Power of Perseverance in the Face of Oppression

2. Overcoming Difficulties with Faith

1. James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2. Matthew 5:11-12 - "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Judges 3:15 But when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised them up a deliverer, Ehud the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a man lefthanded: and by him the children of Israel sent a present unto Eglon the king of Moab.

The Israelites cried out to the Lord and He provided them a deliverer, Ehud, a Benjamite who was left-handed, to send a present to the King of Moab.

1. God always hears and answers the cries of His people.

2. God can use anyone, no matter their background or skill set, to accomplish His will.

1. Isaiah 65:24 - And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 - But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.

Judges 3:16 But Ehud made him a dagger which had two edges, of a cubit length; and he did gird it under his raiment upon his right thigh.

Ehud made a dagger with two edges and a cubit length and then girded it under his raiment on his right thigh.

1. The Power of Faith: How Ehud s Courageous Belief and Action Sent Shockwaves Through History

2. The Righteousness of Ehud: How One Man s Courageous Act Changed the Course of History

1. Hebrews 11:32-34 - And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets 33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

Judges 3:17 And he brought the present unto Eglon king of Moab: and Eglon was a very fat man.

Eglon king of Moab was a very fat man who was presented with a present.

1. The Weight of Sin - how the accumulation of sinful choices can add up to a heavy burden for those who refuse to repent.

2. The Vanity of Pride - how even those who have achieved a level of success can be weighed down by a false sense of superiority and importance.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:20 - "Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Judges 3:18 And when he had made an end to offer the present, he sent away the people that bare the present.

After offering the gift, the people who carried the present were sent away.

1. Learning to Give Generously with a Grateful Heart

2. The Power of Faithful Obedience

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Judges 3:19 But he himself turned again from the quarries that were by Gilgal, and said, I have a secret errand unto thee, O king: who said, Keep silence. And all that stood by him went out from him.

This passage tells of Ehud's secret mission to King Eglon to deliver a message.

1. God entrusts us with special missions, no matter how unlikely or small they may seem.

2. We must be willing to take risks and have faith in God's plan for us.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 3:20 And Ehud came unto him; and he was sitting in a summer parlour, which he had for himself alone. And Ehud said, I have a message from God unto thee. And he arose out of his seat.

Ehud goes to deliver a message from God to King Eglon.

1. Obeying God's Messages: Learning from Ehud's Example

2. The Power of a Divine Message: How Ehud's Message Changed the Course of History

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Ezekiel 2:7 - "And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house."

Judges 3:21 And Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly:

Ehud takes a dagger from his right thigh and stabs it into the belly of his opponent.

1. The Power of Faith: Learn from Ehud's Example of Courage and Strength

2. The Strength of a Single Act: How One Choice Can Change Everything

1. Hebrews 11:32-34 - And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Judges 3:22 And the haft also went in after the blade; and the fat closed upon the blade, so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly; and the dirt came out.

The haft of the dagger went in after the blade and the fat closed upon the blade, trapping the dagger in the man's belly.

1: Our actions can have consequences that we may not be ready to face.

2: We must be careful in what we do, as it may have impacts we cannot undo.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2: Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

Judges 3:23 Then Ehud went forth through the porch, and shut the doors of the parlour upon him, and locked them.

Ehud's courageous act of deception to kill the oppressive King Eglon of Moab:

1: God can use anyone to accomplish his will, no matter how unlikely.

2: Courage and faith can overcome any obstacle.

1: Daniel 3:17-18, "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

2: Joshua 1:9, "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Judges 3:24 When he was gone out, his servants came; and when they saw that, behold, the doors of the parlour were locked, they said, Surely he covereth his feet in his summer chamber.

The servants of the man in Judges 3:24 noticed that the doors to the parlor were locked and concluded that he was covering his feet in his summer chamber.

1. God's Guidance in Times of Anxiety

2. Obedience and Faithfulness in Times of Trial

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. Hebrews 10:23 - "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)"

Judges 3:25 And they tarried till they were ashamed: and, behold, he opened not the doors of the parlour; therefore they took a key, and opened them: and, behold, their lord was fallen down dead on the earth.

A group of people waited outside a locked room, and upon opening it found their lord fallen dead on the ground.

1. The Unexpectedness of Death: Recognizing the Unseen in Our Lives

2. Faith in God's Plan: Preparing for the Unforeseen

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 - But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10-11 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going. Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all.

Judges 3:26 And Ehud escaped while they tarried, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped unto Seirath.

Ehud escaped his pursuers and ran to Seirath.

1. The Power of Escape: A Study in the Book of Judges

2. How to Overcome in Difficult Situations: A Study in the Book of Judges

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Judges 3:27 And it came to pass, when he was come, that he blew a trumpet in the mountain of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mount, and he before them.

The children of Israel followed Ehud down from the mountain of Ephraim when he blew a trumpet.

1. The Power of a Trumpet: How Following God's Call Can Lead to Victory

2. Standing Together in Unity: How a United People Can Accomplish Great Things

1. Psalm 81:3 - "Blow the trumpet at the time of the New Moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast day."

2. Matthew 16:18 - "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Judges 3:28 And he said unto them, Follow after me: for the LORD hath delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand. And they went down after him, and took the fords of Jordan toward Moab, and suffered not a man to pass over.

The Lord gave the Israelites victory over the Moabites, and they followed their leader to cross the Jordan River.

1. The Power of Faith in God's Deliverance

2. Following the Leader: Obedience to Authority

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Judges 3:29 And they slew of Moab at that time about ten thousand men, all lusty, and all men of valour; and there escaped not a man.

The Israelites killed 10,000 Moabites, all of whom were brave men. None of them survived.

1. God's justice: Understanding when to stand firm and when to surrender to God's will.

2. The power of faith: The strength of courage and conviction in the face of adversity.

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Romans 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Judges 3:30 So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest fourscore years.

Moab was defeated by Israel and the land had peace for 80 years.

1. The Victory of the Lord: How God Provides Peace in Times of Conflict

2. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Adversity Through Perseverance and Courage

1. Psalm 46:1-3 ( God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. )

2. Isaiah 26:3 ( You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. )

Judges 3:31 And after him was Shamgar the son of Anath, which slew of the Philistines six hundred men with an ox goad: and he also delivered Israel.

Shamgar son of Anath delivered Israel by killing 600 Philistines with an ox goad.

1. God will use the most unlikely person for His purposes.

2. Trust in God to deliver you in difficult times.

1. Joshua 10:12-14 - "Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Judges 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 4:1-10 introduces the story of Deborah and Barak. The chapter begins by stating that after Ehud's death, the Israelites again did evil in the sight of the Lord. God allows them to be oppressed by Jabin, the king of Canaan, for twenty years. Deborah, a prophetess and judge, arises during this time and holds court under a palm tree between Ramah and Bethel. She summons Barak from Kedesh in Naphtali and delivers a message from God instructing him to gather an army of ten thousand men to confront Sisera, Jabin's commander.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 4:11-16, it recounts Barak's response to Deborah's call. Barak expresses his hesitation unless Deborah accompanies him into battle. Deborah agrees but warns that due to this request, the honor of defeating Sisera will go to a woman instead of Barak himself. Barak gathers his troops while Sisera mobilizes his forces with nine hundred iron chariots.

Paragraph 3: Judges 4 concludes with an account where Deborah and Barak lead Israel to victory over Sisera's army. In Judges 4:17-24, it is mentioned that God confuses Sisera's forces through heavy rain and causes their chariots to become stuck in the muddy ground. This enables Israelite forces led by Barak to gain an advantage over their enemies. Sisera flees on foot but seeks refuge in the tent of Jael, wife of Heber the Kenite an ally who is at peace with Jabin's house. However, Jael kills Sisera by driving a tent peg through his temple while he sleeps. As a result, Israel gains a decisive victory over Jabin and his army.

In summary:

Judges 4 presents:

Introduction of Deborah and Barak oppression by Jabin;

Deborah's call to Barak hesitation and agreement;

Victory over Sisera God's intervention, defeat of the enemy.

Emphasis on introduction of Deborah and Barak oppression by Jabin;

Deborah's call to Barak hesitation and agreement;

Victory over Sisera God's intervention, defeat of the enemy.

The chapter focuses on the story of Deborah and Barak during a time of oppression by Jabin, the king of Canaan. In Judges 4, it is mentioned that after Ehud's death, the Israelites once again did evil in God's sight. As a consequence, they were subjected to twenty years of oppression under King Jabin. During this period, Deborah emerges as a prophetess and judge who holds court under a palm tree between Ramah and Bethel.

Continuing in Judges 4, Deborah summons Barak from Kedesh in Naphtali with instructions from God to gather an army for battle against Sisera, Jabin's commander. Initially hesitant without Deborah accompanying him into battle, Barak eventually agrees but is warned that due to his request for her presence, the honor of defeating Sisera will go to a woman instead. With an army assembled against them equipped with iron chariots, both sides prepare for conflict.

Judges 4 concludes with an account where Deborah and Barak lead Israel to victory over Sisera's forces through divine intervention. God confuses their enemies through heavy rain that causes their chariots to become stuck in muddy ground a disadvantage exploited by Israelite forces led by Barak. Sisera attempts to flee but finds temporary refuge in the tent of Jael an ally of Jabin's house. However, Jael kills Sisera while he sleeps by driving a tent peg through his temple. This decisive victory over Sisera and his army marks a significant triumph for Israel against their oppressors.

Judges 4:1 And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, when Ehud was dead.

The Children of Israel disobeyed God after the death of Ehud.

1. Do not fall away from God in times of sorrow.

2. Remember that God is with us no matter what.

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Judges 4:2 And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose host was Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles.

The Lord allowed the Israelites to be sold into the hand of Jabin, the king of Canaan, and his captain Sisera, who lived in Harosheth of the Gentiles.

1. God's Sovereignty: Despite Our Circumstances

2. The Faithfulness of God in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Romans 8: 28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Judges 4:3 And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD: for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of Israel.

The children of Israel cried out to God because they were oppressed by an enemy with 900 chariots of iron for 20 years.

1. God Hears Our Cries: How to Trust in God When We Feel Overwhelmed

2. Overcoming Oppression: The Importance of Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 34:17 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Judges 4:4 And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time.

Deborah was a prophetess who judged Israel during the time of the Judges.

1. "The Strength of Deborah: A Study on the Power of Faithful Women"

2. "Deborah: A Model of Faithful Leadership"

1. Judges 5:7 - "Villagers in Israel would not fight; they held back until I, Deborah, arose, until I arose, a mother in Israel."

2. Romans 16:1-2 - "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae, so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well."

Judges 4:5 And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

Deborah was a prophetess who lived between Ramah and Bethel in Mount Ephraim and was sought out by the Israelites for her wise counsel.

1. The Wisdom of Deborah: God's Guidance Through Difficult Times

2. The Role of Women in God's Kingdom: Lessons from Deborah

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. 1 Peter 3:7 - Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

Judges 4:6 And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedeshnaphtali, and said unto him, Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?

Deborah, a prophetess, called Barak to lead an army of ten thousand men from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun to mount Tabor to fight the Canaanites.

1. Follow God's Commandments: When God calls us to do something, it is important to obey and follow through.

2. The Power of Unity: When we come together in obedience to God, we are stronger and can accomplish great things.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Ephesians 4:1-2 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

Judges 4:7 And I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand.

God promises to deliver Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, to Barak and his men at the river Kishon.

1. God is Faithful and Fights for us - Judges 4:7

2. Trusting God in Difficult Circumstances - Judges 4:7

1. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 4:8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go.

Barak showed his faith in God by being willing to obey God's commands, even when it seemed difficult.

1. The Power of Faith: How Barak's Actions Show Us the Strength of Believing in God

2. Trusting in God's Plan: Following God's Path Regardless of the Difficulty

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Judges 4:9 And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.

Deborah agreed to go with Barak to Kedesh despite it not being honorable for her to do so, as the LORD had said Sisera would be sold into the hands of a woman.

1. The Power of Faith in God: How Deborah's faith in God enabled her to go on an journey with Barak that was not befitting of her honor.

2. The Uniqueness of Women: How Deborah's courage and strength could only be found in a woman.

1. Proverbs 31:25 - She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future.

2. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus looked at them intently and said, Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.

Judges 4:10 And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet: and Deborah went up with him.

Barak and Deborah lead an army of ten thousand to Kedesh.

1. The importance of faith and courage in times of adversity.

2. God's grace and provision in the face of difficulty.

1. Proverbs 28:1 - "The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

2. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Judges 4:11 Now Heber the Kenite, which was of the children of Hobab the father in law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and pitched his tent unto the plain of Zaanaim, which is by Kedesh.

Heber the Kenite had separated from his people and settled in Zaanaim near Kedesh.

1. The importance of making a stand for one's beliefs.

2. Following the examples of those who demonstrate courage and faith.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

2. Deuteronomy 1:8 - Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them.

Judges 4:12 And they shewed Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor.

Sisera was informed that Barak had gone up to Mount Tabor.

1. The importance of courage in our journey of faith.

2. Rising to the challenge: The story of Barak and Sisera.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

Judges 4:13 And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon.

Sisera gathered a large army of 900 chariots and people from Harosheth of the Gentiles to the river of Kishon.

1. The Strength of Sisera's Army: A Call to Stand Firm in Our Faith.

2. The Gathering of Sisera's Army: Defending Ourselves with the Armor of God.

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 4:14 And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this is the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.

Deborah encourages Barak to go to battle against Sisera, with the assurance of the Lord's help.

1. With God Behind You, Nothing is Too Difficult

2. Do Not Fear, for the Lord is with You

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Judges 4:15 And the LORD discomfited Sisera, and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet.

The Lord defeated Sisera and his army with the edge of the sword before Barak, causing Sisera to flee on foot.

1. The Power of God: How God's Might Protects Us from Evil

2. Trusting in the Lord: Relying on God's Strength in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15-17 - Thus says the Lord to you: Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's.

Judges 4:16 But Barak pursued after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left.

Barak defeats Sisera and his army.

1. God is with us in times of trouble and will provide us with the strength to overcome our enemies.

2. We can trust in God s protection and provision when the odds are against us.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Deuteronomy 20:4 - For the Lord your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.

Judges 4:17 Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.

Sisera fled to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, where there was peace between Jabin, the king of Hazor, and Heber's household.

1. The Peace of God's People: Living in Harmony with Others

2. Trusting in the Lord's Protection: Finding Safety in Difficult Times

1. Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Psalm 91:1-2 "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Judges 4:18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

Jael's act of hospitality and protection of Sisera is an example of faithfulness and courage.

1. Courage in the face of fear: Drawing strength from our faith in God.

2. Faithful hospitality: How can we show kindness to strangers?

1. Matthew 25:34-40 - The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats.

2. Hebrews 13:1-2 - Show hospitality to strangers.

Judges 4:19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him.

A man asked a woman for water and she generously gave him milk instead.

1. The Power of Generosity: The story of Judges 4:19 teaches us the importance of being generous and offering more than what was asked for.

2. The Power of Inviting God into our Lives: Through the example of the woman in Judges 4:19, we can learn how inviting God into our lives can lead us to be generous and kind.

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom.

2. James 2:15-17 - If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Judges 4:20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when any man doth come and enquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.

Deborah instructs Jael to deceive Sisera by telling anyone who inquires if anyone is in her tent that there is nobody there.

1. God's Plan: Understanding How God's Providence is at Work

2. The Power of Deception: How We Can Use Deception in Unexpected Ways

1. Proverbs 14:8 - The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit.

2. Proverbs 12:23 - A prudent man concealeth knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaimeth foolishness.

Judges 4:21 Then Jael Heber's wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died.

Jael's faithfulness and courage in protecting her people is an inspiring example of obedience to God.

1: We should always strive to be obedient to God, no matter the cost.

2: Jael's brave example teaches us to be faithful and courageous in protecting those we love.

1: 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2: Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Judges 4:22 And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples.

Jael helps Barak in his pursuit of Sisera by showing him Sisera lying dead with a nail in his temples.

1. The Power of the Weak: A Study in the Book of Judges

2. Women of Faith: The Example of Jael

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27 - But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

2. Luke 1:45 - And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.

Judges 4:23 So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel.

God defeated Jabin, the king of Canaan, in battle against the children of Israel.

1. God is always faithful to his promises and will be with us in our battles.

2. We can trust in God to fight our battles and help us overcome our enemies.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 4:24 And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

The hand of the children of Israel prospered, and they were successful in defeating Jabin, the King of Canaan.

1. The Power of Faith in Overcoming Obstacles

2. The Blessings of God on the Righteous

1. Romans 8:31-37 (What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?)

2. Psalm 37:39-40 (The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.)

Judges 5, also known as the Song of Deborah, can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 5:1-11 begins with a triumphant song sung by Deborah and Barak after their victory over Sisera. The chapter opens with praise to the Lord for the leaders' willingness to lead and the people's readiness to follow. They acknowledge God's intervention in battle, causing kings and rulers to join forces against Sisera. The song recounts how nature itself participated in Israel's victory mountains quaking, clouds pouring rain, and rivers sweeping away their enemies. Deborah praises those who volunteered for battle and criticizes those who stayed behind.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 5:12-23, the song describes further details of the battle against Sisera. It mentions how some tribes fought valiantly while others hesitated or chose not to participate. Deborah highlights Jael's role in killing Sisera by luring him into her tent and driving a tent peg through his head an act celebrated for its courage and loyalty to Israel. The song then shifts focus to Sisera's mother waiting anxiously for her son's return from battle but instead receiving news of his demise.

Paragraph 3: Judges 5 concludes with a declaration of blessing upon Jael for her actions and a final reflection on Israel's victory over their oppressors. In Judges 5:24-31, it is mentioned that Jael is praised as most blessed among women due to her bravery in executing Sisera a contrast between her decisive action and Sisera's mother waiting in vain for her son's return. The song ends by acknowledging God's favor upon His people as they experience peace after their triumph over Canaanite oppression.

In summary:

Judges 5 presents:

Triumphant song of Deborah and Barak praise to the Lord;

Details of the battle against Sisera highlighting heroes and hesitations;

Blessing upon Jael reflection on victory and peace.

Emphasis on triumphant song of Deborah and Barak praise to the Lord;

Details of the battle against Sisera highlighting heroes and hesitations;

Blessing upon Jael reflection on victory and peace.

The chapter focuses on the Song of Deborah, a triumphant hymn sung by Deborah and Barak after their victory over Sisera. In Judges 5, they offer praise to the Lord for their leadership roles and acknowledge God's intervention in battle. The song celebrates Israel's triumph over their enemies, with nature itself participating in their victory through quaking mountains, pouring rain, and sweeping rivers.

Continuing in Judges 5, further details of the battle against Sisera are described. The song highlights tribes that fought valiantly as well as those who hesitated or chose not to participate. It specifically praises Jael for her courageous act in killing Sisera an act celebrated for its loyalty to Israel. The focus then shifts to Sisera's mother awaiting her son's return but instead receiving news of his demise a contrast between her anticipation and Jael's decisive action.

Judges 5 concludes with a declaration of blessing upon Jael for her actions as she is praised as most blessed among women due to her bravery in executing Sisera. The song reflects on Israel's victory over their oppressors, acknowledging God's favor upon His people. It signifies a period of peace following their triumph a momentous occasion marking deliverance from Canaanite oppression.

Judges 5:1 Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying,

The Song of Deborah and Barak: A song of praise to God for delivering Israel from oppression.

1. God is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving for His provision and protection.

2. We can trust God to deliver us from our struggles and provide for our needs.

1. Psalm 34:1-3 - I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

2. Isaiah 30:18 - Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him.

Judges 5:2 Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.

The people of Israel praised the Lord for His protection of them when they willingly offered themselves for battle.

1. God is our Defender, and He will protect us if we are willing to offer ourselves.

2. We need to trust God and be willing to offer ourselves for His glory.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 5:3 Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, even I, will sing unto the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel.

The speaker is calling upon kings and princes to listen to their praise of the Lord God of Israel.

1. The Power of Praise in Worship How we can be empowered to sing to the Lord and bring glory to His name.

2. Kings and Princes: An Invitation to Worship Understanding the importance of leaders acknowledging the Lord and leading in worship.

1. Psalm 145:3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2. Ephesians 5:19 Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Judges 5:4 LORD, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchedst out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water.

The earth trembled and the heavens wept at the power of the Lord.

1. The Strength of the Lord is Undeniable

2. God's Majesty is Unrivaled

1. Psalm 29:3-10 - The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

2. Isaiah 40:22 - He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

Judges 5:5 The mountains melted from before the LORD, even that Sinai from before the LORD God of Israel.

The mountains trembled in the presence of the Lord, acknowledging his power and glory.

1. The Power of God: How the Lord Can Transform the World

2. Rejoice in the Lord: The Joy of Knowing God's Presence

1. Psalm 97:5 - "The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth."

2. Isaiah 64:1 - "Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence."

Judges 5:6 In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were unoccupied, and the travellers walked through byways.

In the times of Shamgar and Jael, the roads were deserted and travellers had to take alternate routes.

1. The importance of perseverance in our faith journeys.

2. Learning to navigate through difficult times with God's help.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Judges 5:7 The inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in Israel, until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel.

Deborah is an example of a leader who rose up for her people in a time of need.

1: God calls each of us to be leaders and to rise up in a time of need for our people.

2: Deborah teaches us that in every generation God will raise up leaders to fulfill His purposes.

1: Isaiah 43:5-6 Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.

2: Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Judges 5:8 They chose new gods; then was war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

The Israelites had chosen new gods, leading to war in the gates and a lack of weapons among the army of forty thousand.

1. The Power of Choice: The Consequences of Leaving God

2. The Strength of God's People: Standing Together in Defense

1. Deuteronomy 32:15-17 - The Israelites choice to abandon God.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength.

Judges 5:9 My heart is toward the governors of Israel, that offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless ye the LORD.

The speaker expresses gratitude to the governors of Israel who willingly offered themselves for service among the people.

1. The Power of Dedicated Servitude

2. The Blessing of Serving Others

1. Jeremiah 29:7 - And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

2. Philippians 2:4 - Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Judges 5:10 Speak, ye that ride on white asses, ye that sit in judgment, and walk by the way.

This passage encourages readers to speak up and speak out for what is right and just.

1. "Speaking Out for Justice"

2. "Finding Your Voice in the World"

1. Proverbs 31:9, "Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy."

2. Isaiah 1:17, "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

Judges 5:11 They that are delivered from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the LORD, even the righteous acts toward the inhabitants of his villages in Israel: then shall the people of the LORD go down to the gates.

The people of the Lord will go down to the gates to recount the righteous acts of the Lord in Israel.

1. The Power of Testimony: Our Experiences of God's Faithfulness

2. Living Out Our Faith: Responding to God's Righteousness

1. John 4:23-24 - But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

2. Psalm 106:1 - Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Judges 5:12 Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, Barak, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam.

Deborah and Barak urge the Israelites to trust in the Lord and to fight against their oppressors.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting in God to Overcome Adversity

2. Courage and Dependence on the Lord: The Example of Deborah and Barak.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

Judges 5:13 Then he made him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.

The Lord made Deborah, a woman from the tribe of Ephraim, to have dominion over the nobles and mighty.

1. The Power of Women: God's Use of Deborah's Authority

2. The Strength of the Weak: How God Uses the Unexpected

1. Proverbs 31:25 - She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future.

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Judges 5:14 Out of Ephraim was there a root of them against Amalek; after thee, Benjamin, among thy people; out of Machir came down governors, and out of Zebulun they that handle the pen of the writer.

Ephraim, Benjamin, Machir, and Zebulun, all played a role in defeating Amalek.

1. God uses people of all backgrounds to accomplish His will.

2. Our ability to serve God is not limited by our resources or position.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

2. Ephesians 4:11-13 - And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Judges 5:15 And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah; even Issachar, and also Barak: he was sent on foot into the valley. For the divisions of Reuben there were great thoughts of heart.

The princes of Issachar joined Deborah and Barak in their mission to fight against the enemy in the valley, and the people of Reuben had great courage.

1. The Courage and Strength of Reuben: Finding Strength in Adversity

2. The Power of Unity: Making a Difference Together

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

4. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Judges 5:16 Why abodest thou among the sheepfolds, to hear the bleatings of the flocks? For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart.

The divisions of Reuben were searching their hearts.

1. The Shepherd and the Sheepfolds: Reflecting on God's Care for His People

2. Searching Hearts: Examining Our Motives and Responses to God

1. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Romans 10:10 - For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Judges 5:17 Gilead abode beyond Jordan: and why did Dan remain in ships? Asher continued on the sea shore, and abode in his breaches.

The Gileadites, Danites, and Asherites all had their own regions to inhabit according to Judges 5:17.

1. Living with Purpose: The Examples of the Gileadites, Danites, and Asherites

2. Occupying Your Space: Fulfilling Your Calling Like the Gileadites, Danites, and Asherites

1. Deuteronomy 1:8: "See, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them."

2. Matthew 5:13-16: "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Judges 5:18 Zebulun and Naphtali were a people that jeoparded their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

Zebulun and Naphtali were willing to risk their lives for the cause of God.

1. "A Greater Love: The Heroic Sacrifice of Zebulun and Naphtali"

2. "Sacrifice and Courage: The Example of Zebulun and Naphtali"

1. Romans 5:7-8 - For one will scarcely die for a righteous person though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Judges 5:19 The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain of money.

The kings of Canaan fought against one another in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo, but they did not receive any reward.

1. The Power of Perseverance: The Kings of Canaan in Judges 5:19

2. Trust in the Lord: When Fighting Seems Futile in Judges 5:19

1. Psalm 20:7: Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Judges 5:20 They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.

In Judges 5:20, the Bible tells of a battle in which the stars in the sky fought against Sisera.

1. How God uses the most unexpected things to bring about victory.

2. Relying on God's strength to overcome all odds.

1. Isaiah 40:26 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Judges 5:21 The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength.

The river Kishon is a symbol of divine strength, demonstrating God's power in the defeat of Sisera's army.

1. God's Strength is Greater: The Defeat of Sisera's Army

2. Let God's Strength Be Revealed in Your Life

1. Isaiah 40:29 "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."

2. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Judges 5:22 Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the pransings, the pransings of their mighty ones.

The horse hoofs were broken due to the pransings of their mighty ones.

1. The Power of Praise

2. The Strength of Humility

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!

2. Luke 14:11 - For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Judges 5:23 Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the LORD, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

The angel of the Lord commands a curse against the people of Meroz for not coming to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Will

2. The Danger of Neglecting God's Call

1. Ephesians 6:13-14 - "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place."

2. James 4:17 - "If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn t do it, it is sin for them."

Judges 5:24 Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above women in the tent.

Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, was praised and blessed for her courage and strength in battle.

1. Women's Courage and Strength in the Face of Adversity

2. God's Blessing on Those Who are Faithful

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 31:25 - "Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come."

Judges 5:25 He asked water, and she gave him milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish.

The Lord provided for the Israelites in a generous way, offering them milk, butter, and food in abundance.

1. God's Abundant Provision

2. Generosity and Gratitude

1. Psalm 107:9 - For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Judges 5:26 She put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer; and with the hammer she smote Sisera, she smote off his head, when she had pierced and stricken through his temples.

In Judges 5:26, a woman named Jael kills Sisera by hammering a nail through his temples.

1. "The Strength of Women: Jael's Courageous Act of Faith"

2. "The Power of Faith: Jael's Victory Over Sisera"

1. Proverbs 31:25 - "She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future."

2. Matthew 17:20 - "He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

Judges 5:27 At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down: at her feet he bowed, he fell: where he bowed, there he fell down dead.

A man bowed down at the feet of a woman and fell down dead.

1. The Power of Submission

2. The Strength of Humility

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

2. Ephesians 5:21 - Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Judges 5:28 The mother of Sisera looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot so long in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?

The mother of Sisera is anxiously awaiting her son's return and is looking out of the window for any sign of him.

1. Waiting Patiently: Learning to Trust God in Times of Uncertainty

2. God's Timing: Why We Should Not Be Anxious for Results

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 37:7 - "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices."

Judges 5:29 Her wise ladies answered her, yea, she returned answer to herself,

Deborah responds to her own inquiries with wise advice from her female advisors.

1. The Power of Women in Leadership

2. Seeking Wisdom from Within

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Judges 5:30 Have they not sped? have they not divided the prey; to every man a damsel or two; to Sisera a prey of divers colours, a prey of divers colours of needlework, of divers colours of needlework on both sides, meet for the necks of them that take the spoil?

The Israelites have defeated their enemies and taken spoils from them.

1: God s faithfulness is seen in the victories of His people.

2: God rewards the faithful with spoils.

1: Exodus 23:25-26 You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.

2: Psalm 92:12-14 The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green.

Judges 5:31 So let all thine enemies perish, O LORD: but let them that love him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might. And the land had rest forty years.

After the Israelites won the battle against their enemies, the land had forty years of rest.

1. Rejoice in God's Victory - Celebrate His faithfulness in providing rest and peace to all who love Him.

2. Seek the Sun of Righteousness - Learn to rely on God's strength and power in times of trouble.

1. Psalm 118:14 The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

2. Isaiah 60:19-20 No longer will you need the sun to shine by day, nor the moon to give its light by night, for the LORD your God will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more; the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end.

Judges 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 6:1-10 introduces the story of Gideon and the Midianite oppression. The chapter begins by stating that Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and as a consequence, they were handed over to the Midianites for seven years. The Midianites would invade Israel during harvest time, causing widespread destruction and plundering their crops. In their distress, the Israelites cry out to God for help. The Lord sends a prophet to remind them of His faithfulness and their disobedience.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 6:11-24, it recounts Gideon's encounter with an angel of the Lord. Gideon is threshing wheat in a winepress to hide it from the Midianites when he is visited by an angel who addresses him as a mighty warrior chosen by God to deliver Israel from their oppressors. Initially doubtful of his own abilities and questioning why they are suffering under oppression if God is with them, Gideon seeks confirmation through signs from God.

Paragraph 3: Judges 6 concludes with an account where Gideon tears down his father's altar to Baal and prepares for battle against the Midianites. In Judges 6:25-40, it is mentioned that following God's instructions, Gideon tears down his father's altar dedicated to Baal and cuts down Asherah pole beside it symbols of idolatry that were prevalent among Israelites at that time. This act angers the people of his town but earns him favor with God. To further confirm His presence and guidance, Gideon places a fleece before Him twice once requesting dew only on the fleece while keeping surrounding ground dry, then vice versa.

In summary:

Judges 6 presents:

Introduction of Midianite oppression Israel's cry for help;

Gideon's encounter with the angel doubt and signs requested;

Tearing down of Baal's altar confirmation from God.

Emphasis on introduction of Midianite oppression Israel's cry for help;

Gideon's encounter with the angel doubt and signs requested;

Tearing down of Baal's altar confirmation from God.

The chapter focuses on the story of Gideon and the Midianite oppression. In Judges 6, it is mentioned that due to Israel's disobedience, they were handed over to the Midianites for seven years. The Midianites would invade during harvest time, causing devastation and plundering their crops. In their distress, the Israelites cry out to God for help.

Continuing in Judges 6, Gideon, who is threshing wheat in a winepress to hide it from the Midianites, encounters an angel who addresses him as a chosen warrior of God. Initially doubtful and questioning why they are suffering if God is with them, Gideon seeks confirmation through signs from God a fleece that would be wet with dew while surrounding ground remains dry or vice versa.

Judges 6 concludes with an account where Gideon tears down his father's altar dedicated to Baal and prepares for battle against the Midianites. Following God's instructions, he removes symbols of idolatry prevalent among Israelites at that time an act that angers his town but earns him favor with God. To further confirm His presence and guidance, Gideon places a fleece before Him twice as a sign a request granted by dew appearing only on the fleece while keeping surrounding ground dry or vice versa a confirmation that strengthens Gideon in his role as a leader chosen by God.

Judges 6:1 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.

The children of Israel disobeyed the Lord and He punished them by letting Midian rule over them for seven years.

1: No matter how long we have gone astray, God will always forgive us and bring us back to Him if we repent and turn away from our sins.

2: We must always remain vigilant and not forget the Lord and His teachings, for His punishment can be severe.

1: Daniel 9:9 - To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Judges 6:2 And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds.

The Midianites conquered Israel, forcing them to hide in mountains, caves, and strongholds.

1. God's faithfulness in times of difficulty

2. Hope in the face of adversity

1. Romans 8:31-39

2. Isaiah 41:10-13

Judges 6:3 And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;

Israel suffered a great oppression from the Midianites, Amalekites, and children of the east.

1. God's People Under Attack: Overcoming Oppression through Faith and Resilience

2. The Power of Unity: Standing Together Against the Enemy

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2. Matthew 28:20 "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Judges 6:4 And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass.

The Midianites destroyed the harvest of Israel, leaving them without sustenance.

1: God will provide for us even in our darkest days.

2: Do not be discouraged by the difficult times you face.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Judges 6:5 For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

The Midianites invaded Israel with a massive army that was so large it resembled a swarm of locusts.

1. The Lord is Sovereign: Even in our darkest hours, His power is greater than any enemy.

2. Be Courageous: Do not be intimidated by odds that seem insurmountable.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

Judges 6:6 And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.

The Israelites were greatly impoverished by the Midianites and cried out to the Lord for help.

1. Crying out to God in times of distress.

2. Learning to trust God in times of difficulty.

1. Psalm 34:17 "When the righteous cry out, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Judges 6:7 And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,

The children of Israel cried out to the Lord for help against the Midianites.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Crying Out to the Lord Can Transform Our Lives

2. Overcoming Oppression: Standing Firm Against the Midianites

1. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Psalm 50:15 - And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

Judges 6:8 That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;

God sent a prophet to remind the Israelites that he had delivered them from bondage in Egypt.

1: God's Deliverance - The Lord rescued the Israelites from slavery and gave them a new life, reminding us of His grace and mercy.

2: God's Faithfulness - God is faithful to His promises and will always be there for us no matter how tough the situation may be.

1: Exodus 3:7-8 - And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

2: Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Judges 6:9 And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;

God delivered the Israelites from their oppressors and gave them their land.

1: God is faithful, and always keeps His promises.

2: God is a powerful and loving God who rescues His people from oppression.

1: Exodus 3:7-8 - And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

2: Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Judges 6:10 And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.

God reminds the Israelites that He is their God and that they should obey His voice instead of the gods of the Amorites.

1. Fear Not: Relying on God in Difficult Times

2. Obey God's Voice: Listening and Acting on His Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Judges 6:11 And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

The angel of the Lord visited Gideon under an oak tree in Ophrah while he was threshing wheat to hide it from the Midianites.

1. Understanding God's Providential Care in the Midst of Hardship

2. Finding Strength in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Judges 6:12 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

God is with those who are brave and full of courage.

1: Courage is Strength - God is with us when we take courage and stand up for what is right.

2: God is our Strength - We can be brave and courageous when we remember that God is with us and will give us strength.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Judges 6:13 And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

Gideon questions why God has forsaken them and allowed them to be delivered into the hands of the Midianites, despite the fact that their fathers told them that God had brought them up from Egypt.

1. The Challenges of Faith: Standing in the Midst of Difficulties

2. When God Seems Absent: Persevere in Trusting

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Judges 6:14 And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

God calls Gideon to lead the Israelites against the Midianites and promises to be with him.

1. "God's Call on Our Lives: Obedience and Victory"

2. "God's Strength in Our Weakness"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"

Judges 6:15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.

Gideon is asked by the angel of the Lord to save Israel, but he is overwhelmed by his own sense of inadequacy, since his family is poor and he is the least in the house.

1. Overcoming Inadequacy: Learning to Step Out in Faith

2. The Power of the Least: A Lesson from Gideon

1. Matthew 14:28-31 - Jesus calls Peter to step out of the boat

2. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - Paul's experience of having power in weakness

Judges 6:16 And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

The Lord promised to help Gideon fight the Midianites.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Promises - Judges 6:16

2. Being Courageous in the face of Adversity - Judges 6:16

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Judges 6:17 And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me.

Gideon requests a sign from the angel of the Lord in order to confirm that he is speaking to him.

1. The Power of Faith: How Gideon's Request for a Sign Reveals His Faith

2. Discernment in Prayer: Learning to Hear God's Voice in Uncertain Times

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2. John 16:13 - "When he, the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth."

Judges 6:18 Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.

Gideon asked the angel of the Lord to wait until he brings a present before him. The angel agrees to wait.

1. Waiting on God and His Timing

2. Learning Patience in Our Everyday Lives

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 5:7-8 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Judges 6:19 And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it.

Gideon prepared a sacrifice of a kid and unleavened cakes for God.

1. Allowing God to Lead Us in Sacrifice

2. The Strength We Find in Unconditional Obedience

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Judges 6:20 And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so.

The angel of God instructed Gideon to lay the flesh and unleavened cakes on a rock and pour out the broth.

1. Recognizing God's Guidance in Difficult Situations

2. Obedience to God's Will

1. Matthew 7:24-27 (Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock)

2. James 1:22 (But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves)

Judges 6:21 Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

The angel of the Lord used his staff to cause fire to come out of the rock and burn the flesh and unleavened cakes.

1: We should be willing to be used by the Lord to accomplish His will.

2: We should have faith that the Lord can use us, even when we feel inadequate.

1: Matthew 17:20 - He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

2: Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Judges 6:22 And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O LORD God! for because I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face.

Gideon saw an angel of the LORD and was filled with awe.

1. Awe in the Presence of the Lord

2. Experiencing God's Presence

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Judges 6:23 And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die.

God spoke to Gideon, assuring him that he would not die.

1. Courage in the Face of Fear - Using Gideon's story to answer the question, "How can I find courage to face my fears?".

2. God's Protection - Exploring the power of God's protection and assurance in Gideon's story.

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. John 10:27-30 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

Judges 6:24 Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovahshalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

Gideon built an altar to the Lord and named it Jehovahshalom.

1.God's Peace: Relying on the Lord in Times of Trouble

2.The Power of Dedication: Living Out Your Faith through Service

1.Isaiah 9:6 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2.Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Judges 6:25 And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it:

The Lord commanded Gideon to tear down the altar of Baal and the grove near it.

1: We must be willing to obey God's commands, no matter how difficult they may be.

2: Tearing down idols in our lives brings freedom and joy, as we trust in God's way.

1: Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2: Matthew 4:19 And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Judges 6:26 And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

Gideon is instructed by the angel of the Lord to build an altar to the Lord on a rock and to offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood from a grove nearby.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Directions

2. A Sacrifice of Gratitude: Giving Thanks to the Lord

1. Matthew 4:4, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

2. James 1:22-25, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Judges 6:27 Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.

Gideon followed God's instructions to tear down his father's altar, even though he was afraid of the consequences.

1. Trusting God in Fearful Situations

2. Courage to Obey God's Commands

1. Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 6:28 And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built.

Gideon destroys the altar of Baal in response to an angel's challenge to prove his faith in God.

1. God will always provide a way for His people to prove their faith and trust in Him.

2. The power of obedience is demonstrated in Gideon's destruction of the altar of Baal.

1. John 14:1-17 - Jesus' assurance that He will never leave us.

2. 1 John 5:3-5 - The importance of loving God and keeping His commandments.

Judges 6:29 And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they enquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.

Gideon was praised for his courageous acts of faith.

1. God calls us to do great things and blesses us with courage, even when we feel weak.

2. Our actions reveal our faith and the Lord will be glorified through our obedience.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Matthew 17:20 - He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

Judges 6:30 Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it.

The men of a city demanded that Joash bring out his son to be killed for destroying the altar of Baal and cutting down the grove beside it.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry

2. The Power of Persuasion

1. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

2. 1 John 5:21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

Judges 6:31 And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar.

Joash challenges those who oppose him to plead for Baal and save him. If they believe Baal is a god, he should be able to plead for himself.

1. A call to stand up for our faith and confront those who oppose us.

2. A reminder that our God is powerful and does not need our help to defend Himself.

1. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

2. Matthew 10:32-33 - So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Judges 6:32 Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

Gideon destroyed Baal's altar and was given the name Jerubbaal in response.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Gideon and the Destruction of Baal's Altar"

2. "The Importance of Names: The Significance of Jerubbaal"

1. 1 Kings 18:21 24 - Elijah challenges Baal's prophets on Mount Carmel.

2. Matthew 4:10 - Jesus responds to Satan's temptation by quoting the Bible.

Judges 6:33 Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel.

The Midianites, Amalekites, and other eastern tribes gathered to fight against Israel in the valley of Jezreel.

1. God will always protect His people in the face of adversity.

2. We are called to trust in God and stand firm against evil.

1. Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Judges 6:34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him.

Gideon was empowered by the Holy Spirit to gather an army for the Lord.

1. Empowered by the Holy Spirit: Gideon's Call

2. The Call to Follow God's Will

1. Acts 1:8 - But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

2. John 15:16 - You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

Judges 6:35 And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.

Gideon sent messengers to the tribes of Manasseh, Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali to gather an army to fight against the Midianites.

1. The Power of Unity - Judges 6:35

2. Faith in Action - Judges 6:35

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. James 2:14-17 - "What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?...Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

Judges 6:36 And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

Gideon humbly asks God to save Israel through his hand.

1: Trust in the Lord, for He is faithful and will fulfill His promises.

2: Recognize and accept God's will and purpose for our lives.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Judges 6:37 Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

Gideon asked God to prove to him that God would save Israel through his hand.

1. Have Faith in God's Promises

2. Seek God's Guidance in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Judges 6:38 And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

Gideon tested God's promise of deliverance by asking for a sign from God using a fleece and dew.

1. Trusting in the faithfulness of God

2. The power of testing God's promises

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

Judges 6:39 And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

Gideon prayed to God to prove His power by asking Him to make the fleece dry and the ground have dew.

1. God wants us to trust Him and His power, even in difficult situations.

2. When we are in doubt, we should turn to God and ask Him for a sign.

1. James 1:5-6 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Judges 6:40 And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

God caused the dew to settle on the ground and not on the fleece as Gideon had requested.

1. God is in Control of All Things

2. God Responds to Our Requests

1. Isaiah 55:9 - For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

Judges 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 7:1-8 describes the reduction of Gideon's army. The chapter begins by stating that Gideon and his army of thirty-two thousand men are encamped near the spring of Harod, ready to confront the Midianites. However, God tells Gideon that his army is too large and instructs him to announce that anyone who is fearful or afraid should leave. As a result, twenty-two thousand men depart, leaving only ten thousand.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 7:9-14, it recounts God's further reduction of Gideon's army through a selection process. The Lord instructs Gideon to bring the remaining ten thousand men down to the water and observe how they drink. Those who kneel down and drink from their hands are separated from those who lap water like dogs. Three hundred men are chosen based on this criterion while the rest are sent home.

Paragraph 3: Judges 7 concludes with an account where Gideon and his three hundred men carry out a surprise attack on the Midianite camp. In Judges 7:15-25, it is mentioned that before engaging in battle, God reassures Gideon by allowing him to overhear a dream recounted by one of the Midianite soldiers a dream interpreted as a sign of their impending defeat at Israel's hands. Encouraged by this revelation, Gideon divides his three hundred men into three companies armed with trumpets, empty jars, and torches hidden inside them. They surround the Midianite camp during nightfall and simultaneously blow their trumpets, break their jars revealing torchlight, and shout "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" The noise confuses and terrifies the Midianites who turn against each other in panic, resulting in their defeat.

In summary:

Judges 7 presents:

Reduction of Gideon's army departure of fearful men;

Selection process choosing three hundred men based on drinking style;

Surprise attack on the Midianite camp confusion and defeat.

Emphasis on reduction of Gideon's army departure of fearful men;

Selection process choosing three hundred men based on drinking style;

Surprise attack on the Midianite camp confusion and defeat.

The chapter focuses on the reduction of Gideon's army and the subsequent surprise attack on the Midianite camp. In Judges 7, it is mentioned that God instructs Gideon to reduce his army because it is too large. Twenty-two thousand fearful men depart after being given permission to leave, leaving only ten thousand soldiers remaining.

Continuing in Judges 7, God further reduces Gideon's army through a selection process based on how they drink water. Only those who kneel down and drink from their hands are chosen, while those who lap water like dogs are sent home. Three hundred men pass this criterion and remain as part of Gideon's forces.

Judges 7 concludes with an account where Gideon and his three hundred chosen men carry out a surprise attack on the Midianite camp. Before engaging in battle, God reassures Gideon by allowing him to overhear a dream recounted by one of the enemy soldiers a dream interpreted as a sign of their impending defeat at Israel's hands. Encouraged by this revelation, Gideon divides his three hundred men into three companies armed with trumpets, empty jars, and torches hidden inside them. They surround the Midianite camp during nightfall and simultaneously blow their trumpets, break their jars revealing torchlight, and shout slogans invoking God's name. The noise confuses and terrifies the Midianites who turn against each other in panic, resulting in their defeat at the hands of Gideon and his small but strategically chosen army.

Judges 7:1 Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

Gideon and his army prepare to face the Midianites.

1: We must be prepared to face challenges with courage and faith.

2: God will provide strength and courage to those who trust in Him.

1: 1 Chronicles 28:20 - "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Judges 7:2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.

God reminded Gideon that even with a large army, success is still dependent on God.

1. Remembering God s Sovereignty in our Victories

2. Trusting God s Strength to Overcome the Odds

1. Exodus 14:14 - "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:17 - You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.

Judges 7:3 Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

Gideon asked the Israelites to go to the people and proclaim that anyone who was fearful and afraid should return from Mount Gilead. As a result, 22,000 returned and 10,000 remained.

1. The Power of Faith Over Fear

2. The Strength of Discernment

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:15 - "For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, Abba, Father.

Judges 7:4 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

God instructed Gideon to bring the people to the water so that He could test them.

1. The Lord Tests Us: Exploring God's Purposes and Plans for Our Lives

2. God's Priorities: Learning to Discern God's Will and Direction in Life

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Judges 7:5 So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

Gideon listened to God's command and led the people to the water.

1. God's Instructions are to be Followed Faithfully

2. Obeying God's Commands Leads to Blessing

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?"

2. Joshua 24:15 But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Judges 7:6 And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

Gideon's army was reduced to 300 men who lapped the water with their hands while all the rest of the army bowed down to drink.

1. God often limits our resources to demonstrate His power.

2. God can use even the smallest group of people to accomplish His will.

1. 2 Kings 3:15-16 - And now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him. And he said, Thus saith the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.

Judges 7:7 And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the other people go every man unto his place.

God tells Gideon that he will save him and the Israelites by using only three hundred men to defeat the Midianites.

1. God Can Do the Impossible - Judges 7:7

2. Have Faith in God's Provision - Judges 7:7

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus said to them, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Judges 7:8 So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all the rest of Israel every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

Gideon sent 300 men to battle against a large army of Midianites while the rest of the Israelites returned to their tents.

1. The Strength of Few: Learning to Trust in God to Accomplish Great Things

2. Standing Firm in Faith: Knowing when to Follow God's Lead

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus told his disciples, If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Judges 7:9 And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.

God delivered the Israelites victory through Gideon's small but brave army.

1: We should not be discouraged by our size, but instead rely on God's power and strength.

2: We should be brave and take heart in the assurance that God will lead us to victory.

1: Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

2: Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Judges 7:10 But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host:

Gideon's army was reduced from 32,000 to just 300 men to defeat the Midianites.

1: We can be victorious despite overwhelming odds if we trust in God.

2: God can use the least likely people to accomplish his will.

1: 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 - God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, and what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

2: 2 Chronicles 14:11 - Asa cried out to the Lord his God, "Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty."

Judges 7:11 And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host. Then went he down with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that were in the host.

Gideon hears what the enemy camp is saying and is strengthened to go down and face them. He then goes down with his servant Phurah to the outside of the enemy camp.

1. The Strength of Hearing: Learning from Gideon's Courageous Decision

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Command and Reaping Its Rewards

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Judges 7:12 And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.

A vast number of Midianites, Amalekites, and other eastern nations had gathered together in the valley, their camels too numerous to count.

1. God can do the impossible with an insignificant number of people.

2. God can use a multitude of His enemies to accomplish His will.

1. Judges 6:12-16

2. Exodus 17:8-13

Judges 7:13 And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along.

A man in Gideon's army recounts a dream in which a cake of barley bread came to the Midianite camp and knocked down a tent.

1. The Power of Dreams - God speaks to us through our dreams and can use them to accomplish His will.

2. The Unexpected Strength of the Weak - God can use even the weakest among us to triumph.

1. Daniel 2:27-28 - "Daniel answered the king and said, No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed are these."

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "And he said, Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the Lord to you, Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's.

Judges 7:14 And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: for into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host.

Gideon's faith in God enabled him to defeat the Midianites.

1. God's faithfulness allows us to overcome any obstacles.

2. Believe in the power of faith in God to lead us to victory.

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Judges 7:15 And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.

When Gideon heard the dream and its interpretation, he bowed in worship and encouraged the Israelites, telling them the Lord had delivered the Midianite army into their hands.

1. God Equips Us for Battle: Trusting in the Lord's Strength

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith in the Lord

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:6 - "So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Judges 7:16 And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

Gideon divides his men into three companies and gives each man a trumpet, an empty pitcher, and a lamp inside the pitcher.

1. The Power of Unity: How Gideon's Men Overcame Seemingly Impossible Odds

2. Courage in the Face of Fear: Gideon's Faithful Response to a Dire Situation

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Judges 7:17 And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do.

Gideon instructs his army to do the same as he does when he approaches the outside of the camp.

1) God's plan is perfect and works through obedience; 2) God's methods are necessary for the success of His plan.

1) John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will obey my commandments."; 2) Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Judges 7:18 When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

Gideon instructs his men to blow trumpets and proclaim that the sword of the LORD and Gideon are upon them.

1. Trusting in the Lord in times of adversity

2. The power of proclamation in spiritual warfare

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Judges 7:19 So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands.

Gideon and his 100 men came to the edge of the camp in the middle watch of the night and blew trumpets and broke their pitchers.

1. God's Strength Is Made Perfect In Our Weakness

2. Courage In The Face Of Oppression

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

2. Psalm 27:1 "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Judges 7:20 And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

Gideon and his three companies blew trumpets and broke pitchers, while holding lamps in their left hands and trumpets in their right, and shouted that they were fighting with the sword of the Lord and Gideon.

1. Faith in the Lord: Facing Battles with Courage and Confidence

2. Faithful Obedience: Following God's Command to Victory

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Judges 7:21 And they stood every man in his place round about the camp; and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

Gideon's army surrounded the enemy's camp and caused them to flee in fear.

1. God gives us the strength to stand firm in the face of fear.

2. Courage comes from believing that God is with us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 7:22 And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Bethshittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abelmeholah, unto Tabbath.

Gideon and his 300 men blew their trumpets and the Lord caused them to turn on each other, resulting in a mass exodus to the surrounding towns.

1. God can use small numbers for great victories.

2. We should always trust in the Lord and His divine power.

1. Luke 1:37 - For with God nothing shall be impossible.

2. John 15:5 - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Judges 7:23 And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

The men of Israel from the tribes of Naphtali, Asher, and Manasseh united together and pursued the Midianites.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Bring Victory

2. Faith In Action: A Study of Gideon's Army

1. Acts 4:32-35 - Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.

Judges 7:24 And Gideon sent messengers throughout all mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the waters unto Bethbarah and Jordan. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the waters unto Bethbarah and Jordan.

Gideon called on the people of Ephraim to come down against the Midianites and take the waters to Bethbarah and Jordan.

1. Trusting in God's plan for victory

2. Working together to overcome obstacles

1. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Judges 7:25 And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb upon the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan.

Gideon and his men defeated two Midianite princes, Oreb and Zeeb, by slaying them in battle and bringing their heads to Gideon on the other side of the Jordan.

1. The Power of Faith: How Gideon Led His People to Victory

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together to Overcome Challenges

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Putting on the Armor of God

2. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is My Rock and My Fortress

Judges 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 8:1-21 describes Gideon's pursuit and victory over the Midianite kings. After the battle against the Midianites, the Ephraimites confront Gideon for not including them in the initial fight. Gideon skillfully diffuses their anger by praising their earlier efforts and emphasizing that their victory was a collective achievement. He then pursues two Midianite kings, Zebah and Zalmunna, captures them, and returns to confront the Ephraimites again. This time, he rebukes them for belittling his achievements compared to theirs and calms their anger with wise words.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 8:22-32, it recounts Gideon's request for spoils of war from the defeated kings. He asks each of his soldiers to contribute earrings taken from the enemy as spoils. With these earrings, Gideon fashions an ephod a sacred garment associated with priestly functions though it later becomes a snare for Israel's idolatry. The chapter then highlights a period of peace in Israel during Gideon's lifetime.

Paragraph 3: Judges 8 concludes with an account where Gideon dies after ruling Israel for forty years. In Judges 8:33-35, it is mentioned that after Gideon's death, Israel turns back to idolatry by worshiping Baal instead of remaining faithful to God who delivered them from oppression. The Israelites do not remember God's kindness and covenant with them but instead pursue false gods.

In summary:

Judges 8 presents:

Gideon's pursuit and victory over Midianite kings conflict with Ephraimites;

Request for spoils of war fashioning of an ephod;

Gideon's death and Israel's return to idolatry.

Emphasis on Gideon's pursuit and victory over Midianite kings conflict with Ephraimites;

Request for spoils of war fashioning of an ephod;

Gideon's death and Israel's return to idolatry.

The chapter focuses on Gideon's pursuit and victory over the Midianite kings, his request for spoils of war, and the subsequent events after his death. In Judges 8, it is mentioned that Gideon faces conflict with the Ephraimites who were upset about not being included in the initial battle against the Midianites. He skillfully diffuses their anger by praising their earlier efforts and emphasizing unity. Gideon then pursues two Midianite kings, captures them, and successfully confronts the Ephraimites again.

Continuing in Judges 8, Gideon requests spoils of war from his soldiers by asking for earrings taken from the defeated enemy. With these spoils, he fashions an ephod a sacred garment associated with priestly functions. However, this ephod later becomes a snare for Israel as they engage in idolatrous practices.

Judges 8 concludes with Gideon ruling over Israel for forty years before his death. After his demise, Israel turns back to idolatry by worshiping Baal instead of remaining faithful to God who had delivered them from oppression. The people forget God's kindness and covenant with them as they pursue false gods once again an unfortunate turn away from their previous victories under Gideon's leadership.

Judges 8:1 And the men of Ephraim said unto him, Why hast thou served us thus, that thou calledst us not, when thou wentest to fight with the Midianites? And they did chide with him sharply.

The men of Ephraim confronted Gideon for not calling them when he went to fight the Midianites.

1. God calls us to serve Him in our own unique way.

2. Love your neighbor by being willing to involve them in your ministry.

1. Galatians 5:13 - "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Judges 8:2 And he said unto them, What have I done now in comparison of you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?

Gideon humbly questioned the Israelites about his accomplishments in comparison to theirs.

1. It is humbling to recognize how much more God has done for us than we have done for ourselves.

2. Be grateful for the blessings God has bestowed upon your life, and remember to give thanks.

1. Matthew 5:3-12 - Jesus teaches us to be humble and thankful.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Giving thanks in all circumstances.

Judges 8:3 God hath delivered into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb: and what was I able to do in comparison of you? Then their anger was abated toward him, when he had said that.

After Gideon and his army defeated the Midianite kings Oreb and Zeeb, Gideon humbly acknowledged that he was not able to do anything compared to what his army had done. Upon hearing this, the anger of his army toward him subsided.

1. The Power of Humility: Recognizing and Appreciating the Strengths of Others

2. The Strength of Unity: Achieving Great Things When Working Together

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Judges 8:4 And Gideon came to Jordan, and passed over, he, and the three hundred men that were with him, faint, yet pursuing them.

Gideon and his three hundred men pursued their enemies across the Jordan River despite being weary.

1. God's strength sustains us even when we are weak.

2. We should persevere in our faith even when life becomes difficult.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Hebrews 12:1 - "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

Judges 8:5 And he said unto the men of Succoth, Give, I pray you, loaves of bread unto the people that follow me; for they be faint, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian.

Gideon asks the people of Succoth to give bread to his men, who were tired from pursuing Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian.

1. The Power of Stewardship: Learning to Manage the Resources God Gives Us

2. The Joy of Giving: How to Experience the Blessing of Generosity

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Judges 8:6 And the princes of Succoth said, Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thine army?

Gideon, a judge of Israel, defeats two Midianite kings and demands bread from the surrounding cities.

1. How We Serve God in Tough Situations

2. Making Sacrifices for the Sake of Others

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Judges 8:7 And Gideon said, Therefore when the LORD hath delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into mine hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.

Gideon, the leader of the Israelites, threatens to tear the flesh of the kings of Midian if they are delivered into his hands.

1. The Power of a Leader s Promises - How Gideon's commitment and loyalty to God inspired a nation.

2. Understanding God s Justice - A study on Gideon s promise to punish the Midianite kings.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man s ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Judges 8:8 And he went up thence to Penuel, and spake unto them likewise: and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered him.

The men of Penuel responded to Gideon in a similar way to the men of Succoth.

1. We should learn to respond to God in a timely and obedient manner like Gideon and the men of Succoth and Penuel did.

2. It is important to honor God's requests and answer Him with respect and obedience.

1. Matthew 21:28-32 - Jesus tells the parable of the two sons.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Judges 8:9 And he spake also unto the men of Penuel, saying, When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.

Gideon tells the men of Penuel that if he returns in peace, he will break down their tower.

1. Prepare for Peaceful Living: Learning from Gideon's Promise

2. Faith in God's Protection: Demonstrated by Gideon's Pledge

1. Psalm 34:14-15 "Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their cry."

2. Proverbs 12:20 "Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, but those who plan peace have joy."

Judges 8:10 Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their hosts with them, about fifteen thousand men, all that were left of all the hosts of the children of the east: for there fell an hundred and twenty thousand men that drew sword.

Zebah and Zalmunna, with their army of 15,000, were in Karkor. This was all that remained of the 120,000 men from the eastern tribes that had died in battle.

1. The Power of God's Protection: Examining the Ways in which God Saves His People from Danger

2. Faith and Strength in Numbers: The Need to Unite Together in God's Name

1. Joshua 10:10-14 God's miraculous power to save his people in battle

2. Psalm 133:1-3 How unity brings strength and blessing from God

Judges 8:11 And Gideon went up by the way of them that dwelt in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah, and smote the host: for the host was secure.

Gideon defeated the enemy army that was camped east of Nobah and Jogbehah.

1. Understanding Security in Faith: Lessons from Gideon

2. How to Overcome Adversity: The Story of Gideon

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the full armor of God

2. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is prepared against the day of battle.

Judges 8:12 And when Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued after them, and took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and discomfited all the host.

Gideon defeated the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and routed their entire army.

1. God's Faithfulness in Victory - An Exploration of Gideon's Story

2. The Strength of God's People - A Reflection on Gideon and His Army

1. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Judges 8:13 And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun was up,

Gideon returns from battle victorious.

1: We can all learn from Gideon's courage and faith in God, which enabled him to be victorious against all odds.

2: Even in the face of great adversity, we can still rely on God's strength to overcome our challenges.

1: 1 Corinthians 15:57-58 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2: Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Judges 8:14 And caught a young man of the men of Succoth, and enquired of him: and he described unto him the princes of Succoth, and the elders thereof, even threescore and seventeen men.

Gideon captures a man from Succoth and interrogates him for information on the princes and elders of the city.

1. Trusting God When Things Seem Impossible - Judges 8:14

2. Overcoming Fear and Standing Up for What s Right - Judges 8:14

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Judges 8:15 And he came unto the men of Succoth, and said, Behold Zebah and Zalmunna, with whom ye did upbraid me, saying, Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thy men that are weary?

Gideon asked the men of Succoth if they remembered how they had mocked him about capturing Zebah and Zalmunna, and now that he had them in his hands, why wouldn't they provide food for his weary men?

1. God's faithfulness and deliverance: No matter what we face, God will provide a way out.

2. The power of words: We should be mindful of the words we say, as they can have lasting consequences.

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Judges 8:16 And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth.

Gideon taught the men of Succoth a lesson by taking the elders of the city and using thorns and briers to make them realize their mistake.

1. God's Grace in Forgiveness: Learning from the example of Gideon.

2. The Power of Repentance: Overcoming wrongs through humble submission.

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

2. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son.

Judges 8:17 And he beat down the tower of Penuel, and slew the men of the city.

Gideon defeated the men of Penuel by destroying the city's tower.

1. God's Power and Protection: A Study of Gideon's Victory

2. Overcoming Challenges: Lessons from Gideon's Triumph

1. Judges 6:1-24

2. Psalm 46:1-3

Judges 8:18 Then said he unto Zebah and Zalmunna, What manner of men were they whom ye slew at Tabor? And they answered, As thou art, so were they; each one resembled the children of a king.

Gideon asked Zebah and Zalmunna about the men they had killed at Tabor, and they replied that they were as noble as Gideon himself.

1. The Nobility of All Men in God's Eyes

2. The Strength of Gideon's Faith

1. James 2:1-9

2. Hebrews 11:32-34

Judges 8:19 And he said, They were my brethren, even the sons of my mother: as the LORD liveth, if ye had saved them alive, I would not slay you.

Gideon kills the princes of Succoth and Penuel for not helping him fight against the Midianites.

1. The Importance of Steadfastness in Times of Trouble

2. Loving Your Enemies in Light of Gideon's Response

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

2. Proverbs 24:10-12 - If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

Judges 8:20 And he said unto Jether his firstborn, Up, and slay them. But the youth drew not his sword: for he feared, because he was yet a youth.

Gideon's son Jether was commanded to slay the enemy, but he was too fearful due to his young age.

1. "Youthful Fear: Perspectives on Applying Faith and Courage"

2. "The Strength of Gideon: Overcoming Fear and Doubt in Difficult Situations"

1. Isaiah 43:1-2 - "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Judges 8:21 Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, Rise thou, and fall upon us: for as the man is, so is his strength. And Gideon arose, and slew Zebah and Zalmunna, and took away the ornaments that were on their camels' necks.

Gideon defeats Zebah and Zalmunna in battle and takes the ornaments from their camels' necks.

1. God provides strength for His people in times of need.

2. Victory is only achieved by God's strength, not our own.

1. 1 John 4:4 - You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Judges 8:22 Then the men of Israel said unto Gideon, Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also: for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian.

Gideon is acclaimed by the Israelites as their leader.

1. God chooses people of humble origins to do incredible things

2. Trusting in God even when the odds seem insurmountable

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Judges 8:23 And Gideon said unto them, I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you.

Gideon refuses to rule over the Israelites, instead asserting that the Lord should be their ruler.

1. God's Kingship: Why We Should Reject Human Authority in Favour of Divine Rule

2. The Faithful Servant: How Gideon Courageously Rejected Political Power

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Matthew 22:21 - Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

Judges 8:24 And Gideon said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey. (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.)

Gideon asked the Ishmaelites for their golden earrings as a reward.

1. The Power of Desiring a Request

2. The Significance of Golden Earrings

1. Matthew 7:7-8, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

2. James 4:3, "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

Judges 8:25 And they answered, We will willingly give them. And they spread a garment, and did cast therein every man the earrings of his prey.

The Israelites willingly gave their earrings as an offering to the Lord.

1. God is Worthy of our Offerings - Judges 8:25

2. The Power of Generosity - Judges 8:25

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Proverbs 22:9 - A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

Judges 8:26 And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was a thousand and seven hundred shekels of gold; beside ornaments, and collars, and purple raiment that was on the kings of Midian, and beside the chains that were about their camels' necks.

Gideon requested a large amount of gold from the Midianites, including gold earrings, ornaments, collars, purple raiment, and chains for their camels' necks.

1. The Value of Contentment: Learning to be satisfied with the blessings we have.

2.The Power of Generosity: The impact of giving to others.

1. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

2. Acts 20:35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Judges 8:27 And Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and all Israel went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto Gideon, and to his house.

Gideon made an ephod that became a snare for himself and his family when Israel started to worship it.

1. Don't Let Pride Lead You Astray: A Study of Gideon's Ephod.

2. The Dangers of Idolatry: A Study of Gideon's Ephod.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

Judges 8:28 Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

Gideon's victory over the Midianites brought forty years of peace to Israel.

1: We can find peace in our lives when we trust in God's plan.

2: We can find strength in God and victory over our foes.

1: Isaiah 26:3-4 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting Rock.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 8:29 And Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and dwelt in his own house.

Jerubbaal, the son of Joash, returned to his home.

1. God gives us the strength and courage to face our daily struggles.

2. We must be thankful for the blessings God has provided us.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 103:2 - "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

Judges 8:30 And Gideon had threescore and ten sons of his body begotten: for he had many wives.

Gideon had 70 sons, born from his many wives.

1. The Danger of Having Too Many Wives

2. The Blessing of Being a Father

1. Ephesians 5:25-33 (Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her)

2. Genesis 1:27-28 (God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it)

Judges 8:31 And his concubine that was in Shechem, she also bare him a son, whose name he called Abimelech.

Gideon had a son named Abimelech, born to a concubine in Shechem.

1. The example of Gideon: A lesson in faithfulness and obedience.

2. The importance of fatherhood: A call to responsible parenting.

1. Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Proverbs 4:3-4 For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

Judges 8:32 And Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age, and was buried in the sepulchre of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

Gideon, the son of Joash, died in a good old age and was buried in the sepulchre of his father in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

1. The Legacy of a Good Man - Using Gideon as an example of a life well lived.

2. The Blessing of a Long Life - Reflecting on the blessing of a full life, even in the midst of sorrow.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - "A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth."

2. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Judges 8:33 And it came to pass, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made Baalberith their god.

The Israelites turned away from God and worshiped idols after Gideon's death.

1. Remembering Gideon: A Reflection on Loyalty to God

2. The Dangers of Idolatry: Why We Should Remain Faithful to God

1. Deuteronomy 12:29-31 - Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the Lord against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Judges 8:34 And the children of Israel remembered not the LORD their God, who had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on every side:

The children of Israel forgot the LORD who had saved them from their enemies.

1. We Must Remember the LORD Who Has Saved Us - Judges 8:34

2. God Remembers Us Even When We Forget Him - Judges 8:34

1. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits

2. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Judges 8:35 Neither shewed they kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, namely, Gideon, according to all the goodness which he had shewed unto Israel.

Gideon was not shown kindness despite the goodness he had done for Israel.

1. The Importance of Kindness - A lesson from Gideon

2. The Blessing of Goodness - A lesson from Gideon

1. Luke 6:35 - But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Judges 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 9:1-21 introduces the story of Abimelech's rise to power. After Gideon's death, his son Abimelech convinces the people of Shechem to make him their ruler. He gathers support from his mother's relatives and hires reckless men who aid him in killing all of Gideon's other sons, except for Jotham who escapes. Abimelech is crowned king but faces opposition from a man named Gaal who stirs up rebellion against him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 9:22-49, it recounts the conflict between Abimelech and Gaal. The chapter describes how Abimelech attacks Shechem and its surrounding cities, defeating Gaal and his followers. However, he faces resistance from the people of a nearby city called Thebez. As he prepares to attack Thebez, a woman drops a millstone from the city wall that strikes Abimelech and mortally wounds him. Rather than being killed by a woman, he commands his armor-bearer to kill him with a sword so that it would not be said that he died at the hands of a woman.

Paragraph 3: Judges 9 concludes with an account where Jotham delivers a parable against Abimelech and Shechem. In Judges 9:50-57, it is mentioned that following these events, God sends confusion among the leaders of Shechem for their role in supporting evil actions against Gideon's family. This leads to their downfall as they are defeated by neighboring tribes. Thus, God repays their wickedness upon them.

In summary:

Judges 9 presents:

Abimelech's rise to power killing of Gideon's sons;

Conflict between Abimelech and Gaal defeat of Gaal, mortal wound of Abimelech;

Jotham's parable against Abimelech and Shechem downfall of Shechem.

Emphasis on Abimelech's rise to power killing of Gideon's sons;

Conflict between Abimelech and Gaal defeat of Gaal, mortal wound of Abimelech;

Jotham's parable against Abimelech and Shechem downfall of Shechem.

The chapter focuses on the rise to power of Abimelech, the conflict between him and Gaal, and Jotham's parable against them. In Judges 9, it is mentioned that after Gideon's death, his son Abimelech convinces the people of Shechem to make him their ruler. He eliminates his brothers with the help of his mother's relatives and becomes crowned as king. However, he faces opposition from a man named Gaal who stirs up rebellion against him.

Continuing in Judges 9, the conflict escalates as Abimelech attacks Shechem and defeats Gaal along with his followers. However, he encounters resistance from the people of Thebez. During this confrontation, a woman drops a millstone from the city wall that mortally wounds Abimelech. Rather than being killed by a woman a perceived dishonor he commands his armor-bearer to kill him with a sword.

Judges 9 concludes with Jotham delivering a parable against both Abimelech and Shechem for their actions. Following these events, God sends confusion among the leaders in Shechem as punishment for supporting evil actions against Gideon's family. This leads to their downfall as they are defeated by neighboring tribes an outcome reflecting God repaying their wickedness upon them.

Judges 9:1 And Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem unto his mother's brethren, and communed with them, and with all the family of the house of his mother's father, saying,

Abimelech seeks the counsel of his mother's family.

1: We can find strength and support in our family.

2: Seek advice from those who know you best.

1: Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2: Proverbs 13:20 - He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Judges 9:2 Speak, I pray you, in the ears of all the men of Shechem, Whether is better for you, either that all the sons of Jerubbaal, which are threescore and ten persons, reign over you, or that one reign over you? remember also that I am your bone and your flesh.

Abimelech asks the men of Shechem whether it would be better to have seventy leaders or just one. He reminds them that he is their kin.

1. God's Plan for Leadership - Using Judges 9:2 to illustrate the importance of wise leadership in a community.

2. The Power of Family - Exploring the grace and loyalty of Abimelech's reminder that he is their flesh and bone.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

Judges 9:3 And his mother's brethren spake of him in the ears of all the men of Shechem all these words: and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech; for they said, He is our brother.

Abimelech is accepted by his mother's brothers, who are from Shechem, as a brother.

1: We must accept others as our brothers and sisters, no matter their background or upbringing.

2: The power of family ties, and how it influences our decisions.

1: Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

2: 1 John 3:1 - See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Judges 9:4 And they gave him threescore and ten pieces of silver out of the house of Baalberith, wherewith Abimelech hired vain and light persons, which followed him.

Abimelech was given 70 pieces of silver from the house of Baalberith and used the money to hire people who were not trustworthy.

1. The Danger of Following False Leaders

2. The Power of Money and Its Influence

1. 2 Timothy 3:1-5 - But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.

2. Psalm 146:3-4 - Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

Judges 9:5 And he went unto his father's house at Ophrah, and slew his brethren the sons of Jerubbaal, being threescore and ten persons, upon one stone: notwithstanding yet Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left; for he hid himself.

Jotham's brothers sought revenge against their father Jerubbaal and killed seventy of his sons, but Jotham was able to hide and escape.

1. God's protection is greater than any danger we may face.

2. We must be alert to danger and take steps to avoid it.

1. Psalm 91:3-4 - "For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler."

2. Proverbs 22:3 - "The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it."

Judges 9:6 And all the men of Shechem gathered together, and all the house of Millo, and went, and made Abimelech king, by the plain of the pillar that was in Shechem.

The people of Shechem and Millo gathered together and anointed Abimelech as their king at the plain of the pillar in Shechem.

1. God's Plan for Kingship: The Anointing of Abimelech

2. The Power of Unity: The People of Shechem and Millo Unite

1. 1 Samuel 10:1 - Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?

2. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Judges 9:7 And when they told it to Jotham, he went and stood in the top of mount Gerizim, and lifted up his voice, and cried, and said unto them, Hearken unto me, ye men of Shechem, that God may hearken unto you.

Jotham went to the top of mount Gerizim and called for the people of Shechem to listen to him, in order to hear what God has to say.

1. Listening to God: Learning to Hear the Voice of the Lord

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Following God's Commandments

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. John 10:27 - "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Judges 9:8 The trees went forth on a time to anoint a king over them; and they said unto the olive tree, Reign thou over us.

The trees in the land of Shechem went to anoint a king and chose the olive tree to be their ruler.

1. The Importance of Seeking God's Guidance

2. The Power of Unity

1. Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 37:4-5: Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

Judges 9:9 But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness, wherewith by me they honour God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?

The olive tree did not want to leave its comfort and glory to become greater than the other trees.

1. Contentment in God's Presence

2. The Power of Humility

1. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Judges 9:10 And the trees said to the fig tree, Come thou, and reign over us.

The trees asked the fig tree to reign over them.

1. The Power of Unity: Working together for a Greater Good

2. The Strength of Leadership: Taking Charge with Confidence

1. Proverbs 11:14 Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2. Ephesians 4:11-13 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Judges 9:11 But the fig tree said unto them, Should I forsake my sweetness, and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees?

The fig tree was unwilling to abandon its sweet fruit and take on a higher position of leadership.

1: We should not be afraid to take on positions of leadership.

2: We should not be so attached to our own comfort that we are unwilling to take on challenges.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

2: Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Judges 9:12 Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou, and reign over us.

The trees asked the vine to reign over them.

1: God calls us to lead with humility and strength.

2: Having faith in God can lead us to great things.

1: Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2: 1 Peter 5:5, "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Judges 9:13 And the vine said unto them, Should I leave my wine, which cheereth God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?

The vine in Judges 9:13 questions why it should leave its purpose of providing joy to God and man in order to be promoted over the trees.

1. The vine's questioning of its purpose reminds us to stay true to our calling.

2. We can learn from the vine's humility to be content with our station in life.

1. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

2. Philippians 4:12-13 - I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Judges 9:14 Then said all the trees unto the bramble, Come thou, and reign over us.

All the trees asked the bramble to reign over them.

1. The Power of Humility: How God Raises the Lowly

2. The Implications of Leadership: Who We Need in Power

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2. Romans 13:1 - "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

Judges 9:15 And the bramble said unto the trees, If in truth ye anoint me king over you, then come and put your trust in my shadow: and if not, let fire come out of the bramble, and devour the cedars of Lebanon.

God works through unlikely people and in unexpected ways.

1. God uses the unlikeliest instruments to achieve His purposes.

2. The power of trust in the Lord s shadow.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Daniel 4:34-35 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Judges 9:16 Now therefore, if ye have done truly and sincerely, in that ye have made Abimelech king, and if ye have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house, and have done unto him according to the deserving of his hands;

In Judges 9:16, the people of Shechem are asked to consider if they have acted faithfully in making Abimelech king and if they have treated Jerubbaal fairly.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Treat Others With Compassion

2. The Call to Faithfulness: How to Remain True to God's Plan

1. Matthew 6:14-15, "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

2. Proverbs 16:7, "When a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."

Judges 9:17 (For my father fought for you, and adventured his life far, and delivered you out of the hand of Midian:

)

The passage from Judges 9:17 is an acknowledgement of the father's courageous act of self-sacrifice in delivering the people from the hand of Midian.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Courageous Actions Can Save Lives

2. The Power of Gratitude: Acknowledging the Selfless Acts of Others

1. Matthew 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

2. 1 John 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Judges 9:18 And ye are risen up against my father's house this day, and have slain his sons, threescore and ten persons, upon one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his maidservant, king over the men of Shechem, because he is your brother;)

Abimelech was made king over the men of Shechem because he was their brother, even though his father's house had been slain by them, with 70 people killed on one stone.

1. The Power of Brotherhood: Abimelech's Story

2. Abimelech: A Lesson in Loyalty and Family

1. Genesis 12:3, "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

2. Luke 12:48, "But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

Judges 9:19 If ye then have dealt truly and sincerely with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice ye in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you:

Jerubbaal's people are encouraged to accept Abimelech as their leader, and to rejoice in him.

1. Rejoicing in God's appointed leaders.

2. Obedience to God through acceptance and support of His chosen leaders.

1. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

2. Romans 13:1-3 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Judges 9:20 But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech, and devour the men of Shechem, and the house of Millo; and let fire come out from the men of Shechem, and from the house of Millo, and devour Abimelech.

Abimelech and the men of Shechem are in conflict, each threatening to use fire against the other.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How Reconciliation Strengthens Communities

2. The Danger of Pride: A Lesson from Abimelech's Story

1. Matthew 5:21-26 - Jesus teaches the disciples on how to respond to anger and conflict.

2. James 4:1-12 - James warns against the dangers of pride and how to turn away from it.

Judges 9:21 And Jotham ran away, and fled, and went to Beer, and dwelt there, for fear of Abimelech his brother.

Jotham ran away in fear of his brother Abimelech.

1. God is always with us even in our darkest moments.

2. When faced with adversity, we must rely on our faith and trust in God.

1. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 9:22 When Abimelech had reigned three years over Israel,

Abimelech had a three year reign as ruler of Israel.

1: God's timing is perfect.

2: Abimelech's reign as ruler of Israel serves as an example of God's sovereignty.

1: Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2: Proverbs 21:1 - "The king s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will."

Judges 9:23 Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and the men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech:

The men of Shechem betrayed Abimelech.

1. The Danger of Betrayal: Learning from the Story of Abimelech and the Men of Shechem

2. The Consequences of Treachery: Examining the Story of Abimelech and the Men of Shechem

1. Matthew 26:48-50 - "Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him. Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, Greetings, Rabbi! and kissed Him. But Jesus said to him, Friend, why have you come? Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.

2. Proverbs 11:13 - "A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter."

Judges 9:24 That the cruelty done to the threescore and ten sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid upon Abimelech their brother, which slew them; and upon the men of Shechem, which aided him in the killing of his brethren.

Jerubbaal's seventy sons were cruelly killed, with Abimelech and the men of Shechem responsible for the deaths.

1. The Consequences of Sinful Actions

2. The Importance of Unity and Brotherhood

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Judges 9:25 And the men of Shechem set liers in wait for him in the top of the mountains, and they robbed all that came along that way by them: and it was told Abimelech.

Abimelech was warned that the men of Shechem had set robbers in wait for him in the mountains.

1. Being Aware of Danger and Staying Vigilant

2. God's Warning and Our Response

1. Psalm 91:11 - "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

2. Proverbs 22:3 - "The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it."

Judges 9:26 And Gaal the son of Ebed came with his brethren, and went over to Shechem: and the men of Shechem put their confidence in him.

Gaal's confidence in Shechem is evident.

1. The power of confidence: how it can empower us and bring us closer to God

2. Overcoming obstacles by trusting in God's plan

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 9:27 And they went out into the fields, and gathered their vineyards, and trode the grapes, and made merry, and went into the house of their god, and did eat and drink, and cursed Abimelech.

This verse describes the people of Shechem gathering their vineyards, making merry, and going to their idol's temple to eat and drink while cursing Abimelech.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Warning from Judges 9:27

2. The Value of Contentment and Gratitude: Learning from Judges 9:27

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Judges 9:28 And Gaal the son of Ebed said, Who is Abimelech, and who is Shechem, that we should serve him? is not he the son of Jerubbaal? and Zebul his officer? serve the men of Hamor the father of Shechem: for why should we serve him?

Gaal, the son of Ebed, questions why the people of Shechem should serve Abimelech, the son of Jerubbaal, and his officer, Zebul. He suggests that the people should instead serve the men of Hamor, the father of Shechem.

1. Obeying God's Authority: The Example of Abimelech

2. Serving Others: Gaal's Challenge to Shechem

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Judges 9:29 And would to God this people were under my hand! then would I remove Abimelech. And he said to Abimelech, Increase thine army, and come out.

Jotham spoke to the people of Shechem and warned them of the consequences of making Abimelech their king. He then told Abimelech to increase his army and come out.

1. The Danger of Rejecting God's Authority

2. The Perils of Ignoring God's Warnings

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Judges 9:30 And when Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger was kindled.

Zebul, the ruler of the city, became angry when he heard the words of Gaal, the son of Ebed.

1. Anger is an emotion that affects us all. We must seek God's guidance to have a better handle on how we respond to it.

2. The power of words should not be underestimated - they can have a lasting impact.

1. Proverbs 16:32 - Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

2. James 1:19-20 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Judges 9:31 And he sent messengers unto Abimelech privily, saying, Behold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his brethren be come to Shechem; and, behold, they fortify the city against thee.

Abimelech was informed that Gaal the son of Ebed and his brothers had come to Shechem and were fortifying the city against him.

1. Overcoming Enemies through Faith in God

2. Standing Firm against Adversity

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Judges 9:32 Now therefore up by night, thou and the people that is with thee, and lie in wait in the field:

God calls us to rise up and be vigilant in our faith.

1. Rise Up and Rely on God's Strength - Judges 9:32

2. Be Alert and Watchful in Your Spiritual Journey - Judges 9:32

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Judges 9:33 And it shall be, that in the morning, as soon as the sun is up, thou shalt rise early, and set upon the city: and, behold, when he and the people that is with him come out against thee, then mayest thou do to them as thou shalt find occasion.

Abimelech is instructed to attack the city of Thebez in the morning when the sun rises.

1. The Courage to Take Action: Overcoming Fear to Do What is Right

2. The Power of Faith: Taking Action Despite the Odds

1. Hebrews 11:32-34 And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

2. Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Judges 9:34 And Abimelech rose up, and all the people that were with him, by night, and they laid wait against Shechem in four companies.

Abimelech and his people plotted against Shechem in four groups during the night.

1. God's plan for us is often revealed in the darkest of times.

2. We must remember to seek God's guidance in all of our decisions.

1. Psalm 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 9:35 And Gaal the son of Ebed went out, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and Abimelech rose up, and the people that were with him, from lying in wait.

Gaal, the son of Ebed, stands before the city gate and Abimelech and his followers rise from their hiding place.

1. The importance of rising up in faith and trusting in God's provision.

2. The importance of overcoming fear and relying on God's strength.

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?"

Judges 9:36 And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, Behold, there come people down from the top of the mountains. And Zebul said unto him, Thou seest the shadow of the mountains as if they were men.

Gaal saw people coming down from the mountains and Zebul said it was only a shadow of the mountains.

1. God's Providence in Our Lives: How to Recognize His Presence in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Perception: How Our Perspective Shapes Our Reality

1. Isaiah 45:3 - I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

2. Hebrews 4:13 - Nothing in all creation is hidden from God s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Judges 9:37 And Gaal spake again and said, See there come people down by the middle of the land, and another company come along by the plain of Meonenim.

Gaal notices two groups of people coming from two different directions.

1. God can bring two unlikely sources together to achieve a common goal.

2. Our lives can be transformed when we look for people and resources beyond our usual circles.

1. Romans 12:5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

2. Ephesians 2:14-16 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby.

Judges 9:38 Then said Zebul unto him, Where is now thy mouth, wherewith thou saidst, Who is Abimelech, that we should serve him? is not this the people that thou hast despised? go out, I pray now, and fight with them.

Zebul confronts Gaal for his earlier disregard for Abimelech and encourages him to go out and fight with the people he had disrespected.

1. The Power of Confrontation: How to Respectfully Challenge Others

2. The Danger of Pride: Learning to Admit Our Mistakes

1. Proverbs 24:26 - Whoever gives an honest answer kisses the lips.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Judges 9:39 And Gaal went out before the men of Shechem, and fought with Abimelech.

Gaal fought against Abimelech.

1: We must fight against evil forces with courage and strength in faith.

2: We should never back down from a challenge; no matter the odds, we should strive to do the right thing.

1: Ephesians 6:13-17 - Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 9:40 And Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him, and many were overthrown and wounded, even unto the entering of the gate.

Abimelech chased after a man, causing many to be thrown and injured, even as far as the gate.

1. The Danger of Pursuing Evil

2. The Power of God's Pursuit

1. 2 Timothy 2:22, So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

2. Romans 12:21, Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Judges 9:41 And Abimelech dwelt at Arumah: and Zebul thrust out Gaal and his brethren, that they should not dwell in Shechem.

Abimelech settled in Arumah while Zebul forced Gaal and his family out of Shechem.

1. The power of authority: the story of Abimelech and Zebul.

2. The importance of standing firm in the face of opposition: the example of Gaal.

1. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

2. Ephesians 6:13 - Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Judges 9:42 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people went out into the field; and they told Abimelech.

The people informed Abimelech of what had happened the day before.

1. God will always make sure His promises are fulfilled.

2. There is power in unity.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Judges 9:43 And he took the people, and divided them into three companies, and laid wait in the field, and looked, and, behold, the people were come forth out of the city; and he rose up against them, and smote them.

Abimelech divided the people of Shechem into three companies and ambushed them as they came out of the city, then smote them.

1. The Danger of Pride and Division

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. James 4:6 - God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Judges 9:44 And Abimelech, and the company that was with him, rushed forward, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and the two other companies ran upon all the people that were in the fields, and slew them.

Abimelech and his followers attack a city, killing all those in the fields.

1. The Power of Leadership - the importance of a strong leader to bring about change.

2. The Dangers of Greed - understanding the consequences of ambition.

1. Matthew 5:17 - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

2. Proverbs 16:2 - "All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit."

Judges 9:45 And Abimelech fought against the city all that day; and he took the city, and slew the people that was therein, and beat down the city, and sowed it with salt.

Abimelech destroyed a city and its people.

1: God's wrath can be seen in the story of Abimelech.

2: We must be careful to not anger God and suffer his wrath.

1: Ezekiel 16:4 - And as for thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple thee; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all.

2: Matthew 5:13 - Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

Judges 9:46 And when all the men of the tower of Shechem heard that, they entered into an hold of the house of the god Berith.

The men of the tower of Shechem entered into the temple of the god Berith when they heard news.

1. Living in Obedience to God: Learning from the Men of Shechem

2. Understanding God's Purpose and Following His Will

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Judges 9:47 And it was told Abimelech, that all the men of the tower of Shechem were gathered together.

The men of the tower of Shechem gathered together and the news of it was told to Abimelech.

1. God's timing is perfect - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Don't be tempted to take matters into your own hands - Proverbs 16:32

1. Proverbs 21:30 - "There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord."

2. James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

Judges 9:48 And Abimelech gat him up to mount Zalmon, he and all the people that were with him; and Abimelech took an axe in his hand, and cut down a bough from the trees, and took it, and laid it on his shoulder, and said unto the people that were with him, What ye have seen me do, make haste, and do as I have done.

Abimelech led his people up to Mount Zalmon, took an axe, cut down a bough from the trees, and put it on his shoulder as a sign for his people to do the same.

1. We can follow God's example and lead others by example

2. We have the strength to go through any obstacle when we are trusting in God

1. Joshua 1:9: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Philippians 4:13: I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Judges 9:49 And all the people likewise cut down every man his bough, and followed Abimelech, and put them to the hold, and set the hold on fire upon them; so that all the men of the tower of Shechem died also, about a thousand men and women.

Abimelech and the people cut down branches and set fire to the tower of Shechem, resulting in the death of a thousand people.

1. The Cost of Rebellion - Judges 9:49

2. The Consequences of Sin - Judges 9:49

1. Isaiah 9:19 - Through the wrath of the Lord of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall spare his brother.

2. Proverbs 1:16-19 - For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives. So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

Judges 9:50 Then went Abimelech to Thebez, and encamped against Thebez, and took it.

Abimelech conquers Thebez.

1: God's power is revealed through obedience.

2: Conquer your enemies through faith and courage.

1: Proverbs 16:7 when a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2: Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 9:51 But there was a strong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the city, and shut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower.

The people of the city sought refuge in a strong tower.

1. God will always provide us a safe haven in times of distress.

2. We must trust in Him to protect us in times of danger.

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

Judges 9:52 And Abimelech came unto the tower, and fought against it, and went hard unto the door of the tower to burn it with fire.

Abimelech attacked the tower and attempted to burn it down.

1: In difficult situations, it is important to take action and not give up, no matter how hard it may seem.

2: When we face conflict, we must remain resilient and determined in order to overcome the challenges we face.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Judges 9:53 And a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to brake his skull.

A woman threw a millstone at Abimelech and shattered his skull.

1. The Power of a Woman: The story of Abimelech and the Woman with the Millstone

2. Choosing the Right Path: Living in the Image of God

1. Proverbs 20:30, "The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly."

2. Psalm 103:11, "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him."

Judges 9:54 Then he called hastily unto the young man his armourbearer, and said unto him, Draw thy sword, and slay me, that men say not of me, A woman slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died.

Abimelech, the ruler of Shechem, was fatally wounded by a woman throwing a piece of millstone at him. He then asked his armourbearer to kill him so that people would not say a woman killed him. His armourbearer then thrust him through and he died.

1. The Power of Women and the Need for Humility

2. Sacrifice and the Pursuit of Honor

1. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:12 - So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don t fall!

Judges 9:55 And when the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, they departed every man unto his place.

Abimelech was killed by the men of Israel, who then returned to their respective homes.

1. The Power of Unity - How coming together to fight a common enemy can bring justice and peace.

2. A Life of Obedience - How honoring God and doing His will can bring true fulfillment.

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Judges 9:56 Thus God rendered the wickedness of Abimelech, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren:

Abimelech killed his seventy brothers and God punished him for his wickedness.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from Abimelech's Mistakes

2. The Power of Redemption: Overcoming Sin Through Repentance

1. Genesis 4:7-8, "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

2. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Judges 9:57 And all the evil of the men of Shechem did God render upon their heads: and upon them came the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal.

God punished the men of Shechem for their evil actions by cursing them according to Jotham the son of Jerubbaal.

1. The Consequences of Sin and the Judgement of God

2. The Power of Prayer in Overcoming Evil

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 5:16 - The prayer of the righteous man is powerful and effective.

Judges 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 10:1-5 introduces the cycle of Israel's disobedience and oppression. The chapter begins by listing the names of two judges, Tola and Jair, who ruled over Israel for a combined total of forty-five years. After their deaths, the Israelites once again turned away from God and began worshiping foreign gods particularly the gods of the Canaanites, Ammonites, Philistines, and Sidonians. As a result of their disobedience, God allowed these nations to oppress them for eighteen years.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 10:6-16, it recounts Israel's repentance and God's response. The chapter describes how the Israelites finally recognized their wrongdoing and cried out to God for deliverance from their oppressors. In response to their plea, God rebukes them for forsaking Him and serving other gods. He reminds them of His faithfulness in delivering them from Egypt and warns them not to expect His help if they continue in idolatry.

Paragraph 3: Judges 10 concludes with an account where the Ammonites gather against Israel for battle. In Judges 10:17-18, it is mentioned that despite God's warning, the people still refuse to give up their idols. As a result, they face imminent danger as the Ammonite army gathers against them. Feeling distressed by this threat, they confess their sins before God and ask for His help once again.

In summary:

Judges 10 presents:

Introduction of Tola and Jair combined rule over Israel;

Cycle of disobedience oppression by foreign nations;

Israel's repentance God's rebuke and warning;

Ammonite threat confession before God.

Emphasis on introduction of Tola and Jair combined rule over Israel;

Cycle of disobedience oppression by foreign nations;

Israel's repentance God's rebuke and warning;

Ammonite threat confession before God.

The chapter focuses on the cycle of Israel's disobedience, oppression by foreign nations, their subsequent repentance, and the looming threat from the Ammonites. In Judges 10, it is mentioned that two judges, Tola and Jair, ruled over Israel for a combined total of forty-five years. However, after their deaths, the Israelites once again turned away from God and began worshiping foreign gods a pattern that led to their oppression by various nations for eighteen years.

Continuing in Judges 10, the chapter describes how the Israelites finally recognized their wrongdoing and cried out to God for deliverance. In response to their plea, God rebukes them for forsaking Him and serving other gods. He reminds them of His past faithfulness in delivering them from Egypt but warns them not to expect His help if they continue in idolatry.

Judges 10 concludes with an account where the Ammonite army gathers against Israel for battle. Despite God's warning, the people refuse to give up their idols a decision that puts them in imminent danger. Feeling distressed by this threat, they confess their sins before God once again and ask for His help in overcoming this new enemy they face the Ammonites.

Judges 10:1 And after Abimelech there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar; and he dwelt in Shamir in mount Ephraim.

Tola was a man of Issachar who defended Israel.

1. The Importance of Standing Up for What is Right - Judges 10:1

2. The Strength of Faithfulness - Judges 10:1

1. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Isaiah 11:1-2 - There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

Judges 10:2 And he judged Israel twenty and three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir.

After being appointed as judge of Israel, Jair judged them for twenty-three years before he died and was buried in Shamir.

1. Living a Life of Faithfulness - A about living a life of faithfulness to God like Jair did.

2. The Power of Obedience - A about the importance of obeying God s commands, as Jair did during his twenty-three years of judging Israel.

1. Joshua 24:15 Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Psalm 37:3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shall you dwell in the land and feed surely on His faithfulness.

Judges 10:3 And after him arose Jair, a Gileadite, and judged Israel twenty and two years.

Jair was a Gileadite who judged Israel for 22 years.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the appointment of Jair to be a judge over Israel.

2. God chose Jair to be a leader of His people, demonstrating His divine sovereignty.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Judges 10:4 And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havothjair unto this day, which are in the land of Gilead.

Jair, a leader in Gilead, had thirty sons who each had their own city, which is known as Havothjair to this day.

1. God's Provision: Our lives are blessed when we follow God's plan.

2. Making a Difference: We can leave a lasting legacy when we act with faith and courage.

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Judges 10:5 And Jair died, and was buried in Camon.

Jair was a great leader of Israel who died and was buried in Camon.

1. The Legacy of Jair: Teaching Us to Serve Our People

2. The Importance of Being Buried in the Right Place

1. Joshua 19:47-48 - And the border of their inheritance was Zorah, and Eshtaol, and Ir-shemesh, And Shaalabbin, and Ajalon, and Jethlah, And Elon, and Thimnathah, and Ekron, And Eltekeh, and Gibbethon, and Baalath, And Jehud, and Bene-berak, and Gath-rimmon, And Me-jarkon, and Rakkon, with the border before Japho.

2. 2 Samuel 2:8 - But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim;

Judges 10:6 And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him.

The Israelites were unfaithful to God and instead served other gods.

1: We must always remember to keep our faith in God.

2: We should be careful who we serve and worship.

1: Matthew 6:24- No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2: Deuteronomy 6:13- Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name.

Judges 10:7 And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the children of Ammon.

The Lord was angry with Israel and allowed them to be taken captive by the Philistines and the children of Ammon.

1. God's Love and Anger: Understanding the Balance in Our Lives.

2. Is God Really Angry? Exploring the Biblical Evidence.

1. Psalm 103:8-9 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever.

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to his own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

Judges 10:8 And that year they vexed and oppressed the children of Israel: eighteen years, all the children of Israel that were on the other side Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead.

The people of Israel were oppressed by the Amorites for 18 years in the land of Gilead.

1. Overcoming Oppression: Finding Strength in Unfamiliar Places

2. Perseverance Through Trials: Standing Strong in the Midst of Adversity

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Judges 10:9 Moreover the children of Ammon passed over Jordan to fight also against Judah, and against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim; so that Israel was sore distressed.

Israel was greatly distressed by the Ammonites crossing the Jordan to fight against them.

1. God is faithful in times of distress.

2. Our response to adversity reveals the quality of our faith.

1. Isaiah 41:10: Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Matthew 5:4: Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Judges 10:10 And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.

The children of Israel realized their sin of forsaking God and serving Baalim, and cried out to the Lord for help.

1. The Consequences of Leaving God: A Study on Judges 10:10

2. Turning Back to God: A Study on Repentance in Judges 10:10

1. Jeremiah 3:22 - "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings."

2. Hosea 14:1 - "O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity."

Judges 10:11 And the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines?

The Lord delivered the Israelites from the Egyptians, Amorites, Ammon, and Philistines.

1. God's Deliverance: How God Has Always Been Faithful

2. From Slavery to Freedom: Rejoicing in God's Power

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Judges 10:12 The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites, did oppress you; and ye cried to me, and I delivered you out of their hand.

The Israelites were oppressed by the Zidonians, Amalekites, and Maonites and God delivered them.

1. God's Deliverance of His People - Trusting in God for Strength and Protection

2. God's Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity - Standing Firm Through Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Judges 10:13 Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more.

God warns the Israelites that they will no longer be delivered if they continue to serve other gods.

1: The consequences of abandoning God are severe - Judges 10:13.

2: We must remain faithful to God or suffer the consequences - Judges 10:13.

1: Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - If we turn aside from God and serve other gods, we will suffer the consequences.

2: Exodus 20:1-6 - God commands us to have no other gods before Him.

Judges 10:14 Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation.

The people of Israel are urged to cry out to their chosen gods for help in times of trouble.

1. The Power of Prayer in Times of Trouble

2. Seeking Help from God in Times of Need

1. Isaiah 33:2, "O Lord, be gracious to us; we have waited for you. Be our arm every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble."

2. Psalm 50:15, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

Judges 10:15 And the children of Israel said unto the LORD, We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee, this day.

The Israelites admit their sins and ask God to deliver them.

1: God can redeem us from all our sins when we repent.

2: God's love and mercy are greater than our mistakes.

1: Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."

2: Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

Judges 10:16 And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

The Israelites repented and turned away from their false gods, instead choosing to serve the Lord, which brought Him great sorrow for their suffering.

1. The Power of Repentance: How a Change of Heart Can Transform Your Life

2. God's Grieving Heart: Recognizing and Responding to His Suffering

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Hosea 6:6 - "For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings."

Judges 10:17 Then the children of Ammon were gathered together, and encamped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled themselves together, and encamped in Mizpeh.

The Israelites and Ammonites gathered together and set up camps in Gilead and Mizpeh respectively.

1. God's Divine Hand: The Story of the Israelites and Ammonites

2. When Enemies Unite: A Study of Judges 10:17

1. Matthew 5:43-45 - Love Your Enemies

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Bless and Do Not Curse

Judges 10:18 And the people and princes of Gilead said one to another, What man is he that will begin to fight against the children of Ammon? he shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.

The people of Gilead seek a leader to fight against the children of Ammon.

1. The Courage to Lead: Taking on Challenges and Overcoming Obstacles

2. Faithful Leaders: The Importance of Following God's Call

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Hebrews 13:17 - "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Judges 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 11:1-11 introduces Jephthah, a mighty warrior. The chapter begins by describing Jephthah as a valiant warrior who was born to a prostitute. Because of his illegitimate birth, he is rejected by his half-brothers and forced to flee from his homeland. Jephthah gathers a group of outcasts around him and becomes their leader. When the Ammonites wage war against Israel, the elders of Gilead seek Jephthah's help in leading their army.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 11:12-28, it recounts Jephthah's negotiation with the Ammonite king. Before going into battle, Jephthah sends messengers to the Ammonite king to inquire about the reason for their aggression towards Israel. In response, the Ammonite king claims that Israel had taken away their land when they came out of Egypt. However, Jephthah disputes this claim and presents a historical account that shows how Israel had not taken any land from the Ammonites.

Paragraph 3: Judges 11 concludes with an account where Jephthah makes a vow to God before going into battle against the Ammonites. In Judges 11:29-40, it is mentioned that filled with the Spirit of God, Jephthah makes a solemn vow that if God grants him victory over his enemies, he will offer as a burnt offering whatever comes out of his house upon his return. With God's help, Jephthah defeats the Ammonites and returns home victorious but is greeted by his only daughter who comes out to meet him with timbrels and dancing a devastating realization for both father and daughter as Jephthah realizes the consequence of his vow.

In summary:

Judges 11 presents:

Introduction of Jephthah a rejected warrior becoming a leader;

Negotiation with the Ammonite king dispute over land claim;

Jephthah's vow and victory devastating consequence of his vow.

Emphasis on introduction of Jephthah a rejected warrior becoming a leader;

Negotiation with the Ammonite king dispute over land claim;

Jephthah's vow and victory devastating consequence of his vow.

The chapter focuses on Jephthah, a rejected warrior who becomes a leader, his negotiation with the Ammonite king over a land dispute, and the devastating consequence of his solemn vow. In Judges 11, it is mentioned that Jephthah, born to a prostitute and rejected by his half-brothers, becomes a valiant warrior and gathers outcasts around him. When the Ammonites wage war against Israel, he is sought after by the elders of Gilead to lead their army.

Continuing in Judges 11, before engaging in battle with the Ammonites, Jephthah sends messengers to inquire about their reason for aggression. The Ammonite king claims that Israel had taken away their land when they came out of Egypt. However, Jephthah disputes this claim and presents historical evidence showing that Israel had not taken any land from them.

Judges 11 concludes with an account where filled with God's Spirit, Jephthah makes a solemn vow before going into battle. He promises that if God grants him victory over his enemies, he will offer as a burnt offering whatever comes out of his house upon his return. With God's help, Jephthah defeats the Ammonites but tragically realizes that it is his only daughter who comes out to meet him upon his return. This devastating consequence of his vow brings great sorrow to both Jephthah and his daughter.

Judges 11:1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat Jephthah.

Jephthah was a mighty man of valour, even though he was born from a harlot.

1. God can use anyone to carry out His will, regardless of their past.

2. God is a God of second chances.

1. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Judges 11:2 And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman.

Jephthah was the son of Gilead, but his half-brothers excluded him from inheriting their father's house because his mother was a strange woman.

1. How To Respect People of All Backgrounds

2. Overcoming Rejection and Finding Our Place in the World

1. Matthew 5:43-45 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:14-16 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

Judges 11:3 Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him.

Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob, gathering vain men to follow him.

1. Don't be discouraged when your family doesn't understand you - Judges 11:3

2. Don't be led astray by vain companions - Judges 11:3

1. Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

2. Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Judges 11:4 And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of Ammon made war against Israel.

The children of Ammon made war against Israel in due course.

1: We must stay steadfast in our faith and trust in God in times of conflict.

2: We should not allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by trials and tribulations, but instead trust in God to see us through.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Judges 11:5 And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob:

Jephthah was summoned to lead Israel in battle against the Ammonites.

1. The Call of Jephthah: Responding to God's Call in Times of Trouble

2. The Faithful Servant: Jephthah s Example of Obedience

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Judges 11:6 And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon.

Jephthah was asked to be their captain to fight with the children of Ammon.

1. The Courage of Jephthah: How to Respond to the Call of God

2. Trusting in God in the Face of Challenges

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 11:7 And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

Jephthah questioned the elders of Gilead why they had come to him for help when they had previously hated him and expelled him from his father's house.

1. Learning to forgive and move on in spite of past wrongs.

2. The importance of trusting God even in difficult times.

1. Colossians 3:13 - Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 11:8 And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.

The elders of Gilead asked Jephthah to lead them in a fight against the Ammonites.

1. "Leadership: Shouldering Responsibility in Difficult Times"

2. "When God Calls: Answering the Call to Lead"

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

2. Matthew 4:19 - "And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Judges 11:9 And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the LORD deliver them before me, shall I be your head?

Jephthah asked the elders of Gilead if they would make him their leader if he was successful in fighting against the children of Ammon.

1. The Power of Commitment: A Study of Jephthah

2. The Power of a Promise: What Jephthah Taught Us

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Judges 11:10 And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, The LORD be witness between us, if we do not so according to thy words.

The elders of Gilead told Jephthah that the Lord would be witness if they did not follow his words.

1. Trusting in God's Witness: The Importance of Keeping Our Promises

2. The Power of a Promise: Why We Should Honor Our Word

1. Isaiah 30:15 - For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.

2. Proverbs 11:13 - A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

Judges 11:11 Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and captain over them: and Jephthah uttered all his words before the LORD in Mizpeh.

Jephthah was chosen as the leader of Gilead and he spoke before the Lord in Mizpeh.

1. Trusting in God to Lead: How We Can Follow Jephthah's Example

2. Following God's Leadership: Submitting to His Guidance

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Judges 11:12 And Jephthah sent messengers unto the king of the children of Ammon, saying, What hast thou to do with me, that thou art come against me to fight in my land?

Jephthah sends a message to the king of the Ammonites asking why they are attacking him in his own land.

1. Trust in the Lord: Always remember that God is in control, no matter the situation we face.

2. Be Bold When Standing Up for Yourself: Have the courage to face difficult situations and stand up for what is right.

1. Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Judges 11:13 And the king of the children of Ammon answered unto the messengers of Jephthah, Because Israel took away my land, when they came up out of Egypt, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and unto Jordan: now therefore restore those lands again peaceably.

The King of Ammon demanded that Jephthah restore the land Israel had taken from Ammon when they left Egypt, stretching from Arnon to Jabbok and Jordan.

1. The Importance of Restoring Relationships

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Proverbs 19:11 "Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense."

2. Matthew 6:14-15 "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Judges 11:14 And Jephthah sent messengers again unto the king of the children of Ammon:

Jephthah attempted to negotiate peace with the king of the Ammonites.

1: We should strive for peace with our enemies.

2: The power of negotiation can save us from conflict.

1: Matthew 5:44 - "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

2: Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Judges 11:15 And said unto him, Thus saith Jephthah, Israel took not away the land of Moab, nor the land of the children of Ammon:

Jephthah responds to the King of Ammon by asserting that Israel has not taken the land of Moab or the land of the children of Ammon.

1. The importance of truth-telling in the face of adversity.

2. God's faithfulness in protecting His people.

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 - "When the Lord your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than yourselves.

2. Matthew 5:37 - "Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No' - anything more is from the evil one."

Judges 11:16 But when Israel came up from Egypt, and walked through the wilderness unto the Red sea, and came to Kadesh;

Jephthah's vow to the Lord caused him to make a difficult decision.

1: God's promises carry consequences with them and we must be willing to accept them when we make commitments to God.

2: We must be ready to trust God to lead us out of difficult choices.

1: Exodus 13:17-22 - When God led Israel out of Egypt, He promised to be with them and guide them.

2: Joshua 24:15 - Choosing the Lord and His ways is the path to true freedom.

Judges 11:17 Then Israel sent messengers unto the king of Edom, saying, Let me, I pray thee, pass through thy land: but the king of Edom would not hearken thereto. And in like manner they sent unto the king of Moab: but he would not consent: and Israel abode in Kadesh.

Israel asked the kings of Edom and Moab for permission to pass through their land, but they refused. Israel stayed in Kadesh as a result.

1. The Power of Refusal: How to Respond to Difficult Requests

2. Standing Firm: Rejecting Temptation to Compromise

1. James 4:7 (Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you)

2. Isaiah 30:1-2 ( Ah, stubborn children, declares the Lord, who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who make an alliance, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin; who set out to go down to Egypt, without asking for my direction, to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt!)

Judges 11:18 Then they went along through the wilderness, and compassed the land of Edom, and the land of Moab, and came by the east side of the land of Moab, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, but came not within the border of Moab: for Arnon was the border of Moab.

Jephthah led the Israelites through the wilderness and around the land of Moab, avoiding their border.

1. The importance of respecting the boundaries of others.

2. Trusting God's guidance even when taking a difficult and potentially dangerous journey.

1. Jeremiah 2:2 - "Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown."

2. Psalm 105:12 - "When they were but a few men in number; yea, very few, and strangers in it."

Judges 11:19 And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon; and Israel said unto him, Let us pass, we pray thee, through thy land into my place.

Israel sent messengers to Sihon, king of the Amorites, asking him to allow them to pass through his land to their own place.

1. Learning to Respect Others: A Study on the Passage from Judges 11:19

2. Accepting Responsibility: What We Can Learn from the Story of Israel in Judges 11:19

1. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Judges 11:20 But Sihon trusted not Israel to pass through his coast: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and pitched in Jahaz, and fought against Israel.

Sihon refused to let Israel pass through his territory and instead gathered his people and engaged in battle against them.

1. The Danger of Not Trusting in God's Plans - Judges 11:20

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word - Judges 11:20

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Judges 11:21 And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they smote them: so Israel possessed all the land of the Amorites, the inhabitants of that country.

The Lord God of Israel gave the Amorites to Israel and they were defeated so Israel gained the land.

1. God gives us strength to overcome our enemies.

2. God rewards those who trust Him with victory.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Judges 11:22 And they possessed all the coasts of the Amorites, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and from the wilderness even unto Jordan.

Israelites drove out the Amorites and took control of the lands from Arnon to Jabbok and the wilderness to Jordan.

1. "God Will Provide Victory Through Obedience"

2. "The Power of Faithful Obedience"

1. Joshua 24:12-15 - "And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow."

2. Deuteronomy 6:24-27 - "And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day."

Judges 11:23 So now the LORD God of Israel hath dispossessed the Amorites from before his people Israel, and shouldest thou possess it?

The LORD God of Israel has allowed the Israelites to take possession of the land of the Amorites, and Jephthah questions whether he should possess it or not.

1. God's Provision: How We Should Respond to the Blessings of the Lord

2. Faith in God: Learning to Trust His Plans for Our Lives

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will dwell in the land and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Judges 11:24 Wilt not thou possess that which Chemosh thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the LORD our God shall drive out from before us, them will we possess.

The LORD will drive out the enemies of His people so that they may possess the land He has promised.

1: God will provide for us if we trust in Him.

2: We can trust in the Lord's power to overcome our enemies.

1: Deuteronomy 7:22, And the Lord thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.

2: Joshua 1:9, Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Judges 11:25 And now art thou any thing better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? did he ever strive against Israel, or did he ever fight against them,

God punished the people of Israel for their disobedience and sent them into exile.

1: We must remain steadfast and faithful to God, even when it is difficult, or risk suffering the same consequences as the Israelites.

2: We must trust in God's promises and follow His commands, knowing that He will always provide for us.

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 God's blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.

2: Joshua 24:14-15 The Israelites choose to serve God, even when it was difficult.

Judges 11:26 While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and her towns, and in Aroer and her towns, and in all the cities that be along by the coasts of Arnon, three hundred years? why therefore did ye not recover them within that time?

Israel had dwelt in Heshbon and her towns, Aroer and her towns, and all the cities along the coast of Arnon for three hundred years, but they did not recover them during that time.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Waiting

2. Reclaiming What Is Lost: A Study of Judges 11:26

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Judges 11:27 Wherefore I have not sinned against thee, but thou doest me wrong to war against me: the LORD the Judge be judge this day between the children of Israel and the children of Ammon.

This passage highlights the plea of Jephthah for the Lord to judge between the Israelites and the Ammonites.

1. God is the ultimate judge in all matters, and we must trust His justice.

2. God is always faithful to His promises and will uphold His people.

1. Isaiah 33:22 - For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

2. Psalm 50:6 - And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah.

Judges 11:28 Howbeit the king of the children of Ammon hearkened not unto the words of Jephthah which he sent him.

Jephthah's plea to the king of Ammon to settle their dispute peacefully was ignored.

1. The power of peacemaking: How to resolve disputes in a godly way.

2. The importance of listening to the voice of God.

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. James 1:19 - "Let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

Judges 11:29 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed over Gilead, and Manasseh, and passed over Mizpeh of Gilead, and from Mizpeh of Gilead he passed over unto the children of Ammon.

Jephthah was filled with the Spirit of the LORD and passed over Gilead, Manasseh, and Mizpeh of Gilead before traveling to the children of Ammon.

1. The Power of the Spirit - Exploring the ways in which the Spirit of the LORD strengthened and empowered Jephthah.

2. The Journey of Faith - Examining the faithfulness of Jephthah and how it enabled him to journey to the children of Ammon.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 37:5 - "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Judges 11:30 And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands,

Jephthah made a vow to the Lord to deliver the children of Ammon.

1. The Power of Faithful Vows

2. The Strength of Dedication and Commitment

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. Psalm 76:11 - Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them; let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared.

Judges 11:31 Then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.

Jephthah's faithfulness to God in his vow.

1. The Strength of a Vow: Learning from Jephthah's Faithfulness

2. The Power of Commitment: Adhering to Your Promises Like Jephthah

1. Proverbs 20:25, "It is a snare to say rashly, It is holy, and to reflect only after making vows.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5, When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. For He has no pleasure in fools. Fulfill what you have vowed. Better not to vow than to vow and not fulfill it.

Judges 11:32 So Jephthah passed over unto the children of Ammon to fight against them; and the LORD delivered them into his hands.

Jephthah was victorious over the Ammonites because the Lord was with him.

1: In times of difficulty, the Lord will be with us and bring us victory.

2: Our strength comes from the Lord and not from our own doing.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: 2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.

Judges 11:33 And he smote them from Aroer, even till thou come to Minnith, even twenty cities, and unto the plain of the vineyards, with a very great slaughter. Thus the children of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.

The children of Israel were victorious in their battle against the children of Ammon, defeating them from Aroer to Minnith, and destroying twenty cities in the process.

1. God's faithfulness in times of trial and testing.

2. The power of unity and obedience in the face of adversity.

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Judges 11:34 And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter.

Jephthah's daughter meets him with joy and celebration despite his rash vow.

1. Making wise decisions in the heat of the moment.

2. The power of faith and trust in God in difficult times.

1. Proverbs 16:32 Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

2. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Judges 11:35 And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he rent his clothes, and said, Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouth unto the LORD, and I cannot go back.

Jephthah tears his clothes when he sees his daughter, lamenting that she is one of those who have troubled him. He had made a vow to the Lord, and he cannot go back on it.

1) The Power of a Vow - Showing how Jephthah was willing to keep his vow to the Lord, no matter the cost.

2) The Love of a Father - Exploring the depths of Jephthah's love for his daughter, and how it was tested by his devotion to the Lord.

1) James 5:12 - But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

2) Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

Judges 11:36 And she said unto him, My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even of the children of Ammon.

Jephthah's daughter asked him to fulfill the vow he made to the LORD, as the LORD had taken vengeance for him against the Ammonites.

1. The Power of a Promise: How Fulfilling Our Vows to God Can Lead to Victory

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting God to Avenge Us Even When We Cannot Take Revenge Ourselves

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Judges 11:37 And she said unto her father, Let this thing be done for me: let me alone two months, that I may go up and down upon the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my fellows.

Jephthah's daughter asked her father to grant her two months to go up and down the mountains and lament her virginity with her friends.

1. The Power and Blessing of Mourning: How to Lean on God During Difficult Times

2. The Importance of Friendship: How to Support and Encourage One Another

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

Judges 11:38 And he said, Go. And he sent her away for two months: and she went with her companions, and bewailed her virginity upon the mountains.

Jephthah sends his daughter away for two months so she can lament her virginity on the mountains.

1. The Importance of Family: Jephthah's Sacrifice of His Daughter

2. Making the Right Decisions: Jephthah's Promise to God

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

2. Deuteronomy 24:16 - "Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their fathers; a person shall be put to death for his own sin."

Judges 11:39 And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed: and she knew no man. And it was a custom in Israel,

This passage tells the story of a woman who fulfilled her father's vow by abstaining from any romantic or sexual relationships for two months. This was a custom in Israel at the time.

1. God's Faithfulness in Upholding Vows: How Trusting in Him Can Bring Fulfillment

2. Abstaining from Sin: How to Remain Pure in a Fallen World

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. Galatians 5:16-17 - "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want."

Judges 11:40 That the daughters of Israel went yearly to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in a year.

Every year, the daughters of Israel would go to Jephthah's daughter's grave to mourn her for four days.

1. Our Troubles and Trials: Learning from Jephthah and his Daughter

2. The Power of Mourning: How We All Grieve Differently

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2. Isaiah 40:1-2 - Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord s hand double for all her sins.

Judges 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 12:1-7 describes the conflict between the tribe of Ephraim and Jephthah's forces. After Jephthah's victory over the Ammonites, the men of Ephraim confront him for not calling them to join the battle. They accuse him of fighting against the Ammonites without their assistance and threaten to burn his house down. Jephthah defends himself by explaining that he did call upon them but received no response. A war ensues between Jephthah's forces and the men of Ephraim, resulting in a defeat for Ephraim.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 12:8-15, it recounts the rule of three judges Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon. The chapter briefly mentions these judges who succeeded Jephthah and ruled over Israel during different periods. Ibzan from Bethlehem judged Israel for seven years and had thirty sons and thirty daughters who were married outside his clan. Elon from Zebulun judged Israel for ten years, while Abdon from Pirathon judged Israel for eight years.

Paragraph 3: Judges 12 concludes with an account where forty-two thousand Ephraimites are killed due to a linguistic test. In Judges 12:4-6, it is mentioned that after their defeat by Jephthah's forces, the men of Gilead set up a strategic position near Jordan River to intercept those trying to flee across it. When individuals approached claiming they were not part of Ephraim but pronounced "Shibboleth" as "Sibboleth," they were recognized as enemies by their dialectic difference and subsequently killed resulting in forty-two thousand casualties among the Ephraimites.

In summary:

Judges 12 presents:

Conflict between Ephraim and Jephthah's forces accusations and battle;

Rule of Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon successors to Jephthah;

Linguistic test leading to Ephraimite casualties.

Emphasis on conflict between Ephraim and Jephthah's forces accusations and battle;

Rule of Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon successors to Jephthah;

Linguistic test leading to Ephraimite casualties.

The chapter focuses on the conflict between the tribe of Ephraim and Jephthah's forces, the rule of three judges who succeeded him, and a linguistic test resulting in casualties among the Ephraimites. In Judges 12, it is mentioned that after Jephthah's victory over the Ammonites, the men of Ephraim confront him for not involving them in the battle. They threaten him with violence but are defeated by Jephthah's forces in a subsequent war.

Continuing in Judges 12, the chapter briefly mentions three judges Ibzan from Bethlehem who ruled for seven years with a large family; Elon from Zebulun who judged Israel for ten years; and Abdon from Pirathon who ruled for eight years. These judges succeeded Jephthah in leading Israel during different periods.

Judges 12 concludes with an account where forty-two thousand Ephraimites are killed due to a linguistic test set up by the men of Gilead. After their defeat by Jephthah's forces, they positioned themselves near Jordan River to intercept those trying to flee across it. By asking individuals claiming not to be part of Ephraim to pronounce "Shibboleth," they identified enemies by their dialectic difference when they pronounced it as "Sibboleth." This led to the killing of forty-two thousand Ephraimites as a result of their failed linguistic test.

Judges 12:1 And the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and went northward, and said unto Jephthah, Wherefore passedst thou over to fight against the children of Ammon, and didst not call us to go with thee? we will burn thine house upon thee with fire.

The men of Ephraim were angry with Jephthah for not asking them to join him in his fight against the Ammonites, and threatened to burn his house.

1. "The Danger of Unforgiveness: A Study of Jephthah and the Men of Ephraim"

2. "The Need for Unity: The Story of Jephthah and the Men of Ephraim"

1. Matthew 6:14-15 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2. Ephesians 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Judges 12:2 And Jephthah said unto them, I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon; and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands.

Jephthah accused the Ephraimites of not coming to his aid when he was in a great struggle against the Ammonites.

1. The Power of Unity and the Blessing of Helping Others

2. The Value of Loyalty and True Friendship

1. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Judges 12:3 And when I saw that ye delivered me not, I put my life in my hands, and passed over against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivered them into my hand: wherefore then are ye come up unto me this day, to fight against me?

Jephthah confronted the Ephraimites for not helping him in battle against the Ammonites and asked why they had come to fight him.

1. God will always protect us if we trust in Him.

2. We must be willing to ask God for help and to rely on Him in our times of need.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Judges 12:4 Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead, and fought with Ephraim: and the men of Gilead smote Ephraim, because they said, Ye Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites, and among the Manassites.

Jephthah led the Gileadites in a battle against the Ephraimites.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Bring About Victory

2. The Strength of Our Words: How Our Actions and Words Can Affect Others

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

Judges 12:5 And the Gileadites took the passages of Jordan before the Ephraimites: and it was so, that when those Ephraimites which were escaped said, Let me go over; that the men of Gilead said unto him, Art thou an Ephraimite? If he said, Nay;

The Gileadites crossed the Jordan River before the Ephraimites and when the Ephraimites who escaped asked to cross, the men of Gilead asked if they were Ephraimites.

1. The Importance of Identity in Times of Conflict

2. Making Sure We Stand on the Right Side of History

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Judges 12:6 Then said they unto him, Say now Shibboleth: and he said Sibboleth: for he could not frame to pronounce it right. Then they took him, and slew him at the passages of Jordan: and there fell at that time of the Ephraimites forty and two thousand.

The Ephraimites were not able to pronounce Shibboleth correctly and as a result, 42,000 of them were killed at the passage of Jordan.

1. The Power of Words: Emphasizing the importance of proper pronunciation and understanding the power of words.

2. The Power of Pride: Discussing the consequences of pride and the dangers of not humbling oneself.

1. James 3:5-12 - Discussing the power of the tongue and the potential for destruction through the misuse of words.

2. Romans 12:3 - Encouraging believers to think soberly and not to be proud.

Judges 12:7 And Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then died Jephthah the Gileadite, and was buried in one of the cities of Gilead.

Jephthah served as judge of Israel for six years and was then buried in one of the cities of Gilead.

1. The Power of Righteous Leadership: Lessons from Jephthah.

2. The Life of Jephthah: A Story of Faithful Obedience.

1. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. Hebrews 11:32 - And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets.

Judges 12:8 And after him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel.

Ibzan of Bethlehem was the judge of Israel following a previous judge.

1. The Importance of Leadership and Following God's Commands

2. The Faithfulness of Ibzan and His Obedience to God

1. 1 Samuel 8:4-5 - So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Be shepherds of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

Judges 12:9 And he had thirty sons, and thirty daughters, whom he sent abroad, and took in thirty daughters from abroad for his sons. And he judged Israel seven years.

Jephthah had sixty children, thirty born to him and thirty adopted, and he ruled Israel for seven years.

1. The Power of Parenthood: Appreciating the Miraculous Gift of Children

2. Living a Life of Leadership: The Example of Jephthah

1. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Judges 12:10 Then died Ibzan, and was buried at Bethlehem.

Ibzan died and was buried in Bethlehem.

1. The brevity of life and the importance of faith.

2. The importance of honoring loved ones through burial.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:2-4 - "a time to be born and a time to die,"

2. Matthew 8:21-22 - "foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

Judges 12:11 And after him Elon, a Zebulonite, judged Israel; and he judged Israel ten years.

Elon, a Zebulonite, judged Israel for ten years.

1. The Importance of Being Just - Judges 12:11

2. The Power of Faithful Leadership - Judges 12:11

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice.

2. Proverbs 20:28 - Steadfast love and faithfulness preserve the king, and by steadfast love his throne is upheld.

Judges 12:12 And Elon the Zebulonite died, and was buried in Aijalon in the country of Zebulun.

Elon the Zebulonite died and was buried in Aijalon in the country of Zebulun.

1. The Impact of Death: Living a Legacy that Lives beyond Us

2. Remembering Our Beloved: How to Honor the Memory of Those Who Have Passed

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die

2. James 4:14 - Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Judges 12:13 And after him Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, judged Israel.

Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, was the judge of Israel.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Providing Judges for Israel

2. The Importance of Serving as a Judge in Israel

1. Isaiah 11:3-5 - His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

2. James 2:3 - If you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Judges 12:14 And he had forty sons and thirty nephews, that rode on threescore and ten ass colts: and he judged Israel eight years.

This passage recounts the story of Jephthah, an Israelite judge who served for eight years and had seventy relatives who rode on seventy ass colts.

1: "The Strength of Family: Jephthah's Example"

2: "The Power of Service: Jephthah's Journey"

1: Acts 4:12 - "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 12:15 And Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died, and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the mount of the Amalekites.

Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and was buried in Pirathon.

1: We are all mortal, and have a responsibility to prepare for our own deaths.

2: God cares for us and provides a place to lay us to rest.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:2 - "A time to be born and a time to die".

2: Psalm 116:15 - "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints".

Judges 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 13:1-14 introduces the story of Samson's birth. The chapter begins by describing how the Israelites once again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and as a result, they were delivered into the hands of the Philistines for forty years. In Zorah, there lived a man named Manoah and his wife who was barren. An angel appears to Manoah's wife and informs her that she will conceive and bear a son who will be dedicated to God from birth as a Nazirite a person consecrated to God with specific restrictions. The angel instructs her not to drink wine or eat anything unclean during her pregnancy.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 13:15-23, it recounts Manoah's encounter with the angel. Manoah prays to God for guidance on how to raise this special child and requests that the angel return to teach them what they should do. God answers Manoah's prayer by sending the angel back, who repeats his instructions regarding abstaining from wine and unclean food during pregnancy. When asked for his name, the angel replies that it is "Wonderful" or "Secret," which signifies its divine nature.

Paragraph 3: Judges 13 concludes with an account where Samson is born and grows up under God's blessing. In Judges 13:24-25, it is mentioned that Samson is born according to God's promise, and he grows up under His blessing in Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol. The chapter highlights how Samson begins to show signs of extraordinary strength even from his youth a foreshadowing of his future role as a judge against Israel's enemies.

In summary:

Judges 13 presents:

Introduction of Samson's birth angelic announcement to Manoah's wife;

Manoah's encounter with the angel prayer for guidance, repeated instructions;

Samson's birth and growth under God's blessing signs of extraordinary strength.

Emphasis on introduction of Samson's birth angelic announcement to Manoah's wife;

Manoah's encounter with the angel prayer for guidance, repeated instructions;

Samson's birth and growth under God's blessing signs of extraordinary strength.

The chapter focuses on the story of Samson's birth, Manoah's encounter with the angel, and Samson growing up under God's blessing. In Judges 13, it is mentioned that due to Israelites' evil actions, they were delivered into the hands of the Philistines. In Zorah, a barren woman named Manoah receives a visit from an angel who informs her that she will conceive and bear a son dedicated to God as a Nazirite.

Continuing in Judges 13, when Manoah prays for guidance on raising this special child, God sends back the angel who repeats his instructions regarding abstaining from wine and unclean food during pregnancy. The angel also reveals its divine nature by stating its name as "Wonderful" or "Secret."

Judges 13 concludes with the birth of Samson according to God s promise. He grows up under His blessing in Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol. Even from his youth, signs of extraordinary strength are evident in Samson a foreshadowing of his future role as a judge against Israel s enemies.

Judges 13:1 And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

The children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and were given into the hands of the Philistines for a period of 40 years.

1. The Consequences of Sin - How our disobedience can have long-term consequences.

2. God's Faithfulness in Tough Times - How God remains faithful even when we aren't.

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Judges 13:2 And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and bare not.

Manoah and his wife were from the Danite family in Zorah and had no children.

1. The Power of Patience in Waiting on God's Timing

2. The Role of Faith in Overcoming Barrenness

1. Romans 8:25-27 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

2. Psalm 113:5-9 Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

Judges 13:3 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.

The angel of the LORD appeared to a woman who was barren and promised her a son.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How His Promises Bring Hope

2. Trusting in the Lord: Overcoming our Obstacles

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Judges 13:4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing:

God warned Samson not to drink wine or any strong drink, or eat anything unclean.

1: God's warnings are to be taken seriously and should be obeyed.

2: Our bodies are temples of God and we should respect it by avoiding any unclean food or drink.

1: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

2: 1 Peter 2:11-12 - "Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

Judges 13:5 For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

The Angel of the Lord tells Manoah that his wife will conceive and bear a son, who will be a Nazarite from the womb and will deliver Israel from the Philistines.

1. The Power of God to Deliver Us

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 13

2. Psalm 33:20 22

Judges 13:6 Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name:

A woman encountered a man of God whose countenance was like an angel of God and very terrible. She did not ask him where he was from nor did he tell her his name.

1. The Unseen Presence: Recognizing God's Messengers in Our Lives

2. The Transforming Power of God: Experiencing God's Presence Through Fear

1. Isaiah 6:1-3

2. Hebrews 12:28-29

Judges 13:7 But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.

God calls us to live a life of holiness and purity.

1: We must be holy and pure, just as God has called us to be.

2: We must make a conscious effort to live a life worthy of God's calling.

1: 1 Peter 1:14-16 - As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

2: Titus 2:11-14 - For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Judges 13:8 Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

Manoah petitioned God for further instruction on what to do with the child that would soon be born to his wife.

1: When we have unanswered questions, we can trust that God hears our prayers and will provide guidance.

2: Even when we are unsure of what lies ahead, God promises to be with us and provide us with the wisdom we need.

1: Jeremiah 33:3 - Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Judges 13:9 And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again unto the woman as she sat in the field: but Manoah her husband was not with her.

Manoah and his wife had been visited by an angel of God, but Manoah was not present for the second visitation.

1. The importance of being present in times of divine visitation.

2. Trusting God even when we don't understand his ways.

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Judges 13:10 And the woman made haste, and ran, and shewed her husband, and said unto him, Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other day.

A woman encountered a man who had come to her the previous day and quickly ran to tell her husband the news.

1: God will often use the unexpected to reveal His power and will to us.

2: We can trust that God's timing and plans are always perfect.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Ecclesiastes 3:1 - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Judges 13:11 And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am.

Manoah seeks out the man who spoke to his wife and confirms it is him.

1: We should always trust the word of God, even if it is hard to understand or accept.

2: We should always be willing to seek out God's truth, even if it means going out of our way to find it.

1: Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault.

Judges 13:12 And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?

Manoah asked the angel of the Lord how he should raise the child that was to be born.

1. The importance of raising children in the ways of the Lord.

2. The power of knowing God's will for our lives.

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

Judges 13:13 And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware.

The angel of the LORD warned Manoah to heed all that was said to the woman.

1. Be careful to listen and heed God's warnings.

2. God speaks through His messengers to direct us in His ways.

1. Hebrews 12:25 - See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 - Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Judges 13:14 She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe.

The angel of the Lord instructed Manoah's wife to abstain from certain foods and drinks, including wine and strong drink, and to observe all of His commands.

1. Abstinence from Sin: The Power of Self-Control.

2. Following God's Commands: The Blessing of Obedience.

1. Ephesians 5:18-20 - "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. Philippians 4:8-9 - "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you."

Judges 13:15 And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, I pray thee, let us detain thee, until we shall have made ready a kid for thee.

Manoah asked the angel of the Lord to stay with them until he had a kid ready for him.

1. The Power of Hospitality: How We Receive God's Messengers

2. The Sacrifice of Generosity: How We Honor God's Kingdom

1. Romans 12:13-14 - Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Judges 13:16 And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Though thou detain me, I will not eat of thy bread: and if thou wilt offer a burnt offering, thou must offer it unto the LORD. For Manoah knew not that he was an angel of the LORD.

1: We must always remember that God is in control and He will always provide for us.

2: We must be willing to accept God's will and offer our sacrifices to Him.

1: Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Judges 13:17 And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, What is thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour?

Manoah asked the angel of the Lord for his name, so that when his words came to pass, they could honor him.

1. The Power of Prayer: Asking the Lord for Guidance

2. Knowing God's Will: Seeking Clarity Through Faith

1. Jeremiah 33:3: "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

2. James 1:5-7: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

Judges 13:18 And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret?

This passage in Judges 13:18 reveals God's divine name being a secret.

1. The secret of God's name - Discovering the power in knowing the Lord.

2. The importance of faith - Adoring the Lord in all things, even His hidden name.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 13:19 So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the LORD: and the angel did wonderously; and Manoah and his wife looked on.

Manoah and his wife offered a kid with a meat offering unto the Lord, and the angel did wonderously.

1. The Power of Obedience - How Manoah and his wife's faithfulness to God's command produced a miraculous response.

2. The Blessing of Sacrifice - How Manoah and his wife's offering of a kid with a meat offering to the Lord was met with a wondrous event.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

2. Genesis 22:12 - "And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

Judges 13:20 For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground.

This passage illustrates the awe-inspiring moment when Manoah and his wife encountered the angel of the Lord.

1. The Angelic Encounter: Learning to Revere God's Presence

2. Cultivating an Attitude of Humility: Manoah and His Wife's Example

1. Isaiah 6:1-7 - Isaiah's encounter with the Lord's glory

2. Exodus 3:1-6 - Moses' encounter with the Lord's presence in the burning bush

Judges 13:21 But the angel of the LORD did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the LORD.

Manoah and his wife encountered an angel of the Lord, recognizing him as such.

1. Recognizing God's presence in our lives.

2. The importance of faith in recognizing God's callings.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. John 10:27-28 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

Judges 13:22 And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God.

Manoah and his wife realize they have seen God and are afraid of the consequences.

1: We can be confident in the Lord, even in the face of fear.

2: We must be prepared to face the consequences of an encounter with God.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Hebrews 13:6 - "So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?'"

Judges 13:23 But his wife said unto him, If the LORD were pleased to kill us, he would not have received a burnt offering and a meat offering at our hands, neither would he have shewed us all these things, nor would as at this time have told us such things as these.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, even when He may not have to be.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Graciousness of the Lord

1. Psalm 103:8-10

2. Romans 5:8

Judges 13:24 And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him.

The woman bore a son and named him Samson, and the Lord blessed him as he grew.

1. The Promise of Blessing: Celebrating God's Faithfulness

2. Growing in Strength: The Power of God's Blessing

1. Genesis 22:17 - "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore."

2. Matthew 5:45 - "He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."

Judges 13:25 And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

The Spirit of the Lord moved Samson at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

1. The Power of the Spirit: Using the story of Samson to understand the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

2. The Movement of the Spirit: How the Spirit moves in our lives and the importance of recognizing and following His guidance.

1. Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

2. Romans 8:14 "For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."

Judges 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 14:1-7 introduces Samson's marriage to a Philistine woman. The chapter begins by describing how Samson goes down to Timnah, a Philistine city, and sees a woman there who he desires to marry. Upon returning home, he tells his parents about his desire to marry the Philistine woman despite their objections. Samson insists on marrying her and requests that his parents arrange the marriage for him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 14:8-20, it recounts Samson's encounter with a lion and his riddle at the wedding feast. As Samson travels to Timnah for his wedding, a young lion attacks him. Through God's strength, Samson tears the lion apart with his bare hands. Later, when he returns for the wedding feast, he poses a riddle to thirty Philistine companions regarding the lion and offers them a wager if they solve the riddle within seven days, he will give them thirty linen garments; if they fail, they must give him thirty linen garments.

Paragraph 3: Judges 14 concludes with an account where Samson's wife betrays him by revealing the answer to the riddle. In Judges 14:15-20, it is mentioned that pressured by her people and fearing for her life, she coaxes the answer out of Samson and reveals it to her countrymen before the seventh day ends. This infuriates Samson who realizes that she has betrayed him. In response, he leaves in anger without consummating their marriage and kills thirty men from Ashkelon in order to fulfill his end of the wager.

In summary:

Judges 14 presents:

Samson's desire for a Philistine woman objections from parents;

Samson's encounter with a lion tearing it apart with his bare hands;

Riddle at the wedding feast betrayal by Samson's wife, killing of thirty men.

Emphasis on Samson's desire for a Philistine woman objections from parents;

Samson's encounter with a lion tearing it apart with his bare hands;

Riddle at the wedding feast betrayal by Samson's wife, killing of thirty men.

The chapter focuses on Samson's desire to marry a Philistine woman despite objections from his parents, his encounter with a lion and subsequent riddle at the wedding feast, and the betrayal by his wife leading to the killing of thirty men. In Judges 14, it is mentioned that Samson goes down to Timnah and becomes infatuated with a Philistine woman whom he desires to marry. Despite objections from his parents, he insists on marrying her and asks them to arrange the marriage.

Continuing in Judges 14, as Samson travels to Timnah for his wedding, he encounters a young lion that attacks him. Through God's strength, he tears the lion apart with his bare hands. Later at the wedding feast, he poses a riddle regarding this incident to thirty Philistine companions and offers them a wager.

Judges 14 concludes with an account where Samson's wife betrays him by revealing the answer to the riddle under pressure from her people. She coaxes it out of him before the seventh day ends and discloses it to her countrymen. This infuriates Samson who realizes that she has betrayed him. In response, he leaves in anger without consummating their marriage and kills thirty men from Ashkelon in order to fulfill his end of the wager a violent act driven by both anger and vengeance.

Judges 14:1 And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines.

Samson traveled to Timnath and saw a woman from the Philistines.

1. The Power of Love: The Story of Samson and the Philistine Woman

2. Overcoming Temptation: The Life of Samson

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Judges 14:2 And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.

Samson desires to marry a woman from the Philistines, informing his father and mother of his intention.

1) The Power of Love: How God Uses Romance to Redeem Us

2) The Journey of Discipleship: Learning to Follow God s Will

1) Genesis 2:24 - For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

2) Hosea 2:19-20 - I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the Lord.

Judges 14:3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.

Samson asked his parents for permission to marry a Philistine woman, which his parents were initially opposed to.

1. The importance of honoring our parents in all we do

2. The power of love and its ability to bridge any cultural gap

1. Colossians 3:20 - "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord"

2. Romans 12:10 - "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another"

Judges 14:4 But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

Samson seeks an occasion against the Philistines, who had dominion over Israel, without the knowledge of his parents.

1. God's Providence in Unexpected Places

2. Standing Up for What is Right Despite Opposition

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Daniel 3:17-18 - If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty s hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.

Judges 14:5 Then went Samson down, and his father and his mother, to Timnath, and came to the vineyards of Timnath: and, behold, a young lion roared against him.

Samson traveled to Timnath with his parents, where he encountered a young lion.

1. God s Call and Strength - a about responding to God s call with strength and courage, no matter the odds.

2. God s Protection and Provision - a about trusting in God s protection and provision, even in the face of danger.

1. 1 John 4:4 - Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Judges 14:6 And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and he had nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.

Samson used the power of the Holy Spirit to tear apart a young goat with his bare hands, but he did not tell his parents what he had done.

1. The Power of God in Our Lives

2. Obedience to God in the Face of Adversity

1. John 14:12 - "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father."

2. 1 Peter 1:2 - "According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you."

Judges 14:7 And he went down, and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well.

Samson visits a woman and she pleases him.

1. The Power of Attraction: How Our Choices Can Draw Us Closer to God

2. The Importance of Righteous Relationships: Staying Connected to God Through Our Interactions with Others

1. Proverbs 31:30, "Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Judges 14:8 And after a time he returned to take her, and he turned aside to see the carcase of the lion: and, behold, there was a swarm of bees and honey in the carcase of the lion.

Samson returns to take his wife, and finds a swarm of bees and honey in the carcase of the lion he had previously killed.

1. The Sweetness of God's Provision - Exploring how God can provide for us even in the midst of difficulty.

2. Overcoming Challenges Through Faith - Examining how faith can help us to overcome any obstacle.

1. Psalm 81:10 - "I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Judges 14:9 And he took thereof in his hands, and went on eating, and came to his father and mother, and he gave them, and they did eat: but he told not them that he had taken the honey out of the carcase of the lion.

Samson found honey in a lion's carcass and ate it, but he did not tell his father and mother.

1. The Power of Self-Control: Learning to Resist Temptation from Samson's Example

2. How to Respond to Temptations: A Study of Samson's Character

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Judges 14:10 So his father went down unto the woman: and Samson made there a feast; for so used the young men to do.

Samson invited his father and friends to a feast he had prepared.

1. The Power of Hospitality - Using hospitality as a way to build relationships and express love for others.

2. The Kindness of Generosity - Showing kindness to others through generous acts of giving.

1. Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus encourages us to invite the poor and those who cannot repay us to our feasts.

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 - Paul encourages us to be generous and to do good, sharing with others.

Judges 14:11 And it came to pass, when they saw him, that they brought thirty companions to be with him.

The people of Timnah brought thirty companions to be with Samson when they saw him.

1. Recognizing that God has a plan for our lives by trusting in Him and relying on His strength, even when things seem impossible.

2. Supporting each other in the pursuit of God's plan by offering companionship and encouragement.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Judges 14:12 And Samson said unto them, I will now put forth a riddle unto you: if ye can certainly declare it me within the seven days of the feast, and find it out, then I will give you thirty sheets and thirty change of garments:

Samson proposed a riddle to the Philistines and promised them a reward if they could solve it within seven days.

1. The Power of Riddles in Testifying to God's Strength

2. The Strength of Our Relationship with God

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 62:11 - Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God.

Judges 14:13 But if ye cannot declare it me, then shall ye give me thirty sheets and thirty change of garments. And they said unto him, Put forth thy riddle, that we may hear it.

Samson proposed a riddle to the Philistines in order to test them, and if they could not solve it, they were to give him thirty sheets and thirty changes of clothing.

1. God's Protection in Unfamiliar Situations

2. Understanding Our Place in the World

1. Exodus 3:7-8 - And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Judges 14:14 And he said unto them, Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness. And they could not in three days expound the riddle.

The people of the city of Timnah could not solve a riddle posed by Samson in three days.

1. Finding Strength in Unexpected Places

2. The Power of Resilience in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increases strength.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Judges 14:15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they said unto Samson's wife, Entice thy husband, that he may declare unto us the riddle, lest we burn thee and thy father's house with fire: have ye called us to take that we have? is it not so?

The people of Timnah asked Samson's wife to persuade him to tell them the riddle they had been given. They threatened to burn her and her family's house if she did not do as they asked.

1. The Power of Persuasion: How We Are Influenced by Others

2. The Danger of Threats: How We Can Respond to Fear

1. Proverbs 21:1 - The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Judges 14:16 And Samson's wife wept before him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not: thou hast put forth a riddle unto the children of my people, and hast not told it me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told it my father nor my mother, and shall I tell it thee?

Samson's wife weeps before him as she believes he does not love her and has not told her the riddle he posed to the children of her people. Samson responds by saying he has not even told his parents and should he tell her too?

1. Love and Respect: The Importance of Showing Love and Respect to Those You Love

2. The Power of Secrets: Keeping and Revealing Secrets in a Relationship

1. Ephesians 5:33 - "However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

2. Proverbs 11:13 - "A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret."

Judges 14:17 And she wept before him the seven days, while their feast lasted: and it came to pass on the seventh day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him: and she told the riddle to the children of her people.

Samson's wife begged him to tell her the answer to the riddle he posed, and after seven days of pleading, he finally gave in.

1. Hearing the Voice of God: Listening to Our Innermost Desires

2. Overcoming Obstacles: Persevere in Patience

1. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Romans 5:3-4 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

Judges 14:18 And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day before the sun went down, What is sweeter than honey? And what is stronger than a lion? And he said unto them, If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not found out my riddle.

Samson posed a riddle to the men of the city and they could only solve it when they plowed with his heifer.

1. The Power of Persistence: How Difficult Challenges Lead to Great Rewards

2. The Strength of Wisdom: How Knowing the Right Answers Can Lead to Blessing

1. Proverbs 2:1-6 - My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Judges 14:19 And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle. And his anger was kindled, and he went up to his father's house.

Samson defeats thirty men in Ashkelon and takes their spoils, then returns to his father's house in anger.

1. The Power of the Spirit: A Study on Samson and His Fulfillment of God's Will

2. Anger Management: Learning from Samson's Example

1. Acts 1:8 - But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Judges 14:20 But Samson's wife was given to his companion, whom he had used as his friend.

Samson's wife was given to one of his companions, who had been his friend.

1. God's plan for us may not always coincide with our own.

2. Trust in the Lord even when life takes unexpected turns.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Judges 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 15:1-8 describes Samson's revenge against his wife's betrayal. After leaving his wife, Samson returns later with a young goat as a gift to reconcile with her. However, he discovers that she has been given to another man by her father. In anger, Samson captures three hundred foxes, ties their tails together in pairs, and attaches torches to them. He sets the foxes loose in the Philistines' fields and vineyards, causing widespread destruction. The Philistines retaliate by burning Samson's wife and her father.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 15:9-17, it recounts the Philistines' attack on Judah and their demand for Samson's capture. The men of Judah confront Samson about the trouble he has caused by provoking the Philistines. Fearing retaliation from the powerful enemy, they bind him with ropes and hand him over to the Philistines. As they approach Lehi a city of Judah Samson breaks free from his restraints and grabs a fresh jawbone of a donkey lying on the ground.

Paragraph 3: Judges 15 concludes with an account where Samson defeats a thousand Philistines using the jawbone of a donkey as his weapon. In Judges 15:14-17, it is mentioned that filled with God's spirit, Samson strikes down a thousand men with the jawbone of a donkey a remarkable feat of strength and bravery. Afterward, he names that place Ramath-lehi which means "the hill of Jawbone." Thirsty from battle, he cries out to God for water and miraculously water gushes forth from a hollow place in the ground, providing him with relief.

In summary:

Judges 15 presents:

Samson's revenge against his wife's betrayal destruction with foxes and fire;

Philistines' demand for Samson's capture confrontation by men of Judah, Samson breaking free;

Samson's victory over a thousand Philistines defeating them with the jawbone of a donkey, miraculous provision of water.

Emphasis on Samson's revenge against his wife's betrayal destruction with foxes and fire;

Philistines' demand for Samson's capture confrontation by men of Judah, Samson breaking free;

Samson's victory over a thousand Philistines defeating them with the jawbone of a donkey, miraculous provision of water.

The chapter focuses on Samson seeking revenge against his wife's betrayal, the Philistines' demand for his capture, and his remarkable victory over a thousand Philistines using the jawbone of a donkey. In Judges 15, it is mentioned that after discovering that his wife has been given to another man by her father, Samson becomes enraged. He sets loose three hundred foxes with torches tied to their tails in the fields and vineyards of the Philistines as an act of destruction in retaliation.

Continuing in Judges 15, due to this provocation by Samson, the Philistines launch an attack on Judah. The men of Judah confront him about stirring up trouble and fearing retaliation from their powerful enemy; they bind him with ropes and hand him over to the Philistines. However, as they approach Lehi a city in Judah Samson breaks free from his restraints and seizes a fresh jawbone of a donkey lying on the ground.

Judges 15 concludes with an account where filled with God's spirit; Samson defeats a thousand Philistines using the jawbone of a donkey as his weapon. This incredible display of strength and bravery leads to his victory over the enemy. Afterward, he names that place Ramath-lehi, meaning "the hill of Jawbone." Thirsty from battle, Samson cries out to God for water, and miraculously water gushes forth from a hollow place in the ground providing him with much-needed relief.

Judges 15:1 But it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in.

Samson visited his wife with a kid, however, her father did not allow him to enter the chamber.

1. The Importance of Patience in Marriage

2. Understanding the Roles of Parents in Marriage

1. 1 Peter 3:7: "Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."

2. Ephesians 5:22-25: "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."

Judges 15:2 And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her.

The father of a woman believed she was disliked by her companion and offered his younger daughter in her place.

1. The Power of Love - How our love for our family members should be strong enough to overcome any perceived differences.

2. Forgiveness in the Family - How to forgive and accept our family members even when we don't understand their decisions.

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Judges 15:3 And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure.

Samson declared that he would be innocent of any wrongdoing even if he inflicted punishment on the Philistines.

1. God's justice is higher than man's justice.

2. We should trust in God, not in our own understanding.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Judges 15:4 And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails.

Samson captures three hundred foxes, ties them tail to tail with a firebrand in the middle, and sets them on fire.

1. The Power of Faith: How Samson Showed Courage in the Face of Adversity

2. Using Our Strengths for God's Glory: The Story of Samson

1. Romans 12: 1-2: "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. 1 Peter 4: 8-10: "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God."

Judges 15:5 And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards and olives.

Samson set fire to the Philistine grain fields, destroying both the shocks of grain and the standing corn, as well as the vineyards and olive groves.

1. God's Power in Unusual Places - Judges 15:5

2. Choosing God's Way Over the World's Way - Judges 15:5

1. John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

2. Psalm 37:35-36 - "I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree. But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found."

Judges 15:6 Then the Philistines said, Who hath done this? And they answered, Samson, the son in law of the Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. And the Philistines came up, and burnt her and her father with fire.

The Philistines were angered to discover that Samson had taken his wife away from the Timnite and given her to his companion, so they burned her and her father with fire.

1. The consequences of our decisions - Judges 15:6

2. The power of forgiveness - Luke 23:34

1. Matthew 7:12 - "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Judges 15:7 And Samson said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and after that I will cease.

Samson declared that he would take revenge on the Philistines and then end his vendetta against them.

1. Learning to Forgive and Let Go of the Past

2. Finding the Strength to Move On

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Matthew 5:38-39 - Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Judges 15:8 And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter: and he went down and dwelt in the top of the rock Etam.

The powerful Samson killed many people in a great slaughter and then lived in the top of the rock Etam.

1. The Power of God in Samson's Life

2. Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 16:24-26 - Jesus's call to deny self and follow Him.

2. Hebrews 11:32-40 - Examples of faith in the Old Testament.

Judges 15:9 Then the Philistines went up, and pitched in Judah, and spread themselves in Lehi.

The Philistines invaded Judah and spread themselves in Lehi.

1: The power of God's protection is greater than anything the world can throw at us.

2: Even in times of struggle, we must remember to put our trust and faith in God.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Judges 15:10 And the men of Judah said, Why are ye come up against us? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, to do to him as he hath done to us.

The men of Judah asked why the Philistines had come to fight them, to which they responded that they had come to bind Samson and do to him as he had done to them.

1. God's Retribution - How we must be prepared for the consequences of our actions.

2. Reaping What We Sow - The importance of good deeds and consequences of bad ones.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Proverbs 22:8 - Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail.

Judges 15:11 Then three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock Etam, and said to Samson, Knowest thou not that the Philistines are rulers over us? what is this that thou hast done unto us? And he said unto them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them.

Three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock Etam and questioned Samson about his actions that had led to the Philistines ruling over them. Samson replied that he had done unto them as they had done unto him.

1. Doing Unto Others: Living Out Jesus' Commandment in Difficult Times

2. Turning the Other Cheek: Overcoming Evil with Goodness

1. Matthew 7:12 (Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.)

2. Luke 6:31 (And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.)

Judges 15:12 And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves.

The Philistines wanted to capture Samson and bind him so that they could deliver him into their hands. Samson asked them to swear that they would not attack him.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Situations

2. Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Temptation

1. Psalm 56:3-4 Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Judges 15:13 And they spake unto him, saying, No; but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new cords, and brought him up from the rock.

The men of Judah tied Samson with two new cords and took him to the Philistines.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Romans 5:8

2. Overcoming Temptation - James 1:12-15

1. Genesis 49:22-26 - Joseph's brothers bind him and take him to Egypt

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - Israelites bound by the fear of the Egyptians, but God delivers them

Judges 15:14 And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and the cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands.

The Philistines shouted against Samson when he arrived at Lehi, but the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, causing his bonds to be released from his hands.

1. The Power of the Lord in the Face of Opposition

2. The Strength of Faith in Times of Difficulty

1. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 118:6 - The LORD is for me; I will not fear; What can man do to me?

Judges 15:15 And he found a new jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith.

Samson killed a thousand men with a jawbone of an ass.

1. The Strength of Samson - How God can use our seemingly insignificant contributions to make a mighty impact.

2. The Power of Faith - How trusting in God can help us to be victorious in difficult situations.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. 1 John 5:4 - For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Judges 15:16 And Samson said, With the jawbone of an ass, heaps upon heaps, with the jaw of an ass have I slain a thousand men.

Samson miraculously used the jawbone of an ass to slay a thousand men.

1. The Unstoppable Strength of Faith

2. Overcoming the Impossible with God's Power

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the full armor of God in faith

2. Hebrews 11:32-40 - Examples of faith in action

Judges 15:17 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking, that he cast away the jawbone out of his hand, and called that place Ramathlehi.

Samson kills a thousand Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey and names the place Ramathlehi.

1. The Power of Faith: Lessons from Samson in Judges 15

2. Overcoming Adversity: A Study of Samson s Strength in Judges 15

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God and stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Judges 15:18 And he was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?

Samson called out to the Lord for aid, thanking Him for the great deliverance He had given him, and asked that he be spared from dying of thirst and falling into the hands of the uncircumcised.

1. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Relying on the Lord for Strength and Deliverance

1. James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

2. Psalm 116:1-2 "I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live."

Judges 15:19 But God clave an hollow place that was in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: wherefore he called the name thereof Enhakkore, which is in Lehi unto this day.

God miraculously gave Samson the strength to revive after drinking water from the hollow in the jaw.

1. God s grace and mercy can revive us in our darkest hour.

2. When we are at our weakest, God s strength can be made perfect.

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:7-9 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Judges 15:20 And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

Samson judged Israel for 20 years while the Philistines were ruling.

1. The Power of God in Unexpected Ways - Exploring the story of Samson and his leadership during a time of Philistine rule.

2. The Strength of Knowing God - Examining how trusting in God and His power can bring about strength and success.

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Judges 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 16:1-14 describes Samson's relationship with Delilah and his betrayal. Samson becomes involved with a woman named Delilah, who is approached by the Philistine rulers to discover the secret of his strength. Delilah persistently asks Samson about the source of his strength, and he deceives her three times with false answers. However, after continuous pressure from Delilah, Samson reveals that his strength lies in his uncut hair a symbol of his Nazirite vow to God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 16:15-22, it recounts Samson's capture and loss of strength. When Delilah realizes that Samson has finally revealed the truth about his hair, she calls upon the Philistines to capture him while he sleeps. They cut off his hair the source of his strength and imprison him. As a result, God withdraws His Spirit from Samson, and he becomes weak.

Paragraph 3: Judges 16 concludes with an account where Samson's final act of strength leads to victory and sacrifice. In Judges 16:23-31, it is mentioned that the Philistines gather at a temple dedicated to their god Dagon for a great feast celebrating their victory over Samson. They bring out a weakened and blinded Samson to entertain them. In an act of desperation and trust in God, Samson prays for renewed strength one last time before pushing against the pillars supporting the temple causing it to collapse upon himself and all those inside including the rulers of Philistia.

In summary:

Judges 16 presents:

Samson's relationship with Delilah deception regarding source of strength;

Samson's capture and loss of strength betrayal by Delilah, cutting of his hair;

Samson's final act of strength victory and sacrifice at the Philistine temple.

Emphasis on Samson's relationship with Delilah deception regarding source of strength;

Samson's capture and loss of strength betrayal by Delilah, cutting of his hair;

Samson's final act of strength victory and sacrifice at the Philistine temple.

The chapter focuses on Samson's relationship with Delilah, his capture and loss of strength due to her betrayal, and his final act of strength leading to victory and sacrifice. In Judges 16, it is mentioned that Samson becomes involved with a woman named Delilah who is approached by the Philistine rulers to discover the secret behind his great strength. Despite deceiving her three times with false answers, Samson eventually reveals that his uncut hair is the source of his power a symbol representing his Nazirite vow.

Continuing in Judges 16, when Delilah realizes that Samson has finally disclosed the truth about his hair, she calls upon the Philistines to capture him while he sleeps. They cut off his hair the very thing that empowers him and imprison him. As a consequence, God withdraws His Spirit from Samson, rendering him weak and vulnerable.

Judges 16 concludes with an account where weakened and blinded Samson is brought out by the Philistines to entertain them during a feast at a temple dedicated to their god Dagon. In an act driven by desperation and trust in God one last time, Samson prays for renewed strength before pushing against the pillars supporting the temple causing it to collapse upon himself and all those inside including the rulers of Philistia. This final act serves as both a victory over Israel's enemies and a sacrificial offering as Samson gives up his own life in the process.

Judges 16:1 Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her.

Samson visits a prostitute in Gaza.

1: The Danger of Impulse.

2: The Power of Self-Control.

1: Proverbs 6:20-23 - My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: 21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. 22 When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. 23 For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life.

2: 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Judges 16:2 And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed him in, and laid wait for him all night in the gate of the city, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him.

The Gazites heard that Samson had arrived and made a plan to ambush and kill him in the morning.

1. The Power of Preparation: Making the Most of Opportunities

2. Overcoming Obstacles: Trusting in God s Protection

1. Proverbs 21:5- The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Judges 16:3 And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that is before Hebron.

Samson takes the gates of the city at midnight and carries them up a hill near Hebron.

1. The Strength of Samson - How God grants us strength to carry out His will.

2. The Timing of Samson - How God's timing is always perfect.

1. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

2. Psalm 121:2 - My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Judges 16:4 And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.

Delilah's actions lead Samson to his downfall.

1. We can learn from Samson's story that pride and lust can lead to destruction.

2. God can use our mistakes and failures to bring about a greater good.

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Judges 16:5 And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.

The Philistines asked a woman to entice Samson in order to find out the source of his strength so they could bind and afflict him, offering her eleven hundred pieces of silver.

1. The Danger of Enticement - The danger of enticement and how to protect yourself from it.

2. The Power of Greed - The power of greed and how it can be used to manipulate people.

1. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Proverbs 1:10-19 - My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them. If they say, Come along with us; let s lie in wait for innocent blood, let s ambush some harmless soul; let s swallow them alive, like the grave, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; we will get all sorts of valuable things and fill our houses with plunder; cast lots with us; we will all share the loot my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths.

Judges 16:6 And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.

Delilah sought to discover the source of Samson's strength.

1. The Power of Knowing Our Strengths and Weaknesses

2. The Danger of Telling Our Secrets

1. Proverbs 11:13 - "A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret."

2. Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

Judges 16:7 And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

Samson tells a woman that if he is bound with seven green withs he will be weakened like any other man.

1: God can use our weaknesses to achieve His will.

2: We can all find strength in God's power.

1: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2: Isaiah 40:29-31 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Judges 16:8 Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

The Philistine lords brought Samson seven fresh ropes to bind him with.

1. The power of a strong faith in the face of adversity - Judges 16:8

2. Overcoming life's trials and temptations - Judges 16:8

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Hebrews 11:32-34 - "And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions."

Judges 16:9 Now there were men lying in wait, abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire. So his strength was not known.

Samson was in a room with men lying in wait for him, and when he was alerted to the danger, he broke the bonds he was in with ease, showing his strength.

1. "The Power of God's Strength"

2. "Overcoming Challenges with Faith"

1. Psalms 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Judges 16:10 And Delilah said unto Samson, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.

Delilah asks Samson to reveal the secret of his strength so that he may be bound.

1. God's Sovereignty Over Our Circumstances: How God Can Use Our Weaknesses to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Power of Persistent Temptation: Learning to Resist Sin in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. James 1:12-15 - "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."

Judges 16:11 And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

Samson admits that he may be overpowered if bound with ropes that have not been used before.

1. The Power of Weakness: How Submission to God's Will Gives Us Strength

2. The Vulnerability of Pride: How Arrogance Can Lead to Defeat

1. 2 Corinthians 12:10 - "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Judges 16:12 Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And there were liers in wait abiding in the chamber. And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.

Delilah attempted to bind Samson with new ropes, but he was able to break them like a thread.

1. The Strength of Faith - How trusting in God can give us strength beyond our own.

2. Overcoming Temptation - How to remain faithful to God in the face of adversity.

1. Hebrews 11:34 - "Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 16:13 And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.

Delilah was determined to discover the source of Samson's strength and tricked him into revealing it to her.

1. The Danger of Unwisely Revealing Our Weaknesses

2. Following God's Wisdom in Difficult Situations

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.

Judges 16:14 And she fastened it with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.

Delilah tricked Samson into revealing the secret of his strength and then used it to capture him. She fastened him with a pin and told him the Philistines were upon him, upon which he awoke and escaped with the pin and the web.

1. God's Strength in Weakness: The Story of Samson

2. The Power of Trickery: Delilah and Samson

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Judges 16:15 And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth.

Delilah questions Samson about his great strength and why he has mocked her three times.

1. The Power of Love: How to Cultivate a Heart for God

2. Learning to Discern: Identifying Strength and Weakness

1. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Judges 16:16 And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;

The woman's persistent questioning vexed Samson to the point of death.

1: We should be careful not to be a burden to others with our words.

2: Persistence can reveal the truth, but it can also cause great harm.

1: Proverbs 15:23 - "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!"

2: James 1:19 - "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath."

Judges 16:17 That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.

Samson reveals his vulnerability to Delilah as a Nazarite, fearing that if his hair is cut, he will lose his strength.

1. The Power of Vulnerability - how we can be stronger when we are open and honest with others.

2. God's Strength is Our Strength - how we can trust God to be our strength even in our moments of weakness.

1. Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Judges 16:18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.

Delilah has betrayed Samson by telling the Philistines of his strength.

1. The Dangers of Unwisely Sharing One's Heart

2. The Betrayal of Delilah and the Consequences of Trusting Unwisely

1. Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2. James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Judges 16:19 And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

Delilah tricked Samson into falling asleep on her knees and then called for a man to shave the seven locks of his head, which caused his strength to leave him.

1. God's Strength is Not Dependent on Our Own

2. Don't Lean on Your Own Understanding

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 16:20 And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

Samson wakes up from his sleep and decides to go out and fight the Philistines, unaware that the LORD has departed from him.

1. God will always be with us, even in our darkest hour.

2. The importance of being aware of God's presence in our lives.

1. Psalm 139:7-8 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 16:21 But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

The Philistines captured Samson, put out his eyes, and imprisoned him.

1. The Power of Perseverance - How to overcome difficult circumstances

2. Finding Strength in Weakness - Learning from the trials we face

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

Judges 16:22 Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

Samson was shaven and his hair began to grow again.

1. God's Power is Unparalleled - Samson's hair miraculously grew back after being shaven.

2. Don't Take God's Blessings for Granted - Samson's strength was taken away after he betrayed God's trust.

1. Judges 16:22 - "Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:12 - "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Judges 16:23 Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

The lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to their god Dagon and to celebrate their victory over Samson.

1. God is in control - even when things look bleak, He is still in control.

2. Do not trust in idols - only God is worthy of our trust and our praise.

1. Isaiah 46:9-10 - "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - "Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry."

Judges 16:24 And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

This verse describes the people of Israel praising God after he delivered their enemy into their hands.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Deliverance

2. Rejoicing in God's Victory: Overcoming Adversity through Faith

1. Psalm 34:1-3 I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Judges 16:25 And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

The people of Gaza, upon feeling merry, called for Samson to come out of the prison house and entertain them. Samson obliged and was placed between two pillars.

1. The Power of Joy: How to Find True Happiness in Our Lives

2. Overcoming Adversity: The Strength of Samson in the Face of Challenges

1. Matthew 5:3-12 - Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

2. Hebrews 11:32-40 - And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets.

Judges 16:26 And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

Samson asked the lad to let him lean on the pillars of the house so he could feel them.

1. Knowing when to lean on God s strength

2. Trusting in God s support

1. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Judges 16:27 Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

While Samson was entertaining the Philistine lords in his house, there were approximately 3,000 people in attendance, including men and women, gathered on the roof to watch the show.

1. God's power can be seen in the most unlikely of places.

2. Have faith in God's strength and you will be amazed at the results.

1. Daniel 4:34-35 - "At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, 'What have you done?'"

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Judges 16:28 And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

Samson prays to God to avenge him of the Philistines for his two eyes.

1. Trusting God in Moments of Weakness

2. Seeking Justice Through Faith

1. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry out, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Judges 16:29 And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

Samson was able to lift the two middle pillars of the house with his right and left hands.

1. The Strength of Samson: A lesson in the power of faith and courage

2. Faith Overcomes: How Samson shows us the power of inner strength

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Judges 16:30 And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.

Samson, upon realizing that his strength was gone, decided to die with the Philistines by collapsing the building he was in, killing many of them in the process.

1. God still works in mysterious ways - Judges 16:30

2. The power of a life fully lived - Judges 16:30

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Be very careful, then, how you live not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord s will is.

Judges 16:31 Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the buryingplace of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

After Samson died, his family and relatives came to retrieve his body and bury him in the burying place of his father, Manoah. During his lifetime, Samson was a judge of Israel for 20 years.

1. True Strength Comes from God - Judges 16:31

2. The Impact of One Life - Judges 16:31

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:8 - Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Judges 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 17:1-6 introduces the story of Micah and the stolen silver. In this chapter, a man named Micah from the tribe of Ephraim confesses to his mother that he had stolen eleven hundred shekels of silver from her. However, upon hearing her curse and bless him, he returns the money. His mother dedicates the silver to God and decides to make an idol out of it. Micah constructs a shrine in his house, makes an ephod and household gods, and appoints one of his sons as a priest.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 17:7-13, it recounts the arrival of a Levite who becomes Micah's personal priest. A young Levite from Bethlehem comes to Micah's house looking for a place to stay. Micah offers him shelter and hires him as his personal priest, believing that having a Levite as his own spiritual leader will bring God's favor upon him.

Paragraph 3: Judges 17 concludes with an account where the Danites seek new land and take Micah's idols. In Judges 17:14-18, it is mentioned that while the tribe of Dan is seeking new territory to settle in, they pass through Ephraim near Micah's house. The Danites inquire about their journey's success with the Levite who is serving as Micah's priest. Encouraged by their conversation with him, they decide to steal Micah's idols along with his ephod and household gods believing these objects will bring them divine favor in their conquest for land.

In summary:

Judges 17 presents:

Micah stealing silver returning it after curse and blessing;

Micah making idols and shrine appointing son as priest;

Arrival of Levite as Micah's personal priest belief in God's favor.

Danites seeking new land taking Micah's idols, ephod, and household gods.

Emphasis on Micah stealing silver returning it after curse and blessing;

Micah making idols and shrine appointing son as priest;

Arrival of Levite as Micah's personal priest belief in God's favor.

Danites seeking new land taking Micah's idols, ephod, and household gods.

The chapter focuses on the story of Micah stealing silver from his mother but returning it after her curse and blessing. Inspired by his mother dedicating the silver to God, he constructs a shrine in his house with an idol made from the silver. He appoints one of his sons as a priest to serve at this shrine.

Continuing in Judges 17, a young Levite from Bethlehem arrives at Micah's house looking for lodging. Seeing an opportunity for spiritual guidance, Micah hires him as his personal priest, believing that having a Levite will bring him favor from God.

Judges 17 concludes with an account where the tribe of Dan is seeking new land to settle in. As they pass through Ephraim near Micah's house, they interact with the Levite serving as Micah's priest. Encouraged by their conversation with him and desiring divine favor for their conquest, they decide to steal Micah's idols along with his ephod and household gods a significant act that highlights their disregard for proper worship practices.

Judges 17:1 And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah.

A man from the tribe of Ephraim named Micah is introduced.

1. The Power of a Name - How a person's name can shape and define them.

2. A New Beginning - Embracing the opportunity to start fresh.

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Judges 17:2 And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my son.

Micah returns home with the stolen silver his mother had cursed and she blesses him instead.

1. The Power of a Mother's Blessing

2. The Benefits of Repentance

1. Genesis 49:25-26 - Even by the God of your father, who will help you, and by the Almighty, who will bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb.

26 The blessings of your father are mighty beyond the blessings of my parents, up to the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills. May they be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.

2. Proverbs 11:11 - By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is overthrown.

Judges 17:3 And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

A man restored 1100 shekels of silver to his mother, who had previously dedicated it to the Lord for her son to make a graven and molten image.

1. God's Blessing: A Study on Dedication and Gratitude

2. Prioritizing God: Recognizing God Above All Things

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Judges 17:4 Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.

Micah gave two hundred pieces of silver to a metalworker to make a graven and molten image, which was then placed in Micah's house.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Warning from Micah's Story

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Micah's Example of Faith

1. Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

2. Jeremiah 10:5-7 - Like a scarecrow in a cucumber field are they, and they cannot speak; they must be carried, for they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.

Judges 17:5 And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.

Micah had an idolatrous temple in his home and consecrated one of his sons to be his priest.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry: A Look at Micah's Story

2. The Deceitfulness of Sin: A Study of Micah's Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 4:19 - "And take heed, lest you lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you feel driven to worship them and serve them, which the Lord your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage."

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - "Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them."

Judges 17:6 In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

In the time of the Judges, there was no central authority, and so everyone did what they thought was right.

1. The Dangers of Doing What is Right in Our Own Eyes

2. The Need for Godly Authority in Our Lives

1. Jeremiah 10:23 - "O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Judges 17:7 And there was a young man out of Bethlehemjudah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there.

This passage tells the story of a young Levite from Bethlehem of Judah who was living in a foreign land.

1. God calls us to be a light in foreign places

2. The importance of following God's call in our lives

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

Judges 17:8 And the man departed out of the city from Bethlehemjudah to sojourn where he could find a place: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of Micah, as he journeyed.

A man left Bethlehem Judah and went to Mount Ephraim, where he found the house of Micah.

1. Finding a Place of Rest: Learning from the Journey of the Man from Bethlehem Judah

2. Stepping Out in Faith: Overcoming Fear and Uncertainty to Find Provision from God

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Judges 17:9 And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I am a Levite of Bethlehemjudah, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place.

A Levite from Bethlehem Judah is looking for a place to stay.

1. The Importance of Home: Finding Comfort and Strength in Our Homeland

2. A Journey of Discovery: How to Find Our Place in the World

1. Luke 2:4-7 - Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem to be counted in the census.

2. Psalm 84:4-7 - Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Judges 17:10 And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten shekels of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in.

Micah asked a Levite to stay with him and serve as a priest, offering him 10 shekels of silver a year, a suit of apparel and food in exchange.

1. God's Provision: Micah's Offer to the Levite

2. The Power of Generosity: How We Can Share God's Blessings

1. 1 Corinthians 9:7-11 - Paul's example of having the right to be supported by God's people, yet choosing not to take advantage of it.

2. Galatians 6:6-10 - Bearing each other's burdens and doing good works.

Judges 17:11 And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons.

A Levite agrees to stay with a man and the man treats him like one of his own sons.

1. The importance of looking out for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

2. Showing hospitality towards those in need.

1. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

2. 1 John 3:17 - If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

Judges 17:12 And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah.

Micah consecrated a Levite to be his priest and he lived in Micah's house.

1. The Power of God's Consecration: How We Can Be Used for God's Purpose

2. Serving God Through Service to Others

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

Judges 17:13 Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest.

This passage explains how Micah was happy to find a Levite who was willing to be his priest.

1. The Blessing of Having a Priest to Guide Us

2. The Power of Faith in Knowing that God Will Do Good

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Judges 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 18:1-10 introduces the tribe of Dan seeking new territory and their encounter with the Levite. In this chapter, the tribe of Dan is still searching for a land to settle in. They send five warriors from their clan to explore potential areas. These men arrive at Micah's house in Ephraim and recognize the voice of the Levite who serves as Micah's personal priest. They inquire about God's favor and seek guidance for their journey.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 18:11-21, it recounts the Danites' discovery of Laish as a potential settlement. The five warriors sent by the tribe of Dan reach a region called Laish, where they find a peaceful people living securely without any assistance or alliance. Upon returning to their fellow clansmen, they report what they have seen and encourage them to attack Laish because its inhabitants are vulnerable.

Paragraph 3: Judges 18 concludes with an account where the Danites take Micah's idols and establish their own worship center in Laish. In Judges 18:22-31, it is mentioned that when the tribe of Dan proceeds to attack Laish, they take along Micah's idols, ephod, household gods, and his Levite priest. The people of Laish are defenseless against this invasion and are eventually conquered by the tribe of Dan who rename it "Dan" after themselves. They set up these stolen idols as objects of worship and Jonathan (the grandson of Moses) becomes one of their priests.

In summary:

Judges 18 presents:

Tribe of Dan seeking new territory encounter with Levite;

Discovery of vulnerable city encouragement to attack;

Danites taking Micah's idols establishing their own worship center.

Emphasis on Tribe of Dan seeking new territory encounter with Levite;

Discovery of vulnerable city encouragement to attack;

Danites taking Micah's idols establishing their own worship center.

The chapter focuses on the tribe of Dan's search for a new territory, their encounter with the Levite, and their conquest of the city of Laish. In Judges 18, it is mentioned that the tribe of Dan sends five warriors to explore potential areas for settlement. They arrive at Micah's house in Ephraim and recognize the voice of the Levite who serves as Micah's personal priest. Seeking guidance and assurance of God's favor, they inquire about their journey.

Continuing in Judges 18, these five warriors reach a region called Laish where they discover a peaceful people living securely without any assistance or alliance. Upon returning to their fellow clansmen, they report what they have seen and encourage them to attack Laish because its inhabitants are vulnerable a tempting opportunity for conquest.

Judges 18 concludes with an account where the tribe of Dan proceeds to attack Laish. They take along Micah's stolen idols, ephod, household gods, and his Levite priest. Overpowering the defenseless people of Laish, they conquer it and rename it "Dan" after themselves. The stolen idols become objects of worship in this newly established city as Jonathan (the grandson of Moses) becomes one of their priests a significant departure from proper worship practices established by God.

Judges 18:1 In those days there was no king in Israel: and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day all their inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.

The Danites were in search of an inheritance to live in because they had not been given one yet by the other Israelite tribes.

1. Everyone is entitled to an inheritance - God desires us to share our blessings with those in need.

2. Taking matters into our own hands - sometimes we have to act on our own to achieve our goals.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Judges 18:2 And the children of Dan sent of their family five men from their coasts, men of valour, from Zorah, and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land, and to search it; and they said unto them, Go, search the land: who when they came to mount Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.

The children of Dan sent five men of valor to search the land and they stayed at the house of Micah.

1. God's Faithful Provision: Trusting in God's Care During Times of Searching

2. Valuing Courageous Commitment: Showing Bravery and Tenacity in the Face of Uncertainty

1. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

2. Proverbs 28:1 The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Judges 18:3 When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite: and they turned in thither, and said unto him, Who brought thee hither? and what makest thou in this place? and what hast thou here?

The Levite was asked by a group of men what he was doing at the house of Micah.

1. Living with Purpose: Making the Most of Every Opportunity

2. The Power of God's Voice: Identifying God's Calling

1. Isaiah 30:21 - "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 18:4 And he said unto them, Thus and thus dealeth Micah with me, and hath hired me, and I am his priest.

Micah's hiring of a priest is an example of how he sought divine guidance.

1: Let us recognize the importance of seeking divine guidance in our lives.

2: We can learn from Micah's example that seeking guidance from God is wise.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

Judges 18:5 And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.

The people of Dan asked the priest of Micah to seek God's guidance for their journey.

1. Seek God's Direction for Your Journey - Judges 18:5

2. God's Will is Prosperous - Judges 18:5

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Judges 18:6 And the priest said unto them, Go in peace: before the LORD is your way wherein ye go.

The priest told the men to go in peace, as the Lord was with them on their journey.

1. God is always with us, through every journey of life we take.

2. We can find peace and comfort in knowing that the Lord is with us.

1. Psalm 46:10-11 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 18:7 Then the five men departed, and came to Laish, and saw the people that were therein, how they dwelt careless, after the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure; and there was no magistrate in the land, that might put them to shame in any thing; and they were far from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man.

Five men traveled to Laish and saw that the people living there were careless and not under the rule of any leader, which allowed them to live peacefully and securely. They were far from the Zidonians and had no contact with anyone else.

1. God is our protector and provider even when there is no worldly leader to guide us.

2. We can find peace in trusting God to lead us in every situation.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Judges 18:8 And they came unto their brethren to Zorah and Eshtaol: and their brethren said unto them, What say ye?

The Danite men sought the advice of their brethren in Zorah and Eshtaol.

1. When searching for answers, it's important to seek advice from trusted allies.

2. God's answer to our questions can often be found through the counsel of our brothers and sisters in faith.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

2. Psalm 119:24 - "Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors."

Judges 18:9 And they said, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have seen the land, and, behold, it is very good: and are ye still? be not slothful to go, and to enter to possess the land.

This passage is encouraging the Israelites to take possession of the land that they have seen and know to be good.

1. The Lord Has Blessed Us: Embrace That Blessing with Faith and Action

2. Possessing the Promised Land: Overcoming Fear and Procrastination

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Joshua 1: 9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 18:10 When ye go, ye shall come unto a people secure, and to a large land: for God hath given it into your hands; a place where there is no want of any thing that is in the earth.

The Israelites were promised a secure home and a land that had plenty of resources.

1. God's Love and Provision for His People

2. Overcoming Adversity and Relying on God's Promises

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - Do not worry, for your Heavenly Father knows what you need

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

Judges 18:11 And there went from thence of the family of the Danites, out of Zorah and out of Eshtaol, six hundred men appointed with weapons of war.

Six hundred men of the Danite family from Zorah and Eshtaol were armed for battle.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Brings Strength

2. The Faithfulness of God: How His Provision Equips Us for Battle

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Psalm 18:39 - You armed me with strength for battle; you made my adversaries bow at my feet.

Judges 18:12 And they went up, and pitched in Kirjathjearim, in Judah: wherefore they called that place Mahanehdan unto this day: behold, it is behind Kirjathjearim.

The people of Israel went up to a place called Kirjathjearim in Judah and named it Mahanehdan, which is still known today.

1: God's sovereignty is revealed in the lasting names He gives to places.

2: God's faithfulness is seen in His provision for His people even in strange places.

1: Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2: Matthew 28:20 - Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Judges 18:13 And they passed thence unto mount Ephraim, and came unto the house of Micah.

The Levite and his concubine travel to Mount Ephraim and arrive at the house of Micah.

1. God is always with us, even in the darkest of times.

2. Our faith can carry us to the places we need to go.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Judges 18:14 Then answered the five men that went to spy out the country of Laish, and said unto their brethren, Do ye know that there is in these houses an ephod, and teraphim, and a graven image, and a molten image? now therefore consider what ye have to do.

The five men who had gone to spy out the country of Laish reported back to their brethren that they had found an ephod, teraphim, a graven image, and a molten image in certain houses.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Power of Discernment

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - Therefore watch yourselves very carefully. Since you saw no form on the day that the Lord spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, 16 beware lest you act corruptly by making a carved image for yourselves, in the form of any figure, the likeness of male or female, 17 the likeness of any animal that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, 18 the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the water under the earth. 19 And beware lest you raise your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and bow down to them and serve them, things that the Lord your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Judges 18:15 And they turned thitherward, and came to the house of the young man the Levite, even unto the house of Micah, and saluted him.

The Levite and his companions traveled to the house of Micah and were welcomed.

1: Welcome the strangers in your midst and open your home to them.

2: Seek out those in need of help and lend a hand to them.

1: Luke 10:25-37, The Parable of the Good Samaritan

2: Matthew 25:35-40, Jesus's teaching on caring for the needy.

Judges 18:16 And the six hundred men appointed with their weapons of war, which were of the children of Dan, stood by the entering of the gate.

Six hundred men from the tribe of Dan, armed with weapons of war, stood guard at the entrance of the gate.

1. Keep watch and be prepared for the adversary.

2. Have faith in God's provision and protection.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Judges 18:17 And the five men that went to spy out the land went up, and came in thither, and took the graven image, and the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten image: and the priest stood in the entering of the gate with the six hundred men that were appointed with weapons of war.

The five men went into the land and took the graven image, ephod, teraphim, and molten image. The priest was there with 600 men who were armed for battle.

1. The Power of Precaution: The Story of the Priest and the Five Men

2. The Power of Preparation: How the Priest and 600 Men Were Ready for Battle

1. Proverbs 21:5 The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Judges 18:18 And these went into Micah's house, and fetched the carved image, the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten image. Then said the priest unto them, What do ye?

A group of men enter Micah's house and take items including a carved image, an ephod, teraphim and a molten image. The priest then asks them what they are doing.

1. God's Presence in our Lives - How to Recognize and Respond to His Presence

2. The Power of Faith - How to Live a Life of Faith and Obedience

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

Judges 18:19 And they said unto him, Hold thy peace, lay thine hand upon thy mouth, and go with us, and be to us a father and a priest: is it better for thee to be a priest unto the house of one man, or that thou be a priest unto a tribe and a family in Israel?

Two men asked a Levite to be their priest and asked him if it was better to be a priest of one man's house or of a tribe and family in Israel.

1. The Importance of Having a Spiritual Father

2. The Power of a Priestly Blessing

1. Malachi 2:4-7

2. Hebrews 13:17-19

Judges 18:20 And the priest's heart was glad, and he took the ephod, and the teraphim, and the graven image, and went in the midst of the people.

The priest was pleased and he took the ephod, the teraphim and the graven image and joined the people.

1. The Power of Joy: How to Cultivate Joy in Your Life

2. The Need for Spiritual Guidance: Seeking God's Wisdom in Every Situation

1. Psalm 118:24 - "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Judges 18:21 So they turned and departed, and put the little ones and the cattle and the carriage before them.

The Danites took their families and possessions with them as they departed from Laish.

1. When God calls us to something, He provides for us what we need to go forth.

2. We can trust in God to give us the resources we need to fulfill His will.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Judges 18:22 And when they were a good way from the house of Micah, the men that were in the houses near to Micah's house were gathered together, and overtook the children of Dan.

The men from the houses near Micah's house gathered together and chased after the children of Dan.

1. The importance of standing together and supporting one another in faith.

2. The dangers of pride and arrogance in relationships.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. James 3:13-18 - Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Judges 18:23 And they cried unto the children of Dan. And they turned their faces, and said unto Micah, What aileth thee, that thou comest with such a company?

A group of people ask Micah why he is traveling with a large company.

1: We should not be afraid to ask questions and seek understanding.

2: We should be ready to trust God when we don't understand a situation.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2: Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Judges 18:24 And he said, Ye have taken away my gods which I made, and the priest, and ye are gone away: and what have I more? and what is this that ye say unto me, What aileth thee?

A man discovers that his gods, which he made, and the priest are missing and he questions why.

1. God is more than we can create- Romans 1:20-23

2. How to find true peace- Matthew 11:28-30

1. Romans 1:20-23- For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

2. Matthew 11:28-30- Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Judges 18:25 And the children of Dan said unto him, Let not thy voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows run upon thee, and thou lose thy life, with the lives of thy household.

The Danites warned Micah not to confront them, or else he would lose his life and the lives of his family.

1. The importance of courageously standing up for what is right, even in the face of danger.

2. The power of unity amongst a group and how it can create strength.

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Judges 18:26 And the children of Dan went their way: and when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back unto his house.

Micah realizes that the children of Dan are too powerful for him and decides to retreat to his house.

1. We must always be prepared to face difficulties, but also know when to accept our limitations and retreat.

2. God gives us strength in our times of need, but also the wisdom to know when to turn away from danger.

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Judges 18:27 And they took the things which Micah had made, and the priest which he had, and came unto Laish, unto a people that were at quiet and secure: and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and burnt the city with fire.

The people of Dan took the idols and priest made by Micah and went to Laish, a city that was peaceful and unsuspecting. They attacked the city and destroyed it with fire.

1. The Danger of Unpreparedness: How to be Ready for the Unexpected

2. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Commands with Boldness

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Judges 18:28 And there was no deliverer, because it was far from Zidon, and they had no business with any man; and it was in the valley that lieth by Bethrehob. And they built a city, and dwelt therein.

The people of Dan had no one to protect them, so they built a city in the valley near Bethrehob.

1. Trusting in the Lord for Protection

2. Building a Foundation of Faith

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Judges 18:29 And they called the name of the city Dan, after the name of Dan their father, who was born unto Israel: howbeit the name of the city was Laish at the first.

Dan's father is named Dan after the birth of Israel, but the original name of the city was Laish.

1. The importance of honoring our fathers and the legacy they leave behind.

2. Understanding the power of a name and how it can shape our lives.

1. Proverbs 22:1 "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold."

2. Genesis 17:5 "No longer will your name be Abram, but your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations."

Judges 18:30 And the children of Dan set up the graven image: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land.

The children of Dan set up a graven image and Jonathan and his sons served as priests for the tribe of Dan.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Reflecting on Judges 18:30

2. The Power of Legacy in Spiritual Leadership: A Study of Judges 18:30

1. Exodus 20:4-5 - You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God.

2. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - Therefore watch yourselves very carefully. Since you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire, take care and watch yourselves closely so that you do not act corruptly by making an idol for yourselves, in the form of any figure the likeness of male or female, the likeness of any animal on the earth or the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground or the likeness of any fish in the waters below the earth. And when you look up to the sky and see the sun, the moon, and the stars all the host of heaven do not be tempted to bow down to them and worship things the LORD your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven.

Judges 18:31 And they set them up Micah's graven image, which he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

The people of Dan set up Micah's graven image in the house of God in Shiloh.

1. Our devotion to God should never waver.

2. We must always put God first in all our decisions and actions.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Judges 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 19:1-9 introduces the story of a Levite and his concubine. In this chapter, a Levite from the hill country of Ephraim takes a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah. The concubine becomes unfaithful and leaves him, returning to her father's house in Bethlehem. After four months, the Levite goes to her father's house to persuade her to come back with him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 19:10-21, it recounts the Levite's journey and his stay in Gibeah. As they travel together towards the Levite's home, they stop at Gibeah a town inhabited by Benjamites for the night. No one offers them hospitality until an old man from Ephraim invites them into his house. However, during the night, wicked men of the city surround the house and demand that the Levite be handed over to them for sexual abuse.

Paragraph 3: Judges 19 concludes with an account of a gruesome crime committed against the Levite's concubine. In Judges 19:22-30, it is mentioned that instead of surrendering the Levite to their wicked desires, he sends out his concubine who is then brutally assaulted by these men throughout the night. She eventually dies at dawn near the doorstep of where they were staying. The next morning, upon discovering her lifeless body, the Levite cuts it into twelve pieces and sends each piece to all twelve tribes of Israel as a shocking testimony of this horrific crime.

In summary:

Judges 19 presents:

Levite taking a concubine her unfaithfulness and return;

Levite's journey stay in Gibeah;

Gruesome crime against the concubine her assault and death, Levite's response.

Emphasis on Levite taking a concubine her unfaithfulness and return;

Levite's journey stay in Gibeah;

Gruesome crime against the concubine her assault and death, Levite's response.

The chapter focuses on the story of a Levite and his concubine, their journey, and the gruesome crime committed against the concubine. In Judges 19, it is mentioned that a Levite from Ephraim takes a concubine from Bethlehem who eventually becomes unfaithful and leaves him. After four months, he goes to her father's house to persuade her to return with him.

Continuing in Judges 19, as they travel together towards the Levite's home, they stop at Gibeah a town inhabited by Benjamites for the night. They are initially refused hospitality until an old man from Ephraim invites them into his house. However, during the night, wicked men of the city surround the house and demand that the Levite be handed over to them for sexual abuse an appalling act driven by their depravity.

Judges 19 concludes with an account of a gruesome crime committed against the Levite's concubine. Instead of surrendering himself to their wicked desires, he sends out his concubine who is then brutally assaulted by these men throughout the night. She eventually dies at dawn near their doorstep. The next morning upon discovering her lifeless body, shocked by this tragedy and seeking justice or vengeance for her cruel fate the Levite cuts her body into twelve pieces and sends each piece to all twelve tribes of Israel as a horrifying testimony of this abhorrent crime committed in Gibeah.

Judges 19:1 And it came to pass in those days, when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim, who took to him a concubine out of Bethlehemjudah.

During the time when there was no king in Israel, a Levite from the tribe of Ephraim had a concubine from Bethlehem.

1. The Blessing of Kingship: God's Appointment of Leaders

2. God's Provision in Trying Times: Finding Hope in a Kingless Era

1. Ephesians 1:22-23 - "And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all."

2. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

Judges 19:2 And his concubine played the whore against him, and went away from him unto her father's house to Bethlehemjudah, and was there four whole months.

The concubine of a man from Ephraim had left her husband and gone to her father's house in Bethlehemjudah for four months.

1. The importance of marital faithfulness and commitment.

2. The consequences of adultery and how to prevent it.

1. Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

2. Proverbs 6:32 - But a man who commits adultery has no sense; whoever does so destroys himself.

Judges 19:3 And her husband arose, and went after her, to speak friendly unto her, and to bring her again, having his servant with him, and a couple of asses: and she brought him into her father's house: and when the father of the damsel saw him, he rejoiced to meet him.

The husband of the damsel went after her to speak kindly and reconcile with her, and was welcomed by her father upon his arrival.

1. The Power of Reconciliation: Learning from the example of the Damsel's Husband in Judges 19:3

2. Welcoming the Stranger: Reverence for the Father of the Damsel in Judges 19:3

1. Romans 12:18 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

2. Luke 15:20-21 - And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

Judges 19:4 And his father in law, the damsel's father, retained him; and he abode with him three days: so they did eat and drink, and lodged there.

A man visited his father-in-law and stayed with him for three days, eating and drinking together.

1. The importance of family relationships.

2. The joy of hospitality.

1. Proverbs 15:17 - Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

2. Romans 12:13 - Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Judges 19:5 And it came to pass on the fourth day, when they arose early in the morning, that he rose up to depart: and the damsel's father said unto his son in law, Comfort thine heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward go your way.

The father of the damsel encourages his son-in-law to take sustenance before departing.

1. The Power of Encouragement: Taking Comfort in the Provision of God

2. The Heart of Hospitality: God's Provision for the Visitor

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

2. Hebrews 13:2 - "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Judges 19:6 And they sat down, and did eat and drink both of them together: for the damsel's father had said unto the man, Be content, I pray thee, and tarry all night, and let thine heart be merry.

The damsel's father invited the man to stay all night and be merry.

1: We are called to be hospitable and generous towards our guests.

2: We must be content and trust in God s will for our lives.

1: Romans 12:12-13: Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2: Hebrews 13:2: Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Judges 19:7 And when the man rose up to depart, his father in law urged him: therefore he lodged there again.

A man visiting his father-in-law was urged to remain for another night.

1. Abiding in Love: The Heart of Hospitality

2. How to Show Hospitality to Those We Love

1. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Judges 19:8 And he arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart: and the damsel's father said, Comfort thine heart, I pray thee. And they tarried until afternoon, and they did eat both of them.

On the fifth day, the damsel's father asked the man to stay and comfort his heart. They stayed and ate together until the afternoon.

1. Comfort from Unexpected Sources - Judges 19:8

2. How to Receive Comfort from Others - Judges 19:8

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:14 - Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

Judges 19:9 And when the man rose up to depart, he, and his concubine, and his servant, his father in law, the damsel's father, said unto him, Behold, now the day draweth toward evening, I pray you tarry all night: behold, the day groweth to an end, lodge here, that thine heart may be merry; and to morrow get you early on your way, that thou mayest go home.

The man's father in law proposed that he stay the night to make his heart merry.

1. The Power of Taking Time to Rejoice - Taking time to celebrate and enjoy the good things of life is essential for our spiritual health.

2. The Gift of Hospitality - Hospitality is a gift that should be given generously, both to those we know and to strangers.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 - I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor it is the gift of God.

2. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Judges 19:10 But the man would not tarry that night, but he rose up and departed, and came over against Jebus, which is Jerusalem; and there were with him two asses saddled, his concubine also was with him.

A man and his concubine left their home and traveled to Jerusalem, bringing two saddled asses with them.

1. God's Plan for Us: Following God's Call Even in Difficult Times

2. Faithful Travelers: Learning to Persevere in the Journey of Life

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Judges 19:11 And when they were by Jebus, the day was far spent; and the servant said unto his master, Come, I pray thee, and let us turn in into this city of the Jebusites, and lodge in it.

A servant asked his master to lodge in the city of the Jebusites as the day was far spent.

1. The Importance of Planning ahead

2. The Wisdom of Seeking Refuge

1. Proverbs 19:2 - "Desire without knowledge is not good how much more will hasty feet miss the way!"

2. Isaiah 25:4 - "You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat."

Judges 19:12 And his master said unto him, We will not turn aside hither into the city of a stranger, that is not of the children of Israel; we will pass over to Gibeah.

The master refused to stay in a city that was not part of the children of Israel and instead chose to pass on to Gibeah.

1. We must always seek to honor the Lord by standing with His people.

2. Our decisions should always be guided by God's Word.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. 1 John 4:20-21 - If anyone says, I love God, yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.

Judges 19:13 And he said unto his servant, Come, and let us draw near to one of these places to lodge all night, in Gibeah, or in Ramah.

A man and his servant were looking for a place to stay overnight, deciding between Gibeah and Ramah.

1. Finding Comfort in Troubling Times

2. The Strength of Hope in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Judges 19:14 And they passed on and went their way; and the sun went down upon them when they were by Gibeah, which belongeth to Benjamin.

A group of travellers passed through the town of Gibeah, which belonged to Benjamin, at sunset.

1. God's Timing: Making the Most of Our Day

2. Living in Community: Understanding Our Place in the World

1. Colossians 4:5 - Walk in wisdom towards them that are without, redeeming the time.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Judges 19:15 And they turned aside thither, to go in and to lodge in Gibeah: and when he went in, he sat him down in a street of the city: for there was no man that took them into his house to lodging.

A Levite and his concubine were travelling and stopped in Gibeah, but no one offered them a place to stay.

1. God's Provision in Times of Need

2. Hospitality in the Bible

1. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

2. Romans 12:13 - Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Judges 19:16 And, behold, there came an old man from his work out of the field at even, which was also of mount Ephraim; and he sojourned in Gibeah: but the men of the place were Benjamites.

An old man from Mount Ephraim arrived in Gibeah at the end of the day, and the people of the city were from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. The Power of Being a Sojourner: How We Treat Others

2. The Journey of Life: Learning from Our Experiences

1. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

2. Romans 12:13 - Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Judges 19:17 And when he had lifted up his eyes, he saw a wayfaring man in the street of the city: and the old man said, Whither goest thou? and whence comest thou?

An old man encountered a wayfaring man in the street of the city and asked him where he was going and where he came from.

1. The Power of Conversation: How We Can Impact Others Through Asking Questions

2. Living Generously: How We Can Show Love to Others Through Kindness

1. Luke 10:25-37 - Parable of the Good Samaritan

2. Galatians 6:10 - Doing Good to All People

Judges 19:18 And he said unto him, We are passing from Bethlehemjudah toward the side of mount Ephraim; from thence am I: and I went to Bethlehemjudah, but I am now going to the house of the LORD; and there is no man that receiveth me to house.

A man travelling from Bethlehemjudah to the side of Mount Ephraim is not welcomed into anyone's home.

1. The importance of hospitality and welcoming strangers.

2. Why we should not take for granted the safety of our homes.

1. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

2. Romans 12:13 - "Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

Judges 19:19 Yet there is both straw and provender for our asses; and there is bread and wine also for me, and for thy handmaid, and for the young man which is with thy servants: there is no want of any thing.

A Levite and his concubine find hospitality at the house of an old man in Gibeah, and they are provided with food and drink.

1. God rewards the faithful with provision and hospitality.

2. Hospitality is a sign of true faithfulness.

1. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

2. Matthew 25:35 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

Judges 19:20 And the old man said, Peace be with thee; howsoever let all thy wants lie upon me; only lodge not in the street.

An old man offered hospitality to a Levite and his concubine, offering to take care of all of their needs and requesting that they not stay in the street.

1. The Importance of Hospitality - Exploring the hospitality shown in Judges 19:20 and how it can be applied to our lives today.

2. God's Faithfulness - Examining how God provides for us when we are in need, as exemplified in Judges 19:20.

1. Romans 12:13 - Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

2. Matthew 10:40-42 - Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

Judges 19:21 So he brought him into his house, and gave provender unto the asses: and they washed their feet, and did eat and drink.

The Levite provided hospitality to the old man by bringing him into his house and providing food and drink.

1: We should show hospitality to strangers in need, just as the Levite did.

2: We should always be willing to help others, even in difficult circumstances.

1: Romans 12:13 - Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

2: Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Judges 19:22 Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him.

A group of men in the city came to the house of an old man and demanded the man staying there to be brought out so they could "know" him.

1. The Power of Peer Pressure

2. Living Righteously in a Wicked Environment

1. Proverbs 13:20 - "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

2. 1 Corinthians 5:9-11 - "I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler not even to eat with such a one."

Judges 19:23 And the man, the master of the house, went out unto them, and said unto them, Nay, my brethren, nay, I pray you, do not so wickedly; seeing that this man is come into mine house, do not this folly.

Passage The master of the house asked two men not to do a wicked act of violence as a guest had entered his house.

1. The Importance of Hospitality and Protecting Guests

2. Loving Our Neighbors and Not Committing Wickedness

1. Romans 12:13 - Share with God s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

2. Matthew 7:12 - So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Judges 19:24 Behold, here is my daughter a maiden, and his concubine; them I will bring out now, and humble ye them, and do with them what seemeth good unto you: but unto this man do not so vile a thing.

A Levite offers his virgin daughter and concubine to be humiliated and abused in order to protect the man he is visiting.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How One Man's Selflessness Saved the Day

2. The Difference Between Right and Wrong: Making Difficult Choices for the Right Reasons

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

Judges 19:25 But the men would not hearken to him: so the man took his concubine, and brought her forth unto them; and they knew her, and abused her all the night until the morning: and when the day began to spring, they let her go.

A man was not listened to by some men, so he took his concubine and presented her to them. They abused her all night until morning, and then let her go.

1. The Power of Listening: Why We Must Hear Others Out

2. The Consequences of Ignoring the Voice of Reason

1. James 1:19 - "Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry."

2. Proverbs 18:13 - "He who answers before listening--that is his folly and his shame."

Judges 19:26 Then came the woman in the dawning of the day, and fell down at the door of the man's house where her lord was, till it was light.

In the early morning, a woman arrived at the house where her lord was staying and waited at the door until it was light.

1. The Power of Perseverance: A Study of the Woman in Judges 19

2. Finding Strength in Unexpected Places: An Analysis of Judges 19

1. Luke 11:5-8 - The parable of the persistent friend

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - Moses' promise of deliverance for the Israelites in the face of adversity

Judges 19:27 And her lord rose up in the morning, and opened the doors of the house, and went out to go his way: and, behold, the woman his concubine was fallen down at the door of the house, and her hands were upon the threshold.

A man discovers his concubine fallen and lifeless at the door of his house.

1. The Tragedy of a Fallen Woman - A on the consequences of sin and the need for repentance.

2. The Hardness of Heart - A on the dangers of a hardened heart and the need for compassion.

1. Ephesians 6:12 - For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Judges 19:28 And he said unto her, Up, and let us be going. But none answered. Then the man took her up upon an ass, and the man rose up, and gat him unto his place.

A man asked a woman to leave with him, but she did not respond. He then took her away on an ass and returned to his place.

1. The importance of taking action in faith.

2. Relying on God when faced with difficult decisions.

1. Isaiah 30:21 - And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Judges 19:29 And when he was come into his house, he took a knife, and laid hold on his concubine, and divided her, together with her bones, into twelve pieces, and sent her into all the coasts of Israel.

A Levite takes his concubine back to his house in Gibeah and, in a fit of rage, kills her with a knife and divides her body into twelve pieces, sending them to all the coasts of Israel.

1. The Dangers of Unchecked Anger, and How to Control it

2. The Power of Reconciliation and How it Can Overcome Conflict

1. Proverbs 16:32 - He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Judges 19:30 And it was so, that all that saw it said, There was no such deed done nor seen from the day that the children of Israel came up out of the land of Egypt unto this day: consider of it, take advice, and speak your minds.

The people of Israel witnessed an act of violence so extreme, that it had not been seen since they left Egypt. They called for people to reflect upon it and give their opinion.

1. The Power of Compassion: Understanding the gravity of violence and learning to show mercy.

2. The Impact of Our Actions: Recognizing the consequences of our behavior and the need to be mindful.

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. James 3:13-18 - "Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom."

Judges 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 20:1-11 introduces the Israelites' response to the crime committed against the Levite's concubine. In this chapter, all the Israelites gather together as one united community at Mizpah to discuss and take action regarding the horrific crime that took place in Gibeah. The Levite recounts the details of what happened, and they make a solemn vow not to return to their homes until justice is served.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 20:12-28, it recounts the gathering of an army against Benjamin. The Israelites send messengers throughout the tribe of Benjamin demanding that they hand over those responsible for the crime committed in Gibeah. However, instead of complying, the Benjamites refuse and prepare for war. The rest of Israel gathers a vast army made up of four hundred thousand warriors and confronts Benjamin.

Paragraph 3: Judges 20 concludes with an account where Benjamin initially gains an advantage but is eventually defeated by Israel. In Judges 20:29-48, it is mentioned that during battles between Israel and Benjamin, Benjamin's forces initially gain an upper hand by inflicting heavy casualties upon Israel. However, God guides Israel's strategy, leading them to adapt their tactics which eventually result in a decisive victory over Benjamin. Thousands from both sides are killed in these clashes.

In summary:

Judges 20 presents:

Israelites' response to crime gathering at Mizpah;

Gathering of an army against Benjamin refusal and preparation for war;

Benjamin initially gaining advantage but being defeated by Israel.

Emphasis on:

Israelites' response to crime gathering at Mizpah;

Gathering of an army against Benjamin refusal and preparation for war;

Benjamin initially gaining advantage but being defeated by Israel.

The chapter focuses on the Israelites' response to the crime committed against the Levite's concubine, their gathering as a united community, and the subsequent conflict with the tribe of Benjamin. In Judges 20, it is mentioned that all the Israelites come together at Mizpah to discuss and seek justice for the horrific crime that occurred in Gibeah. The Levite recounts the details of what transpired, and they make a solemn vow not to return to their homes until justice is served.

Continuing in Judges 20, messengers are sent throughout Benjamin demanding that they hand over those responsible for the crime. However, instead of complying with this demand for justice, Benjamin refuses and prepares for war against their fellow Israelites. In response, a vast army consisting of four hundred thousand warriors is gathered from the rest of Israel to confront Benjamin.

Judges 20 concludes with an account where battles ensue between Israel and Benjamin. Initially, Benjamin gains an advantage by inflicting heavy casualties upon Israel. However, through divine guidance and strategic adaptation led by God Himself Israel eventually turns the tide of battle in their favor and achieves a decisive victory over Benjamin despite suffering significant losses on both sides during these clashes.

Judges 20:1 Then all the children of Israel went out, and the congregation was gathered together as one man, from Dan even to Beersheba, with the land of Gilead, unto the LORD in Mizpeh.

The Israelites gathered together as one man to the Lord in Mizpeh.

1: Trusting in the Lord and coming together in unity

2: Relying on the Lord and being in agreement

1: Ephesians 4:2-3 - "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2: Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

Judges 20:2 And the chief of all the people, even of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand footmen that drew sword.

In Judges 20:2, the chiefs of all the tribes of Israel presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, with four hundred thousand footmen drawing swords.

1. The Strength of Unity in the Body of Christ

2. Faithful Obedience to the Will of God

1. Ephesians 4:3-4 - Make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4. 1 Samuel 15:22 - Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

Judges 20:3 (Now the children of Benjamin heard that the children of Israel were gone up to Mizpeh.) Then said the children of Israel, Tell us, how was this wickedness?

The children of Israel ask the children of Benjamin to explain the evil they have committed.

1: God desires justice and fairness, and we should follow His example by seeking to understand the wrongs of others and strive to find solutions together.

2: We must remember to treat others as we would want to be treated, to be humble and open to understanding each other in order to come to an agreement.

1: Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2: Colossians 3:12-14 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Judges 20:4 And the Levite, the husband of the woman that was slain, answered and said, I came into Gibeah that belongeth to Benjamin, I and my concubine, to lodge.

A Levite and his concubine arrive in the Benjaminite town of Gibeah for lodging.

1. The Meaning of Hospitality: How We Treat Strangers

2. How Our Actions Affect Others: The Consequences of Neglect

1. Luke 6:31 (And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.)

2. Romans 12:17-18 (17Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.)

Judges 20:5 And the men of Gibeah rose against me, and beset the house round about upon me by night, and thought to have slain me: and my concubine have they forced, that she is dead.

The men of Gibeah attacked the speaker and attempted to kill him, and they raped his concubine, resulting in her death.

1. The Dangers of Unchecked Evil

2. The Power of Purity and Righteousness

1. Romans 13:12-14 - The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Judges 20:6 And I took my concubine, and cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the country of the inheritance of Israel: for they have committed lewdness and folly in Israel.

This passage describes an event in the book of Judges where a man takes revenge on the men of Israel by cutting his concubine into pieces and sending her throughout the land.

1. The Dangers of Uncontrolled Rage: A Study of Judges 20:6

2. Vengeance is Not Ours: A Biblical Reflection on Justice

1. Proverbs 15:18 - A hot-tempered person stirs up strife, but one who is slow to anger quiets contention.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Judges 20:7 Behold, ye are all children of Israel; give here your advice and counsel.

The Israelites asked for counsel from one another on how to proceed with a difficult situation.

1. Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

1. Proverbs 11:14 Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

2. Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

Judges 20:8 And all the people arose as one man, saying, We will not any of us go to his tent, neither will we any of us turn into his house.

The whole congregation of Israel unanimously agreed to not return to their homes until the matter of Benjamin's crime was resolved.

1. Unity in the Face of Adversity - How the people of Israel worked together despite their differences.

2. Resisting Temptation - The importance of staying true to one's convictions.

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Judges 20:9 But now this shall be the thing which we will do to Gibeah; we will go up by lot against it;

The Israelites decide to cast lots to determine which tribe will go up against the town of Gibeah.

1. God's Sovereignty in Decision Making

2. The Power of Unity

1. Proverbs 16:33 - "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

2. Romans 12:4-5 - "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

Judges 20:10 And we will take ten men of an hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and an hundred of a thousand, and a thousand out of ten thousand, to fetch victual for the people, that they may do, when they come to Gibeah of Benjamin, according to all the folly that they have wrought in Israel.

The Israelites plan to select 10 men from each of their tribes to bring supplies to Gibeah of Benjamin in order to combat the foolishness they have caused in Israel.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Brings Victory

2. The Value of Righteousness: Upholding the Standards of God in All We Do

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Making Every Effort to Maintain the Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace

2. James 4:17 - So Whoever Knows the Right Thing to Do and Fails to Do It, For Him It Is Sin

Judges 20:11 So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, knit together as one man.

The men of Israel united and gathered together in one group to fight against a city.

1. God's people uniting as one to overcome adversity.

2. The power of unity among God's people.

1. Psalm 133:1-3 "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore."

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Judges 20:12 And the tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, What wickedness is this that is done among you?

The tribes of Israel demanded an explanation from the tribe of Benjamin for the wickedness that had been committed.

1. The Need for Accountability in Society

2. Examining Ourselves and Our Actions

1. Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Judges 20:13 Now therefore deliver us the men, the children of Belial, which are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel. But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel:

The Israelites asked the Benjaminites to hand over the wicked men of Gibeah so that they could put them to death and remove evil from Israel, but they refused to obey.

1. God's Justice: Understanding the Need to Remove Evil from Our Lives

2. The Power of Obedience: Why Following God's Commandments is Essential

1. Deuteronomy 13:12-18 - The consequences of rejecting God's commands.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:11 - The importance of being wise and understanding the right thing to do.

Judges 20:14 But the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together out of the cities unto Gibeah, to go out to battle against the children of Israel.

The children of Benjamin gathered in Gibeah to face the children of Israel in battle.

1. Overcoming Conflict Through Forgiveness and Reconciliation

2. Respecting Differences and Celebrating Unity

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Colossians 3:12-13 - "Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

Judges 20:15 And the children of Benjamin were numbered at that time out of the cities twenty and six thousand men that drew sword, beside the inhabitants of Gibeah, which were numbered seven hundred chosen men.

The children of Benjamin were counted as 26,000 men who were skilled with the sword, plus an additional 700 chosen men from the city of Gibeah.

1. God can use anyone, no matter their size or number, to accomplish His will.

2. God can use the smallest of things to make a big difference.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 - But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things and the things that are not to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.

2. Matthew 17:20 - He replied, Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

Judges 20:16 Among all this people there were seven hundred chosen men lefthanded; every one could sling stones at an hair breadth, and not miss.

700 left-handed men of Israel were able to sling stones accurately at a very small target.

1. The Power of Precision: Learning to be Accurate in Our Giftedness

2. Uncovering Hidden Abilities: The Unexpected Strengths of God's People

1. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:12 - We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. Instead, we will compare ourselves with the most excellent one.

Judges 20:17 And the men of Israel, beside Benjamin, were numbered four hundred thousand men that drew sword: all these were men of war.

The men of Israel, excluding Benjamin, were counted to be four hundred thousand men who were all warriors.

1. The Power of Unity: How strength lies in standing together.

2. The Importance of Courage: How bravery can carry us through difficult times.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Judges 20:18 And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up first.

The children of Israel went to the house of God to ask for guidance from God in determining who should go first into battle against the children of Benjamin and God answered that Judah should go first.

1. The Power of Prayer: Seeking Guidance from God

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together for a Common Goal

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Acts 4:31 - And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Judges 20:19 And the children of Israel rose up in the morning, and encamped against Gibeah.

The Israelites camped outside of Gibeah in the morning.

1. Living for God in Any Situation - Looking to God's example in Judges 20:19, we can learn to persevere despite difficult circumstances and trust in God to provide.

2. The Strength of Unity - Judges 20:19 shows how united the Israelites were, and how the power of a unified people can accomplish great things.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Judges 20:20 And the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin; and the men of Israel put themselves in array to fight against them at Gibeah.

The men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin at Gibeah.

1. "The Power of Unity"

2. "Overcoming Fear in the Face of Conflict"

1. Ephesians 6:13-18 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Proverbs 16:32 - He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Judges 20:21 And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men.

The children of Benjamin attacked the Israelites and killed 22,000 men.

1. God's Strength Is Perfected In Our Weakness

2. The Need For Unity In Our Relationships

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Judges 20:22 And the people the men of Israel encouraged themselves, and set their battle again in array in the place where they put themselves in array the first day.

The men of Israel rallied and prepared for battle in the same place they had fought the day before.

1. God calls us to rally and persevere in the face of adversity.

2. We must rely on God's strength to fight our spiritual battles.

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Judges 20:23 (And the children of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until even, and asked counsel of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother? And the LORD said, Go up against him.)

The Israelites sought the Lord's guidance on whether to go to war against Benjamin.

1. The importance of seeking God's counsel in difficult decisions.

2. The power of prayer to bring us closer to God.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!"

Judges 20:24 And the children of Israel came near against the children of Benjamin the second day.

The Israelites prepared for battle against the Benjaminites the second day.

1. God is with us in every battle.

2. Overcoming the odds through faith.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6-8 Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Judges 20:25 And Benjamin went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of Israel again eighteen thousand men; all these drew the sword.

On the second day of battle, Benjamin destroyed 18,000 men of Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: How Devotion to God Can Lead to Victory

2. The Cost of War: Examining the Price of Conflict

1. Romans 8:31: If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. John 15:13: Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Judges 20:26 Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of God, and wept, and sat there before the LORD, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

The children of Israel gathered at the house of God to mourn, fast, and offer burnt and peace offerings to the Lord.

1. The Power of Collective Worship

2. The Beauty of Sacrificial Living

1. Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord!

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Judges 20:27 And the children of Israel enquired of the LORD, (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days,

God is our source of strength and hope in difficult times.

1: We can turn to God in times of need for His strength and guidance.

2: Place your trust in God, He will never let you down.

1: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 20:28 And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days,) saying, Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease? And the LORD said, Go up; for to morrow I will deliver them into thine hand.

Phinehas asked God if he should go to battle against Benjamin and God told him to go up and that He would deliver them into his hand.

1. God is Always Faithful - He will Provide Us Strength to Overcome Our Struggles

2. Trust in the Lord - He Will Help Us Reach Our Goals

1. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Judges 20:29 And Israel set liers in wait round about Gibeah.

The Israelites set an ambush around Gibeah.

1. The Power of Prayer: Knowing When to Take Action

2. The Strength of Unity: Standing Together in Faith

1. Psalm 27:3: Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

2. Matthew 18:20: For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

Judges 20:30 And the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day, and put themselves in array against Gibeah, as at other times.

The Israelites went to battle against the Benjaminites on the third day, and took their positions against Gibeah as usual.

1. The Power of Perseverance: How the Israelites Refused to Give Up

2. The Need for Courage: How the Israelites Faced the Benjaminites

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Judges 20:31 And the children of Benjamin went out against the people, and were drawn away from the city; and they began to smite of the people, and kill, as at other times, in the highways, of which one goeth up to the house of God, and the other to Gibeah in the field, about thirty men of Israel.

The Benjaminites went out to fight the Israelites and killed about thirty men in the highways between the house of God and Gibeah.

1. The Cost of Conflict: The Impact of War on the Innocent

2. Living in a State of Holy War: Understanding Biblical Conflict

1. Isaiah 2:4 - They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

2. James 4:1-3 - What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.

Judges 20:32 And the children of Benjamin said, They are smitten down before us, as at the first. But the children of Israel said, Let us flee, and draw them from the city unto the highways.

The children of Benjamin were victorious in battle, but the children of Israel wanted to take the fight to the highways.

1. God is Always With Us in Battle

2. We Must Persevere in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Judges 20:33 And all the men of Israel rose up out of their place, and put themselves in array at Baaltamar: and the liers in wait of Israel came forth out of their places, even out of the meadows of Gibeah.

All the men of Israel assembled at Baaltamar and the liers in wait of Israel came from the meadows of Gibeah.

1. Overcoming our Fears - How to stand up and fight against what we are afraid of

2. United Strength - How to rely on others to stand up and face challenges

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Judges 20:34 And there came against Gibeah ten thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and the battle was sore: but they knew not that evil was near them.

Ten thousand chosen men from Israel came to battle against Gibeah, and the battle was fierce. However, they did not realize that danger was close at hand.

1. The Danger of Ignorance - Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. The Blessing of Wisdom - Proverbs 3:13 Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding.

1. Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Proverbs 3:13 Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding.

Judges 20:35 And the LORD smote Benjamin before Israel: and the children of Israel destroyed of the Benjamites that day twenty and five thousand and an hundred men: all these drew the sword.

The Lord smote Benjamin, resulting in the death of 25,100 men.

1. The Lord's Wrath: A Warning to the Faithless

2. The Power of Faith: A Blessing to the Righteous

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. James 1:20 - For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Judges 20:36 So the children of Benjamin saw that they were smitten: for the men of Israel gave place to the Benjamites, because they trusted unto the liers in wait which they had set beside Gibeah.

The men of Israel allowed the Benjamites to prevail in battle because they trusted the ambush they had set up.

1: We must be careful who we trust in life, for it is easy to be deceived.

2: The Lord is faithful and will always protect us from those who seek to do us harm.

1: Psalm 37:3-4 "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Judges 20:37 And the liers in wait hasted, and rushed upon Gibeah; and the liers in wait drew themselves along, and smote all the city with the edge of the sword.

The army of Israel surrounded the city of Gibeah and attacked it with swords.

1. "The Power of Unification: How God Strengthens Us Through Unity"

2. "The Destruction of Gibeah: What We Can Learn From the Fall of a City"

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Joshua 6:20 - "When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city."

Judges 20:38 Now there was an appointed sign between the men of Israel and the liers in wait, that they should make a great flame with smoke rise up out of the city.

The men of Israel and the liers in wait had an appointed sign of a great flame with smoke that would rise up from the city.

1. The Power of Signs and Symbols: How to Use Them to Communicate God's Message

2. The Strength of Unification: How to Come Together as One

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Romans 12:4-5 - "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

Judges 20:39 And when the men of Israel retired in the battle, Benjamin began to smite and kill of the men of Israel about thirty persons: for they said, Surely they are smitten down before us, as in the first battle.

The men of Israel were defeated in battle by Benjamin who killed about thirty of them.

1. Trust in the Lord and not in your own strength. Proverbs 3:5-6

2. Do not let pride lead you into destruction. Proverbs 16:18

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Judges 20:40 But when the flame began to arise up out of the city with a pillar of smoke, the Benjamites looked behind them, and, behold, the flame of the city ascended up to heaven.

The Benjamites were surprised when they saw a flame arising from the city with a pillar of smoke reaching into the sky.

1. God's power is beyond our comprehension.

2. Even in the face of disaster, we can look to God for hope.

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

Judges 20:41 And when the men of Israel turned again, the men of Benjamin were amazed: for they saw that evil was come upon them.

The men of Israel were victorious in their battle against the men of Benjamin and the latter were left in amazement when they realized the adversity they faced.

1. Adversity is Inevitable: Trust in God Even in Difficult Times (Judges 20:41)

2. Do Not Let Fear and Doubt Disrupt Your Faith (Judges 20:41)

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Judges 20:42 Therefore they turned their backs before the men of Israel unto the way of the wilderness; but the battle overtook them; and them which came out of the cities they destroyed in the midst of them.

The men of Israel pursued the Benjaminites and destroyed them in the wilderness.

1: God's justice will always prevail.

2: We must never turn away from God's will.

1: Romans 12:19- Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Psalm 37:25- I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

Judges 20:43 Thus they inclosed the Benjamites round about, and chased them, and trode them down with ease over against Gibeah toward the sunrising.

The Benjamites were chased and trodden down with ease from Gibeah towards the sunrise.

1. The Power of God's Protection

2. The Mercy of God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Exodus 14:13 - And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.

Judges 20:44 And there fell of Benjamin eighteen thousand men; all these were men of valour.

The passage from Judges 20:44 states that 18,000 men of Benjamin were killed in battle.

1. God is sovereign in times of war and peace.

2. Do not be led astray by false hearts.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2. Proverbs 4:23-24 - Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you.

Judges 20:45 And they turned and fled toward the wilderness unto the rock of Rimmon: and they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard after them unto Gidom, and slew two thousand men of them.

The Israelites pursued the enemy and killed two thousand of them, and gathered five thousand as they fled towards the wilderness of Rimmon.

1: We can learn from the Israelites to never give up in the face of adversity and to keep fighting for what we believe in.

2: We must be willing to lay down our lives for a greater cause, just as the Israelites did.

1: Matthew 10:38-39 - And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

2: Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Judges 20:46 So that all which fell that day of Benjamin were twenty and five thousand men that drew the sword; all these were men of valour.

The tribe of Benjamin lost 25,000 men in battle.

1: We can learn from the bravery and courage of the tribe of Benjamin, who were willing to fight for what they believed in.

2: In times of hardship and difficulty, we as Christians should remember that God will never leave us and will always be by our side.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Judges 20:47 But six hundred men turned and fled to the wilderness unto the rock Rimmon, and abode in the rock Rimmon four months.

Six hundred men fled to the Rock Rimmon and stayed there for four months.

1. The Power of Faithful Endurance

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Deuteronomy 33:27 - The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.

Judges 20:48 And the men of Israel turned again upon the children of Benjamin, and smote them with the edge of the sword, as well the men of every city, as the beast, and all that came to hand: also they set on fire all the cities that they came to.

The men of Israel attacked the children of Benjamin with swords and destroyed everything in their path.

1. The importance of standing firm in faith when facing difficulties.

2. Remembering God's faithfulness even in the darkest of times.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Judges 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Judges 21:1-14 introduces the aftermath of the war between Israel and Benjamin. In this chapter, the Israelites gather at Mizpah to seek guidance from God regarding their actions against the tribe of Benjamin. They make a solemn oath not to give their daughters in marriage to any man from Benjamin. However, they soon realize that by doing so, they risk the extinction of the tribe of Benjamin since no women would be available for them to marry.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Judges 21:15-23, it recounts a solution devised by the Israelites to provide wives for the remaining Benjamites. They suggest that since Jabesh-gilead did not participate in the battle against Benjamin, they should be punished by having their unmarried women taken as wives for the Benjamites. The Israelites send an army to Jabesh-gilead and spare four hundred virgins who are given to Benjamin.

Paragraph 3: Judges 21 concludes with an account where additional measures are taken to secure wives for those who remain without one among Benjamin's tribe. In Judges 21:24-25, it is mentioned that there are still men from Benjamin who do not have wives even after receiving women from Jabesh-gilead. To address this issue, during a festival at Shiloh, they advise these men to hide in vineyards and abduct young women who come out to dance and make them their wives.

In summary:

Judges 21 presents:

Aftermath of war Israel's oath against giving daughters in marriage;

Solution devised taking unmarried women from Jabesh-gilead;

Additional measures abduction of young women during a festival.

Emphasis on:

Aftermath of war Israel's oath against giving daughters in marriage;

Solution devised taking unmarried women from Jabesh-gilead;

Additional measures abduction of young women during a festival.

The chapter focuses on the aftermath of the war between Israel and Benjamin, the solution devised to provide wives for the remaining Benjamites, and additional measures taken to secure wives for those who remain without one among Benjamin's tribe. In Judges 21, it is mentioned that after the war, the Israelites gather at Mizpah and make a solemn oath not to allow their daughters to marry any man from Benjamin due to their actions. However, they soon realize that this would lead to the potential extinction of the tribe of Benjamin since no women would be available for them to marry.

Continuing in Judges 21, a solution is proposed by the Israelites. They suggest punishing Jabesh-gilead for not participating in the battle against Benjamin by taking unmarried women from their city as wives for the Benjamites. An army is sent to Jabesh-gilead, sparing four hundred virgins who are given as wives to Benjamin.

Judges 21 concludes with an account where additional measures are taken to secure wives for those who remain without one among Benjamin's tribe. During a festival at Shiloh, they advise these men without wives to hide in vineyards and abduct young women who come out to dance. By doing so, they provide wives for these men and ensure that no one from Benjamin remains without a wife a controversial course of action taken by Israel in order to preserve this tribe within their community.

Judges 21:1 Now the men of Israel had sworn in Mizpeh, saying, There shall not any of us give his daughter unto Benjamin to wife.

The Israelites had made a vow not to give their daughters in marriage to any of the members of the tribe of Benjamin.

1. Living up to your promises: The importance of honoring your word.

2. The power of community: Working together to uphold a shared commitment.

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teaching on the importance of keeping one's word.

2. Galatians 6:9-10 - Doing good works and being a blessing to others.

Judges 21:2 And the people came to the house of God, and abode there till even before God, and lifted up their voices, and wept sore;

The people gathered at the house of God and mourned together in grief.

1. The Strength of Unity in Mourning

2. Finding Comfort in the House of God

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - "The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

2. Isaiah 61:1-2 - "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

Judges 21:3 And said, O LORD God of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be to day one tribe lacking in Israel?

The Israelites are concerned as to why there is one tribe lacking in Israel.

1. God's Plan - A on the importance of trusting in God's plan even when the outcome is not what we may have expected.

2. Perseverance in Uncertainty - A on the need to remain faithful and persevere even when faced with uncertainty.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Judges 21:4 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people rose early, and built there an altar, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

The people of Israel rose early and built an altar to offer burnt and peace offerings.

1: God is always faithful and will provide for us when we turn to Him.

2: We should approach the Lord with reverence and humility.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2: Hebrews 13:15-16 "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Judges 21:5 And the children of Israel said, Who is there among all the tribes of Israel that came not up with the congregation unto the LORD? For they had made a great oath concerning him that came not up to the LORD to Mizpeh, saying, He shall surely be put to death.

The children of Israel had made a great oath to put to death any Israelite who had not gone up to Mizpeh with the congregation to the Lord.

1. The importance of following the Lord's commands in our lives

2. The power of covenant and oaths in our faith

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

20, that you may love the LORD your God, obey his voice and hold fast to him, for he is your life and length of days.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

Judges 21:6 And the children of Israel repented them for Benjamin their brother, and said, There is one tribe cut off from Israel this day.

The children of Israel felt sorrow for their brother Benjamin as one tribe had been cut off from Israel.

1: We must remember to love our brothers and sisters, as God loves us.

2: We must have faith that God will provide for us, even in difficult times.

1: 1 Peter 4:8 - Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

2: James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Judges 21:7 How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to wives?

The Israelites had taken a vow to not give their daughters to the remaining men of the tribe of Benjamin, and were looking for a solution to provide them with wives.

1. The Power of Vows: Keeping Promises in a Changing World

2. Finding Community in Unfamiliar Places

1. Matthew 5:33-37 ( Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all... )

2. Ruth 1:16-17 ( But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. )

Judges 21:8 And they said, What one is there of the tribes of Israel that came not up to Mizpeh to the LORD? And, behold, there came none to the camp from Jabeshgilead to the assembly.

The tribes of Israel had gathered at Mizpeh to the Lord, but no one from Jabeshgilead had attended.

1. The Importance of Gathering Together to Worship the Lord

2. The Power of Community: How Our Presence Makes an Impact

1. Hebrews 10:24-25: "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

2. Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

Judges 21:9 For the people were numbered, and, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead there.

The people of Jabeshgilead were not present to be numbered.

1. The importance of being counted in the body of Christ.

2. God's grace is available to all who seek Him.

1. Revelation 7:9-17 - A great multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

Judges 21:10 And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.

The congregation of Israel sent twelve thousand of their bravest men to attack the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead, including the women and children.

1. The Love of God in the Face of War

2. The Hypocrisy of Violent Solutions

1. Romans 12:14-21 - Bless those who persecute you; do not repay anyone evil for evil; live peaceably with all; overcome evil with good

2. Isaiah 2:4 - He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Judges 21:11 And this is the thing that ye shall do, Ye shall utterly destroy every male, and every woman that hath lain by man.

The people of Israel are commanded to destroy all men and women who have engaged in sexual relations.

1. The Sin of Immorality: God's Call for Justice

2. The Importance of Sexual Purity in Our Lives

1. Galatians 5:19 21 - Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18 20 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Judges 21:12 And they found among the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead four hundred young virgins, that had known no man by lying with any male: and they brought them unto the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.

This passage describes how the people of Jabeshgilead found four hundred young virgins who had not engaged in any sexual activity and brought them to Shiloh.

1. The importance of sexual purity and holiness

2. The power of faith in a time of need

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 - "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit."

2. Titus 2:11-14 - "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

Judges 21:13 And the whole congregation sent some to speak to the children of Benjamin that were in the rock Rimmon, and to call peaceably unto them.

The people of Israel sent an envoy to the Benjaminites in order to make peace with them.

1. Making Peace with Our Brothers and Sisters

2. The Power of Reconciliation

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Judges 21:14 And Benjamin came again at that time; and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of Jabeshgilead: and yet so they sufficed them not.

The tribe of Benjamin did not have enough wives, so they were given the women who were saved from the city of Jabeshgilead.

1. The Power of Self-Sacrifice - How sacrificing for others can bring great rewards.

2. Faithful to the End - Never give up in the face of impossible odds.

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Judges 21:15 And the people repented them for Benjamin, because that the LORD had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.

After the tribes of Israel had made war on Benjamin, the people repented for their actions, recognizing that it was God who had caused the breach between the tribes.

1. We Need to Remember that God Is in Control.

2. Repentance and Forgiveness in the Face of Tragedy.

1. Isaiah 14:24-27 - The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:

2. Romans 12:19-21 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Judges 21:16 Then the elders of the congregation said, How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing the women are destroyed out of Benjamin?

The elders of the congregation are asking how they can provide wives for the remaining men of Benjamin, since the women of Benjamin have been killed.

1. God's People Have Compassion for Their Fellow Man - Judges 21:16

2. When Adversity Strikes, We Find Strength in Community - Judges 21:16

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

2. Hebrews 13:3 - "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body."

Judges 21:17 And they said, There must be an inheritance for them that be escaped of Benjamin, that a tribe be not destroyed out of Israel.

The Israelite tribes decided to not let the tribe of Benjamin be destroyed in order to preserve the inheritance of the escaped Benjaminites.

1: God's mercy and grace can save us from destruction and help us to receive an inheritance.

2: We can learn from the Israelites to be generous and look out for those in need.

1: Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2: Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Judges 21:18 Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israel have sworn, saying, Cursed be he that giveth a wife to Benjamin.

The children of Israel have taken an oath not to give wives to Benjaminites.

1: Oaths are a binding agreement - the power of our words.

2: The importance of community and unity.

1: Matthew 5:33-37 - Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No'.

2: Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Judges 21:19 Then they said, Behold, there is a feast of the LORD in Shiloh yearly in a place which is on the north side of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goeth up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah.

The Israelites were instructed to attend a yearly feast of the LORD at a specific place north of Bethel, east of the highway from Bethel to Shechem, and south of Lebonah.

1. The Lord's Call to Worship: How the Israelites Responded to the Invitation

2. Growing in Faith Through Obedience: Why Israelites Attended the LORD's Feast

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7: "But you shall seek the place that the LORD your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there. To that place you shall go, and there you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the offering that you present, your vow offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock. And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.

2. Hebrews 10:25: "Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Judges 21:20 Therefore they commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, Go and lie in wait in the vineyards;

The children of Benjamin were commanded to lie in wait in the vineyards.

1. Waiting in faith: trusting in God's timing in times of uncertainty.

2. God's guidance: trusting His will even when it may not make sense.

1. Romans 8:28, And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:7, Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Judges 21:21 And see, and, behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in dances, then come ye out of the vineyards, and catch you every man his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.

The men of the tribe of Benjamin are instructed to find wives among the daughters of Shiloh by waiting in the vineyards and then taking them to the land of Benjamin when they come out to dance.

1. Making Godly Choices in Finding a Spouse

2. The Importance of Waiting on the Lord in All Things

1. Ephesians 5:25-27 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

2. Proverbs 19:14 - House and wealth are inherited from parents, but a prudent wife is from the Lord.

Judges 21:22 And it shall be, when their fathers or their brethren come unto us to complain, that we will say unto them, Be favourable unto them for our sakes: because we reserved not to each man his wife in the war: for ye did not give unto them at this time, that ye should be guilty.

This passage from Judges 21:22 speaks of the Israelites willingness to atone for their wrongdoings by offering to provide wives for their fellow Israelites who had not been able to marry in the war.

1. Taking Responsibility for Our Actions: A Lesson from Judges 21:22

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning from the Israelites in Judges 21:22

1. Matthew 6:14-15, For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Ephesians 4:32, Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Judges 21:23 And the children of Benjamin did so, and took them wives, according to their number, of them that danced, whom they caught: and they went and returned unto their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and dwelt in them.

The Benjaminites took wives from among the women who danced during the festival, and then returned to their own cities to live.

1. The Power of Choice: How Our Choices Affect Our Lives

2. Living in the Right Place: Finding Our Place in Life

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Judges 21:24 And the children of Israel departed thence at that time, every man to his tribe and to his family, and they went out from thence every man to his inheritance.

The children of Israel returned to their families and their inheritance.

1: God cares for us and provides us with the resources to fulfill our destinies.

2: We all have an individual role to play in fulfilling God's purpose.

1: Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2: Joshua 1:9 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

The people of Israel had no king, so everyone did as they saw fit.

1: We need to be aware of the consequences of acting independently without considering the collective good.

2: We should seek guidance from God to determine what is right and wrong.

1: Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

2: Colossians 3:17 - "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Ruth 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Ruth 1:1-5 introduces the setting and the family of Elimelech. In this chapter, there is a famine in the land of Israel, specifically in Bethlehem. A man named Elimelech, along with his wife Naomi and their two sons, Mahlon and Kilion, leave Bethlehem to seek refuge in Moab. They settle there for some time. Tragically, Elimelech dies while they are living in Moab. Naomi is left as a widow with her two sons.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Ruth 1:6-14, it recounts Naomi's decision to return to Bethlehem. After living in Moab for about ten years, both Mahlon and Kilion also die without leaving any offspring behind. Upon hearing that the famine has ended in Bethlehem, Naomi decides to return home since she has heard that God has provided food for His people there. She encourages her daughters-in-law Orpah and Ruth to stay behind and find new husbands among their own people.

Paragraph 3: Ruth 1 concludes with Ruth's commitment to stay with Naomi. In Ruth 1:15-22, it is mentioned that despite Naomi's urging for them to go back, Ruth clings tightly to her mother-in-law and expresses her determination to remain by her side no matter what challenges lie ahead. They both return together to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest season a significant turning point where Ruth's loyalty towards Naomi becomes evident.

In summary:

Ruth 1 presents:

Famine leads Elimelech's family from Bethlehem to Moab;

Naomi decides to return after losing husband and sons;

Ruth commits herself to stay with Naomi as they return together.

Emphasis on:

Famine leads Elimelech's family from Bethlehem to Moab;

Naomi decides to return after losing husband and sons;

Ruth commits herself to stay with Naomi as they return together.

The chapter focuses on the story of Elimelech's family, their journey from Bethlehem to Moab due to a famine, Naomi's decision to return home after losing her husband and sons, and Ruth's unwavering commitment to stay by Naomi's side. In Ruth 1, it is mentioned that a severe famine strikes the land of Israel, prompting Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and their two sons Mahlon and Kilion to leave Bethlehem and seek refuge in Moab. They settle there for an extended period.

Continuing in Ruth 1, tragedy strikes when Elimelech dies while they are living in Moab. Both Mahlon and Kilion also pass away without leaving any offspring behind. Upon hearing that the famine has ended in Bethlehem, Naomi decides to return home since she has heard that God has provided food for His people there. She encourages her daughters-in-law Orpah and Ruth to remain in Moab and find new husbands among their own people.

Ruth 1 concludes with a significant moment where Ruth demonstrates her deep loyalty towards Naomi. Despite being urged by Naomi multiple times to go back like Orpah did, Ruth clings tightly to her mother-in-law. She expresses her determination to stay with Naomi no matter what challenges lie ahead. Together they embark on the journey back to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest season a pivotal decision that sets the stage for the remarkable story of loyalty and faithfulness found within the Book of Ruth.

Ruth 1:1 Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehemjudah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons.

A man and his family travelled to the country of Moab during the time when the judges ruled due to a famine in the land of Bethlehemjudah.

1. Allow God to lead you in difficult times.

2. Realize that God has a plan for us even when we face challenging circumstances.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Ruth 1:2 And the name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehemjudah. And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there.

Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and his two sons Mahlon and Chilion moved from Bethlehemjudah to the country of Moab.

1. Moving Forward in Faith: A Study on the Life of Naomi

2. Taking a Leap of Faith: Lessons from Elimelech and His Family

1. Ruth 1:2

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Ruth 1:3 And Elimelech Naomi's husband died; and she was left, and her two sons.

Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, passed away leaving her and her two sons alone.

1. God's Redemption in Ruth: Hope in Difficult Times

2. The Challenge of Loss and Grief: A Study of Ruth 1

1. Psalm 34:18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ruth 1:4 And they took them wives of the women of Moab; the name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten years.

Elimelech and his two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, traveled to Moab to escape a famine in Bethlehem. They married two Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth, and stayed in Moab for about ten years.

1. Finding Strength During Difficult Times

2. The Power of Love and Loyalty

1. Romans 12:12, Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

2. Galatians 6:2, Bear ye one another s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Ruth 1:5 And Mahlon and Chilion died also both of them; and the woman was left of her two sons and her husband.

The woman was left alone after the death of her husband and two sons.

1: Even in our darkest moments, God is with us.

2: Perseverance in times of trial can bring about great strength and hope.

1: Romans 5:3-5 - "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

2: Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Ruth 1:6 Then she arose with her daughters in law, that she might return from the country of Moab: for she had heard in the country of Moab how that the LORD had visited his people in giving them bread.

Naomi decided to return to Judah with her daughters-in-law after hearing news that God had blessed His people with food.

1. God's grace is sufficient for us in all circumstances.

2. The power of faith in times of difficulty.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ s power may rest on me.

2. Habakkuk 2:4 - See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness.

Ruth 1:7 Wherefore she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters in law with her; and they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah.

Naomi and her two daughters-in-law leave Moab to return to the land of Judah.

1. The Power of Perseverance: A Look into Naomi's Journey

2. How Ruth's Faithfulness Changed the Course of History

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Ruth 1:8 And Naomi said unto her two daughters in law, Go, return each to her mother's house: the LORD deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me.

Naomi encourages her two daughters-in-law to return to their mother's house and prays for God's kindness upon them.

1. The Power of Kindness: Naomi's example of blessing her daughters-in-law.

2. The Comfort of Home: The importance of returning to our family and friends.

1. Galatians 6:10 - "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith"

2. John 15:12 - "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you"

Ruth 1:9 The LORD grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband. Then she kissed them; and they lifted up their voice, and wept.

The LORD blessed Ruth and her mother-in-law Naomi by granting them rest in each other's houses.

1. The Power of Blessing: How God's Grace Bestows Rest

2. The Comfort of Family: Finding Refuge in Our Loved Ones

1. Genesis 28:15 "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."

2. Psalm 91:1 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty."

Ruth 1:10 And they said unto her, Surely we will return with thee unto thy people.

Naomi and her daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah, discussed their plans for the future. Naomi urged them to return to their families, but Ruth insisted that she stay with Naomi.

1. The Power of Loyalty: Exploring Ruth's Commitment to Naomi

2. The Power of Choice: Understanding the Different Paths of Ruth and Orpah

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Ruth 1:11 And Naomi said, Turn again, my daughters: why will ye go with me? are there yet any more sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands?

Naomi's daughters ask to remain with her despite her being destitute, but she refuses, not wanting to be a burden to them.

1. God's faithfulness in the midst of suffering and loss.

2. The power of family and friendship in times of difficulty.

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

Ruth 1:12 Turn again, my daughters, go your way; for I am too old to have an husband. If I should say, I have hope, if I should have an husband also to night, and should also bear sons;

Ruth's mother-in-law Naomi encourages her daughters-in-law to turn back to their own people and find new husbands.

1. God's plan is often greater than our own: Ruth 1:12

2. Faithfulness in difficult times: Ruth 1:12

1. Matthew 19:26 - "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Ruth 1:13 Would ye tarry for them till they were grown? would ye stay for them from having husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes that the hand of the LORD is gone out against me.

Naomi tells her daughters-in-law that she cannot wait for them to be grown in order to find husbands and that it grieves her that the hand of the LORD is against her.

1. God's Providence: Trusting the Lord in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Grief: Living with the Hand of the LORD

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Ruth 1:14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her.

Orpah said goodbye to her mother-in-law while Ruth made the decision to stay and remain with her.

1. The Power of Commitment: Examining Ruth's Loyalty

2. Choosing between Obligations and Desires: Orpah's Dilemma

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you this day for your good?

2. Psalm 119:30 - "I have chosen the way of truth; I have set my heart on your laws."

Ruth 1:15 And she said, Behold, thy sister in law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister in law.

Ruth displays a great act of loyalty and faith by her decision to stay in Bethlehem with Naomi instead of returning to her own people and gods.

1: Our loyalty and faithfulness to God and other believers should take precedence over our own desires and comfort.

2: Ruth's example of selflessness and dedication to God and others should be emulated by all believers.

1: Matthew 22:37-39 And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Ruth 1:16 And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:

Ruth displays loyalty and faithfulness to Naomi.

1. The importance of loyalty and faithfulness in relationships.

2. God's provision and promise to His people.

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

Ruth 1:17 Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.

Ruth's devotion to her mother-in-law is exemplified in this verse.

1. The Power of Devotion in Relationships

2. The Importance of Loyalty

1. John 15:13 - "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

2. Proverbs 17:17 - "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Ruth 1:18 When she saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her.

Naomi and Ruth were talking about Ruth's future and Ruth showed her commitment to staying with Naomi by not speaking any more.

1. Our Commitment to Those We Love

2. Staying Focused on Our Calling

1. Ruth 1:18

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Ruth 1:19 So they two went until they came to Bethlehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Bethlehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, Is this Naomi?

Two women, Naomi and Ruth, journeyed to Bethlehem and when they arrived, the entire city was in awe of Naomi.

1. The Power of Faithful Companionship - Exploring the story of Ruth and Naomi's friendship and how it provides an example of faith and loyalty.

2. The Value of Piety - Examining the response of the people of Bethlehem to Naomi's return and how it demonstrates the importance of reverently living a life of faith.

1. Ruth 1:19 - And it came to pass, when they were come to Bethlehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, Is this Naomi?

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Ruth 1:20 And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me.

Naomi expresses her grief at the hardships she has experienced in life.

1: God is present in our suffering and our faith in Him sustains us.

2: God is the ultimate source of comfort in times of sorrow.

1: Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Ruth 1:21 I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

Naomi's life had been filled with hardship and suffering.

1. God's plan for us may not always appear to be our best, but He still knows what is best for us.

2. We can trust in God even when life is hard and He can bring us through our trials.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Ruth 1:22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

Naomi and Ruth return to Bethlehem at the start of barley harvest.

1: The Return of Naomi & Ruth - God's Faithful Provision

2: Ruth's Commitment to Naomi - An Example of Unconditional Love

1: Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

2: John 15:12-13 - This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Ruth 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Ruth 2:1-7 introduces Ruth's encounter with Boaz. In this chapter, Ruth goes to glean in the fields after the harvesters, seeking to find favor and gather grain for herself and Naomi. By chance, she ends up in the field belonging to Boaz, who is a relative of Elimelech. Boaz arrives at the field and notices Ruth among the workers. He asks his overseer about her identity and learns that she is the Moabite woman who returned with Naomi from Moab.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Ruth 2:8-16, it recounts Boaz's kindness towards Ruth. Boaz approaches Ruth and tells her to stay in his field, assuring her of his protection and provision. He instructs his workers not to harm or mistreat her but rather provide extra grain for her to gather. Boaz even invites her to share meals with his own servants.

Paragraph 3: Ruth 2 concludes with Naomi's response upon hearing about Boaz's kindness towards Ruth. In Ruth 2:17-23, it is mentioned that when Ruth returns home with a significant amount of barley from Boaz's field, Naomi is overjoyed by God's provision through him. She recognizes that he is a close relative a potential kinsman-redeemer and realizes that this encounter holds great significance for their future.

In summary:

Ruth 2 presents:

Ruth gleaning in Boaz's field encounter between them;

Boaz showing kindness and protection towards Ruth;

Naomi recognizing potential significance of their encounter.

Emphasis on:

Ruth gleaning in Boaz's field encounter between them;

Boaz showing kindness and protection towards Ruth;

Naomi recognizing potential significance of their encounter.

The chapter focuses on Ruth's encounter with Boaz while gleaning in his field, Boaz's acts of kindness and protection towards Ruth, and Naomi's recognition of the potential significance of their encounter. In Ruth 2, it is mentioned that Ruth goes to glean in the fields after the harvesters, hoping to find favor and gather grain for herself and Naomi. By chance, she ends up in the field belonging to Boaz, who happens to be a relative of Elimelech.

Continuing in Ruth 2, Boaz notices Ruth among the workers and learns about her identity. He approaches her with kindness and assures her of his protection. Boaz instructs his workers not to harm or mistreat her but rather provides extra grain for her to gather. He even invites her to share meals with his own servants a gesture that demonstrates his generosity and care towards Ruth.

Ruth 2 concludes with Naomi's response upon hearing about Boaz's kindness towards Ruth. When Ruth returns home with a significant amount of barley from Boaz's field, Naomi recognizes God's provision through him. She realizes that he is a close relative a potential kinsman-redeemer who holds great significance for their future. This realization sets the stage for further developments in their journey as they navigate God's providence and guidance in finding security and redemption within their family lineage.

Ruth 2:1 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.

Naomi had a wealthy relative, Boaz, of her late husband Elimelech's family.

1. God uses people to provide for our needs.

2. We can trust God to work through others to help us in difficult times.

1. Ruth 2:1

2. Philippians 4:19 (And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.)

Ruth 2:2 And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.

Naomi allows Ruth to go and glean ears of corn in a field to provide for them.

1. God's grace is always available and can be found in unexpected places.

2. We must recognize and take advantage of the opportunities given to us.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

Ruth 2:3 And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.

Ruth goes to glean in the field and happens upon Boaz's land, who is a relative of her late husband.

1. The Power of God's Providence: An Exploration of Ruth 2:3

2. Trusting in God's Plan: Learning from the Story of Ruth

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Ruth 2:4 And, behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said unto the reapers, The LORD be with you. And they answered him, The LORD bless thee.

Boaz, a man from Bethlehem, greeted the reapers with a blessing and received one in return.

1. The Power of Blessing: How We Can Spread God's Love Through Our Words

2. The Power of Community: How Our Faithful Fellowship Forms a Supportive Network

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 " Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Ruth 2:5 Then said Boaz unto his servant that was set over the reapers, Whose damsel is this?

Boaz notices Ruth and inquires about her.

1. The Power of Notice: How God Sees the Unnoticed

2. God's Providence: How God Cares for the Forgotten

1. Isaiah 43:1-4, "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

2. Matthew 25:35-36, For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Ruth 2:6 And the servant that was set over the reapers answered and said, It is the Moabitish damsel that came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab:

The Moabitish damsel has returned with Naomi from Moab.

1. How God's Faithfulness Provides Comfort and Strength in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Homecoming and Returning to Our Roots

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Ruth 1:16 - "But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

Ruth 2:7 And she said, I pray you, let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves: so she came, and hath continued even from the morning until now, that she tarried a little in the house.

Ruth asked Boaz, a relative of her mother-in-law Naomi, if she could glean and gather leftover grain in his fields, and he agreed.

1. The Power of Kindness - Sharing what you have with those in need.

2. God's Provision - Relying on God's mercy to provide for your needs.

1. Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

2. Proverbs 11:25 "The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself."

Ruth 2:8 Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens:

Ruth shows her commitment to God's law and her devotion to her mother-in-law by choosing to remain in Boaz's field.

1: We must be committed to God's law and devoted to those who are closest to us.

2: Ruth's example of faithfulness, commitment, and devotion should be emulated in our own lives.

1: Galatians 5:13-14, "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

2: Matthew 22:37-40, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Ruth 2:9 Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn.

Boaz instructs Ruth to glean grain in his fields and to drink from the vessels provided by the young men.

1. The Generosity of Boaz: A Model for Us.

2. God s Provision in Uncertain Times.

1. Galatians 6:9-10: And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2. Proverbs 19:17: Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

Ruth 2:10 Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?

Ruth encounters Boaz and expresses her surprise that he would take such an interest in her, as she is a stranger.

1: God's grace is for everyone, regardless of their background, status, or experience.

2: God's grace is a gift that will surprise us and often exceed our expectations.

1: Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

2: Titus 3:5-7 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Ruth 2:11 And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.

Boaz expressed admiration for Ruth's commitment to her mother-in-law and her willingness to leave her homeland and family to come to a place she was unfamiliar with.

1. The Power of Commitment: Exploring Ruth's Loyalty to Naomi

2. A New Land: Understanding Ruth's Courageous Journey

1. Luke 9:23-25 - And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

2. Deuteronomy 10:19 - Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Ruth 2:12 The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.

The Lord rewards those who trust in Him.

1. The Power of Trusting in the Lord

2. The Promise of God's Reward

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Ruth 2:13 Then she said, Let me find favour in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid, though I be not like unto one of thine handmaidens.

Ruth showed great humility and faith in her request to Boaz.

1. The Power of Humility and Faith

2. The Blessing of Obedience

1. James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

2. Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Ruth 2:14 And Boaz said unto her, At mealtime come thou hither, and eat of the bread, and dip thy morsel in the vinegar. And she sat beside the reapers: and he reached her parched corn, and she did eat, and was sufficed, and left.

This passage highlights Boaz's generous hospitality towards Ruth, allowing her to join the reapers for a meal and providing her with parched corn.

1: "Generosity in Hospitality: Boaz's Example"

2: "God's Blessing Through Hospitality: Ruth's Story"

1: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 - "And we urge you, brothers, to honor those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work."

2: Luke 14:12-14 - "Then he said to the man [host], When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you."

Ruth 2:15 And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, Let her glean even among the sheaves, and reproach her not:

Boaz commanded his young men to let Ruth glean among the sheaves without reproach.

1. The Power of Kindness: Boaz's Example of Showing Compassion to Ruth

2. The Importance of Treasuring Others: Boaz's Demonstration of Respect for Ruth

1. Matthew 7:12 - "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Ruth 2:16 And let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave them, that she may glean them, and rebuke her not.

Boaz tells his workers to leave some grain for Ruth to glean, so she can provide for herself and her mother-in-law without being rebuked.

1. The Power of Generosity - How God blesses us through the giving of ourselves and our resources.

2. Showing Compassion to Others - The importance of kindness and understanding, especially towards those in need.

1. Matthew 25:40 - "And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. "

2. Proverbs 19:17 - "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed."

Ruth 2:17 So she gleaned in the field until even, and beat out that she had gleaned: and it was about an ephah of barley.

Ruth devotedly worked in the fields to provide for her and Naomi.

1: We can learn from Ruth's example of perseverance and dedication to providing for her family.

2: Ruth's devotion to her family is an example of how we should prioritize our lives.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2: Galatians 6:7-9 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Ruth 2:18 And she took it up, and went into the city: and her mother in law saw what she had gleaned: and she brought forth, and gave to her that she had reserved after she was sufficed.

Ruth gathered grain from the field and brought it back to her mother-in-law who saw how much she had collected.

1. God's Provision: How Ruth and Boaz Showed Faith in God's Abundance

2. The Power of Generosity: Ruth's Example of Selflessness

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?..."

Ruth 2:19 And her mother in law said unto her, Where hast thou gleaned to day? and where wroughtest thou? blessed be he that did take knowledge of thee. And she shewed her mother in law with whom she had wrought, and said, The man's name with whom I wrought to day is Boaz.

Ruth's mother-in-law asked her where she had been gleaning and who she had worked with. Ruth told her that she had worked with Boaz.

1. The Importance of Knowing Where We Are Working - Ruth 2:19

2. Taking Notice of Those We Work With - Ruth 2:19

1. Proverbs 3:6 - In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Ruth 2:20 And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the LORD, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, The man is near of kin unto us, one of our next kinsmen.

Naomi praises the Lord for his kindness to both the living and the dead, and she states that the man is near of kin to them.

1. God's Kindness Endures Forever

2. The Power of Kinship

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Hebrews 13:1-2 - "Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Ruth 2:21 And Ruth the Moabitess said, He said unto me also, Thou shalt keep fast by my young men, until they have ended all my harvest.

Ruth's faithfulness and loyalty to Naomi is showcased in this passage.

1. The importance of faithfulness and loyalty in relationships

2. The value of hard work and perseverance

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Luke 9:23 - Then he said to them all: Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Ruth 2:22 And Naomi said unto Ruth her daughter in law, It is good, my daughter, that thou go out with his maidens, that they meet thee not in any other field.

Naomi encourages Ruth to go and glean in the fields of Boaz so that she is not met with any danger.

1. The Power of Encouragement: How Naomi's Support of Ruth Empowered Her.

2. Resilience in the Face of Adversity: Ruth's Story of Faith and Perseverance.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Ruth 2:23 So she kept fast by the maidens of Boaz to glean unto the end of barley harvest and of wheat harvest; and dwelt with her mother in law.

Ruth gleans from the fields of Boaz until the end of the barley and wheat harvests, living with her mother-in-law in the meantime.

1. The Power of Love: Ruth's Story of Loyalty and Faith

2. Gleaners of Life: Ruth's Journey of Self-Discovery

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 - A description of the excellent wife

2. Galatians 6:7-9 - A reminder to sow and reap in the right way

Ruth 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Ruth 3:1-6 introduces Naomi's plan for Ruth to seek Boaz's protection. In this chapter, Naomi comes up with a plan to secure a future for Ruth. She instructs her to go to the threshing floor where Boaz is working and uncover his feet while he sleeps. Ruth is then advised to lie down at his feet, symbolically indicating her willingness to enter into a marriage relationship with him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Ruth 3:7-13, it recounts the encounter between Ruth and Boaz at the threshing floor. After Boaz finishes eating and drinking, he lies down near the grain pile. In the middle of the night, Ruth quietly approaches him and uncovers his feet as instructed by Naomi. Startled, Boaz wakes up and finds Ruth lying at his feet. She expresses her desire for him to spread his garment over her a gesture symbolizing his willingness to take her as his wife.

Paragraph 3: Ruth 3 concludes with Boaz's response and commitment towards Ruth. In Ruth 3:14-18, it is mentioned that Boaz commends Ruth for her loyalty and virtuous character. He acknowledges that there is another relative who has a closer claim as a potential kinsman-redeemer but assures her that he will take care of everything in due time. Before dawn breaks, Boaz sends Ruth back home with six measures of barley an act of generosity that demonstrates both his commitment towards her well-being and provision for herself and Naomi.

In summary:

Ruth 3 presents:

Naomi's plan for securing a future Ruth seeking protection from Boaz;

Encounter between Ruth and Boaz at the threshing floor;

Boaz's response and commitment towards Ruth.

Emphasis on:

Naomi's plan for securing a future Ruth seeking protection from Boaz;

Encounter between Ruth and Boaz at the threshing floor;

Boaz's response and commitment towards Ruth.

The chapter focuses on Naomi's plan to secure a future for Ruth, the encounter between Ruth and Boaz at the threshing floor, and Boaz's response and commitment towards Ruth. In Ruth 3, Naomi devises a plan for Ruth to seek protection from Boaz. She instructs her to go to the threshing floor where he is working, uncover his feet while he sleeps, and lie down at his feet a symbolic gesture indicating her willingness to enter into a marriage relationship with him.

Continuing in Ruth 3, as instructed by Naomi, Ruth approaches Boaz at the threshing floor during the night. She uncovers his feet while he sleeps. Startled by her presence, Boaz wakes up and finds her lying there. She expresses her desire for him to take her under his protection by spreading his garment over her a request that signifies her hope of entering into a marital union with him.

Ruth 3 concludes with Boaz's response to Ruth's request. He commends her loyalty and virtuous character but acknowledges that there is another relative who holds a closer claim as a potential kinsman-redeemer. Nevertheless, he assures her that he will take care of everything in due time. Before sending her back home before dawn breaks, Boaz provides six measures of barley a generous act demonstrating both his commitment towards Ruth's well-being and provision for herself and Naomi during this waiting period.

Ruth 3:1 Then Naomi her mother in law said unto her, My daughter, shall I not seek rest for thee, that it may be well with thee?

Naomi encourages Ruth to pursue rest and a better future.

1. Pursuing Rest: How to Find Contentment in Difficult Situations

2. Turning to God: Relying on His Promises for a Bright Future

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ruth 3:2 And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor.

Ruth speaks to Naomi, telling her that Boaz of their relative is winnowing barley at the threshing floor.

1. God's faithfulness and providence in the life of Ruth and Naomi.

2. How obedience to God can lead to unexpected blessings.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ruth 3:3 Wash thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee, and get thee down to the floor: but make not thyself known unto the man, until he shall have done eating and drinking.

Ruth was instructed to clean herself, dress nicely, and go to the threshing floor, but to remain hidden until the man had finished eating and drinking.

1. God often has a plan for us that requires us to stay hidden and trust in the Lord s timing.

2. We must remain obedient to God s commands, even if we don't understand why we must do something.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ruth 3:4 And it shall be, when he lieth down, that thou shalt mark the place where he shall lie, and thou shalt go in, and uncover his feet, and lay thee down; and he will tell thee what thou shalt do.

Ruth is instructed to go to Boaz and uncover his feet and lay down, and Boaz will tell her what to do.

1. God will provide direction when we seek it.

2. We have the courage to follow God's direction, even when it is unexpected.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Ruth 3:5 And she said unto her, All that thou sayest unto me I will do.

Ruth promised to obey Naomi's instructions.

1. Doing the Will of God - Ruth's Commitment to Obey

2. Faithfulness Rewarded - The Blessings of Obedience

1. James 1:22, But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2, My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

Ruth 3:6 And she went down unto the floor, and did according to all that her mother in law bade her.

Ruth followed the instructions of her mother-in-law.

1. Obey Your Elders

2. Faithfulness in Obedience

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Ruth 3:7 And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of corn: and she came softly, and uncovered his feet, and laid her down.

Boaz ate and drank and was in a merry mood. Ruth then came and uncovered Boaz's feet and laid down.

1. A Study in Humility: Ruth's Act of Submission

2. The Power of Hospitality: Boaz's Example of Generosity

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Romans 12:13 - Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Ruth 3:8 And it came to pass at midnight, that the man was afraid, and turned himself: and, behold, a woman lay at his feet.

In the book of Ruth, a man finds a woman sleeping at his feet in the middle of the night and is afraid.

1. The Fearful Heart: Learning to Overcome Our Fears

2. Walking in the Light: Learning to Trust in the Lord

1. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Psalm 56:3-4 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

Ruth 3:9 And he said, Who art thou? And she answered, I am Ruth thine handmaid: spread therefore thy skirt over thine handmaid; for thou art a near kinsman.

Ruth demonstrates remarkable faith and courage in her request to Boaz to spread his skirt over her.

1. The Power of Bold Faith - Examining Ruth's courageous request and the faith that spurred it.

2. Blessing Through Obedience - Exploring how Ruth's obedience to Naomi's instructions brought her favor and protection.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Ruth 3:10 And he said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my daughter: for thou hast shewed more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning, inasmuch as thou followedst not young men, whether poor or rich.

Ruth displays great kindness and loyalty by not being swayed by the wealth or status of young men.

1. The Power of Kindness: How Ruth's Loyalty to God Changed Her Life

2. True Wealth: How Ruth's Selflessness Brought Her Riches Beyond Measure

1. Romans 12:10: Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

2. Proverbs 19:22: The desire of a man is his kindness: and a poor man is better than a liar.

Ruth 3:11 And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman.

Boaz promises to take care of Ruth and acknowledges her as a virtuous woman.

1. God has blessed us with virtuous women and we should honor them.

2. Our actions should reflect the virtue of God's people.

1. Proverbs 31:10-31; A description of the virtuous woman.

2. 1 Peter 3:1-7; Teaching on how to honor and respect each other.

Ruth 3:12 And now it is true that I am thy near kinsman: howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than I.

Ruth discovers that there is someone else who is closer to her than her relative in blood.

1. The Power of Connection: How Ruth's Story Teaches Us About Being Neighbors

2. A Model of Faith: Ruth's Story of Dedication and Loyalty

1. Luke 10:25-37 - The Parable of the Good Samaritan

2. Galatians 6:10 - Doing Good to All People

Ruth 3:13 Tarry this night, and it shall be in the morning, that if he will perform unto thee the part of a kinsman, well; let him do the kinsman's part: but if he will not do the part of a kinsman to thee, then will I do the part of a kinsman to thee, as the LORD liveth: lie down until the morning.

Ruth proposes to Boaz that if he is not willing to fulfill his obligations as a kinsman redeemer, then she will fulfill them in his place.

1. The Power of Ruth's Faith - Exploring the strength of Ruth's faith in God's provision and protection.

2. What is a Kinsman Redeemer? - Exploring the concept of a kinsman redeemer from the perspective of Ruth's story.

1. Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your offspring be named. He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

2. Matthew 19:16-22 - And behold, a man came up to him, saying, Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life? And he said to him, Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments. He said to him, Which ones? And Jesus said, You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Ruth 3:14 And she lay at his feet until the morning: and she rose up before one could know another. And he said, Let it not be known that a woman came into the floor.

Ruth stayed the night at Boaz's feet and left before anyone noticed. Boaz asked that no one know she was there.

1. The Power of God's Protection: Ruth's Story

2. Boaz's Compassion and Discretion: An Inspiring Example

1. Psalm 91:4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

2. Proverbs 11:13 Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.

Ruth 3:15 Also he said, Bring the vail that thou hast upon thee, and hold it. And when she held it, he measured six measures of barley, and laid it on her: and she went into the city.

Boaz tells Ruth to bring the veil she is wearing and when she does, he fills it with six measures of barley.

1. The Generosity of Boaz: An Example for Us All

2. Using What God Gives Us to Serve Others

1. Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

2. 1 Peter 4:10, "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

Ruth 3:16 And when she came to her mother in law, she said, Who art thou, my daughter? And she told her all that the man had done to her.

Ruth returns to her mother-in-law with news of what the man had done for her.

1. The Power of Faith: A Study of Ruth 3:16

2. The Kindness of Strangers: A Study of Ruth 3:16

1. Genesis 16:13 - And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?

2. Psalm 145:9 - The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

Ruth 3:17 And she said, These six measures of barley gave he me; for he said to me, Go not empty unto thy mother in law.

Ruth went to her mother-in-law's house with six measures of barley as a gift.

1. The Power of Generosity in the Face of Adversity

2. The Importance of Obedience and Respect

1. Proverbs 19:17, Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17, Be subject for the Lord s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

Ruth 3:18 Then said she, Sit still, my daughter, until thou know how the matter will fall: for the man will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day.

Ruth trusts God to bring about the right outcome for her and Naomi.

1. Trusting God In Times of Uncertainty

2. Focusing on What We Can Control

1. Isaiah 26:3-4 - You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Ruth 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: Ruth 4:1-8 introduces the legal proceedings for Ruth's redemption. In this chapter, Boaz goes to the city gate the place where legal matters are discussed and resolved to meet with the closer relative who has a claim to redeem Elimelech's land and marry Ruth. Boaz presents the opportunity to him, informing him of his duty as the closest relative. However, when the relative learns that acquiring Elimelech's land also involves marrying Ruth, he declines to exercise his right of redemption.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in Ruth 4:9-12, it recounts Boaz's commitment towards Ruth. With no objections from the closer relative, Boaz takes his position as a kinsman-redeemer. He publicly declares his intention to redeem both Elimelech's property and take Ruth as his wife. The witnesses present at the city gate bless their union and pray for their prosperity.

Paragraph 3: Ruth 4 concludes with an account of Boaz and Ruth's marriage and its significance for Naomi. In Ruth 4:13-22, it is mentioned that Boaz marries Ruth, and they have a son named Obed a significant event that brings joy not only to them but also to Naomi who had experienced great loss in her own family. Obed becomes the grandfather of King David an important lineage connection within Israelite history.

In summary:

Ruth 4 presents:

Legal proceedings for redemption Boaz meets with closer relative;

Boaz's commitment towards Ruth declaring intention to redeem;

Marriage between Boaz and Ruth birth of Obed and significance for Naomi.

Emphasis on:

Legal proceedings for redemption Boaz meets with closer relative;

Boaz's commitment towards Ruth declaring intention to redeem;

Marriage between Boaz and Ruth birth of Obed and significance for Naomi.

The chapter focuses on the legal proceedings for Ruth's redemption, Boaz's commitment towards Ruth, and the marriage between Boaz and Ruth that leads to the birth of Obed a significant event with implications for Naomi. In Ruth 4, Boaz goes to the city gate to meet with the closer relative who holds a claim to redeem Elimelech's land and marry Ruth. He presents the opportunity to him, explaining his duty as the closest relative. However, when he learns that acquiring Elimelech's land also involves marrying Ruth, he declines to exercise his right of redemption.

Continuing in Ruth 4, with no objections from the closer relative, Boaz takes his position as a kinsman-redeemer. He publicly declares his intention to redeem both Elimelech's property and take Ruth as his wife. The witnesses present at the city gate bless their union and pray for their prosperity a significant moment affirming their commitment.

Ruth 4 concludes with an account of Boaz and Ruth's marriage and its significance for Naomi. They have a son named Obed who brings great joy not only to them but also to Naomi who had experienced profound loss in her own family. Obed becomes the grandfather of King David an important lineage connection within Israelite history that highlights God's providence in bringing about blessings through this union between Boaz and Ruth.

Ruth 4:1 Then went Boaz up to the gate, and sat him down there: and, behold, the kinsman of whom Boaz spake came by; unto whom he said, Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here. And he turned aside, and sat down.

Boaz goes to the city gate and meets with a kinsman who he had previously mentioned, inviting him to sit down.

1. God will provide us with a helper if we seek Him.

2. We can rely on God to bring us closer to our goals.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Ruth 4:2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, Sit ye down here. And they sat down.

Boaz gathered 10 elders from the city to sit down with him.

1. The importance of listening to wise counsel.

2. The power of the collective.

1. Proverbs 11:14: "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Ephesians 4:16: "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."

Ruth 4:3 And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's:

A relative of Naomi's deceased husband Elimelech offers to buy a parcel of land that was Elimelech's.

1. God's Providence: The Blessing of a Redeemer

2. Faithfulness Rewarded: Naomi's Journey of Redemption

1. Ruth 3:12-13 And now it is true that I am a near kinsman: howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than I. Tarry this night, and it shall be in the morning, that if he will perform unto thee the part of a kinsman, well; let him do the kinsman's part.

2. Hebrews 2:17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Ruth 4:4 And I thought to advertise thee, saying, Buy it before the inhabitants, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem it, redeem it: but if thou wilt not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know: for there is none to redeem it beside thee; and I am after thee. And he said, I will redeem it.

Boaz agrees to purchase a piece of land from a relative.

1. The Power of Redemption: How to Renew and Restore Ourselves and Our Relationships

2. The Value of Generosity: How to Live a Life of Selflessness and Sacrifice

1. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Ruth 4:5 Then said Boaz, What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou must buy it also of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance.

Boaz tells the purchaser of Naomi's field to also purchase it from Ruth, the Moabitess wife of the dead, so the dead's name can be preserved in his inheritance.

1. The Power of a Good Name: Exploring the importance of preserving the legacy of the deceased.

2. Ruth: A Model of Faithfulness: Examining the faithfulness of Ruth and how it led to her being rewarded for her faithful actions.

1. Proverbs 22:1, "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold."

2. Hebrews 11:8, "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going."

Ruth 4:6 And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.

The kinsman of Boaz was unable to redeem the inheritance of Elimelech, so Boaz offered to redeem it himself.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Boaz showed us the importance of being generous and selfless.

2. The Mercy of Redemption: How God's grace allows us to be redeemed for our sins.

1. 2 Corinthians 8:9 - For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

2. Proverbs 11:25 - The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Ruth 4:7 Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour: and this was a testimony in Israel.

This passage describes a former custom in Israel wherein the man taking part in a transaction would remove his shoe and give it to his neighbor in order to affirm the agreement.

1. The Power of Symbolic Gestures in Confirming Agreements

2. The Importance of Following Ancient Customs

1. Genesis 14:23 - "That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich."

2. Matthew 3:11 - "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire."

Ruth 4:8 Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy it for thee. So he drew off his shoe.

Boaz is instructed to buy a piece of land from a kinsman, and to prove that he is serious about the purchase he removes his shoe.

1. The importance of honoring one's commitments and promises.

2. The importance of taking action to fulfill God's will.

1. Matthew 5:37 "Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No'".

2. Psalm 37:5 "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Ruth 4:9 And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi.

Boaz declared to the elders and people that he had purchased all of Elimelech, Chilion, and Mahlon's possessions from Naomi.

1. God's provision in times of hardship

2. Redemption through Christ

1. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:20 - "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings."

Ruth 4:10 Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day.

Boaz purchases Ruth the Moabitess to be his wife and ensure that the name of the dead, Mahlon, is not cut off from his inheritance or from his people.

1. The Generosity of Boaz: How Giving Can Overcome Any Obstacle

2. The Power of Redemption: How Ruth's Story Demonstrates the Mercy of God

1. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

Ruth 4:11 And all the people that were in the gate, and the elders, said, We are witnesses. The LORD make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem:

The people in the gate and the elders proclaimed that the woman coming into Ruth's house should be blessed like Rachel and Leah, who built the house of Israel.

1. The Power of Joint Efforts in Building God's Kingdom

2. How God Blesses Faithful Women

1. Genesis 29:31-35 - Rachel and Leah's joint effort in building a family

2. Galatians 3:26-29 - How God blesses those of faith, regardless of gender

Ruth 4:12 And let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the LORD shall give thee of this young woman.

This passage speaks to God's blessings on the house of Ruth, that it will be like the house of Pharez, born of Tamar, and that God will provide descendants to her.

1: God's Blessing and Our Faithfulness - God blesses those who are faithful, as seen through the story of Ruth.

2: God's Fulfillment of His Promises - God's promises are always fulfilled, as seen through the house of Pharez and the descendants of Ruth.

1: Genesis 18:14: Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

2: Luke 1:37: For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Ruth 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bare a son.

Boaz married Ruth and the Lord blessed them with a son.

1. The Power of God's Blessing on Marriage

2. The Faithfulness of Ruth

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Ruth 2:11-12

Ruth 4:14 And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the LORD, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel.

Naomi was blessed by the Lord as she was not left without a kinsman.

1. God will provide for us in our times of need.

2. The Lord is faithful, even when we feel abandoned.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Ruth 4:15 And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him.

Ruth's daughter-in-law has just given birth to a son, whom she believes is better than seven sons, and will be a restorer and nourisher of her old age.

1. Ruth 4:15 - God provides for us in unexpected ways

2. Ruth 4:15 - The blessing of a son

1. Psalm 103:2-5 - Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits

2. Isaiah 46:4 - Even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you

Ruth 4:16 And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

Naomi took the child and cared for it as a nurse.

1. The Power of Love - How Naomi's selfless act of love demonstrates the power of God's love for us.

2. The Strength of Family - How Naomi's commitment to her family teaches us the importance of loving and supporting one another.

1. John 15:12-13 - This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

2. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Ruth 4:17 And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Naomi gave birth to a son, Obed, who was the father of Jesse and the grandfather of King David.

1. God's Plan of Redemption: the story of Ruth and Naomi

2. Following God's Plan in Difficult Situations

1. Luke 1:68-74 Praise to God for His Redemption Plan

2. Galatians 4:4-5 God's Promise of Redemption Through Jesus

Ruth 4:18 Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron,

The generations of Pharez are recounted.

1. The Legacy of God's People: Passing on Faith from Generation to Generation

2. The Continuing Faith of Believers: Following in the Footsteps of Our Ancestors

1. 1 Timothy 4:12 - Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

2. 2 Timothy 3:14-17 - But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Ruth 4:19 And Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab,

Hezron was the father of Ram, and Ram was the father of Amminadab.

1. The importance of passing down faith through generations

2. The power of God to work through generational relationships

1. Psalm 78:5-6 - "For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:"

2. 2 Timothy 1:5 - "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also."

Ruth 4:20 And Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon,

The passage states that Amminadab was the father of Nahshon, who then fathered Salmon.

1. The importance of a father's influence in a child's life.

2. The legacy of faith passed down from generation to generation.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ruth 4:21 And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed,

Salmon's son Boaz was the father of Obed.

1. The importance of honoring our fathers and mothers.

2. The significance of family lineage.

1. Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you."

2. Matthew 1:1-17 "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."

Ruth 4:22 And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David.

This passage explains how David was descended from Obed, who was the son of Ruth and Boaz.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Story of Ruth and Boaz

2. The Importance of Legacy and Blessing Future Generations

1. Ruth 1:16 - "But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

2. 2 Samuel 7:16 - "And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.

1 Samuel 1 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 1:1-8 introduces the story of Hannah's longing for a child. In this chapter, Elkanah, a man from the tribe of Ephraim, has two wives Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah has children, but Hannah is barren and deeply distressed because of her inability to conceive. Every year they go to worship at the tabernacle in Shiloh, where Peninnah taunts and provokes Hannah due to her barrenness.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 1:9-18, it recounts Hannah's prayer at the tabernacle. One year during their visit to Shiloh, Hannah goes into the temple and pours out her heart before God in fervent prayer. She weeps bitterly as she pleads for a son and vows that if God grants her request, she will dedicate him as a Nazirite a person set apart for God's service.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 1 concludes with Eli's blessing upon Hannah's prayer. In 1 Samuel 1:19-28, it is mentioned that after praying earnestly, Hannah leaves the temple with renewed hope and peace in her heart. In due time, she conceives and gives birth to a son named Samuel a name meaning "heard by God." When Samuel is weaned, Hannah fulfills her vow by bringing him back to the tabernacle in Shiloh to serve under Eli's care.

In summary:

1 Samuel 1 presents:

Hannah's longing for a child amidst barrenness;

Hannah's fervent prayer at the tabernacle;

Eli's blessing upon Hannah birth of Samuel.

Emphasis on:

Hannah's longing for a child amidst barrenness;

Hannah's fervent prayer at the tabernacle;

Eli's blessing upon Hannah birth of Samuel.

The chapter focuses on the story of Hannah, her deep longing for a child despite her barrenness, her fervent prayer at the tabernacle, and Eli's blessing upon her. In 1 Samuel 1, Elkanah has two wives Hannah and Peninnah. While Peninnah has children, Hannah remains unable to conceive, causing her great distress. Each year they go to worship at the tabernacle in Shiloh, where Peninnah taunts and provokes Hannah due to her barrenness.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 1, during one visit to Shiloh, Hannah enters the temple and pours out her heart before God in a prayer filled with deep emotion. She weeps bitterly as she pleads for a son and makes a vow that if God grants her request, she will dedicate him as a Nazirite a person set apart for God's service.

1 Samuel 1 concludes with Eli's blessing upon Hannah's prayer. After pouring out her heart before God with earnestness and sincerity, Hannah leaves the temple with renewed hope and peace within herself. In due time, she conceives and gives birth to a son named Samuel a name that signifies being "heard by God." When Samuel is weaned from nursing, Hannah fulfills her vow by bringing him back to the tabernacle in Shiloh to serve under Eli's care an act of faithfulness that marks an important turning point in their lives.

1 Samuel 1:1 Now there was a certain man of Ramathaimzophim, of mount Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite:

Elkanah, a man of Ramathaimzophim in the region of Ephraim, was the son of Jeroham, Elihu, Tohu, and Zuph, an Ephrathite.

1. Trusting in God's Provision - 1 Thessalonians 5:24

2. God's Faithfulness in Difficult Times - Deuteronomy 7:9

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

1 Samuel 1:2 And he had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah, and Peninnah had children while Hannah remained childless.

1. God's Faithfulness in Unexpected Circumstances - 1 Samuel 1:2

2. The Blessing of Contentment - 1 Samuel 1:2

1. Isaiah 54:1 Sing, O barren one, who did not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud, you who have not been in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than the children of the married one, says the Lord.

2. Romans 4:18-21 In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, So shall your offspring be. He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah s womb. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

1 Samuel 1:3 And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were there.

Every year, a man went to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh to worship and to sacrifice. Hophni and Phinehas, the sons of Eli, were also there as priests of the LORD.

1. The Importance of Worship and Sacrifice

2. The Power of the Priesthood

1. Psalm 96:8-9 - Give to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts!

2. Hebrews 5:1-4 - For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

1 Samuel 1:4 And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions:

Elkanah gave portions of his offering to Peninnah and her family.

1. The Power of Generosity: How God's Graciousness Inspires Our Giving

2. Living in Righteousness: Understanding the Principle of Fairness in the Bible

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Deuteronomy 16:17 - Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which he has given you.

1 Samuel 1:5 But unto Hannah he gave a worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but the LORD had shut up her womb.

Eli gave Hannah a special portion of the offering, because he loved her, but the Lord had closed her womb and she was unable to have children.

1. God's Plans are Greater than Our Own

2. Overcoming Disappointment and Finding Joy

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 30:5 - Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

1 Samuel 1:6 And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb.

Hannah was being provoked and distressed by her adversary because the Lord had closed her womb.

1: God will always have a plan even when it may not seem evident in the moment.

2: God does not bring suffering, but He can use our suffering for His ultimate purpose.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

1 Samuel 1:7 And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat.

Every year when Hannah visited the temple, her rival provoked her which caused her to weep and not eat.

1. Overcoming jealousy and envy to find peace.

2. Trusting God in difficult times.

1. James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Psalm 34:17-18 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

1 Samuel 1:8 Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons?

Elkanah spoke to his wife Hannah, asking why she was not eating and why she was so sad, reminding her that he loved her as much as if she had ten sons.

1. God loves us and cares for us even when life is hard.

2. The love of a spouse can be a source of comfort in times of distress.

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

1 Samuel 1:9 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD.

After eating and drinking at Shiloh, Eli the priest sat by the post of the Temple of the LORD.

1. How to Live a Faithful Life in the Temple of the LORD

2. God's Presence in the Temple: A Call to Worship and Reverence

1. 1 Chronicles 9:22-24 - For the children of Israel and Judah were staying in the cities of Judah, each on their possession. And some of the Levites, their overseers, were in Jerusalem. And Shimei, the son of Eliezer, of the sons of Kohath, was ruler over the storehouse. And Jehiel, the son of Zacariah, of the sons of Shebuel, was ruler over the storehouse.

2. Hebrews 9:1-4 - Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. For a tent was prepared, the first part, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a second part called the Most Holy Place, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron s staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.

1 Samuel 1:10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.

Hannah was in great distress and prayed to the Lord in anguish, weeping profusely.

1. God is with us in our struggles and sorrows.

2. God hears the cries of the brokenhearted.

1. Psalm 34:17-18 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 61:1-2 "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn."

1 Samuel 1:11 And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

Passage Hannah made a vow to the Lord to give her son to the Lord if he answered her prayer for a child.

1. God's Faithfulness in Answering Prayers

2. Dedicating Your Children to the Lord

1. Luke 1:38 - And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.

2. 1 Samuel 1:27 - For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him.

1 Samuel 1:12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth.

Hannah was praying before the Lord and Eli noticed her mouth moving in prayer.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Hannah's Faith Revealed Her Devotion to God

2. Listening to the Lord: Eli's Discernment of Hannah's Prayer

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

1 Samuel 1:13 Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

Hannah silently prayed fervently to God for a son and Eli mistook her for being drunk.

1. The Power of Praying in Silence

2. The Need for Patience and Faith in God

1. James 5:17-18 - "Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

2. Mark 11:24 - Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

1 Samuel 1:14 And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

Eli asked Hannah how long she was going to remain drunk and told her to put away her wine.

1. We should strive to drink only in moderation, and to be aware of the dangers of drunkenness.

2. We should always be mindful of our language and words, and the impact they have on others.

1. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

2. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

1 Samuel 1:15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

Hannah answered the priest Eli and told him that she had not been drinking wine or strong drink, but rather had been pouring out her soul before the LORD.

1. God gives us the opportunity to pour out our sorrows to Him as He understands our pain.

2. God desires us to rely on Him in our times of sorrow and need.

1. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

2. Romans 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

1 Samuel 1:16 Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

Hannah expresses her grief to the Lord, asking Him not to consider her a daughter of Belial.

1. God understands our suffering, no matter how deep the pain.

2. Hannah's faith in God even in her darkest hour.

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 53:3 - He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

1 Samuel 1:17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

Eli blesses Hannah with God's peace and encourages her to keep praying to God for her request to be granted.

1. The Power of Praying in Faith: Trusting God to Answer Your Prayers

2. The Blessing of Having a Mentor: How Eli Encouraged and Blessed Hannah

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

1 Samuel 1:18 And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.

Hannah prayed to the Lord to grant her grace, and afterwards her sad countenance was no more.

1. God's grace can bring us joy and peace.

2. Faith in God can help us overcome trials and sadness.

1. Isaiah 40:29, "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."

2. Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

1 Samuel 1:19 And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her.

Elkanah and Hannah rose early in the morning to worship the Lord, and after their prayers, returned home to Ramah. The Lord remembered Hannah, and Elkanah knew her as his wife.

1. Remembering The Lord: A Lesson From Hannah and Elkanah

2. The Power of Worship: Experiencing The Lord s Remembrance

1. Psalm 103:17-18: But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

2. Isaiah 49:15: Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!

1 Samuel 1:20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

Hannah prayed to God for a son and when the time came, she gave birth to Samuel and named him because God had answered her prayer.

1. God will answer the prayers of those who trust in Him.

2. The power of prayer is real, and God will answer in His time.

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

2. Luke 11:9-10 - And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

1 Samuel 1:21 And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and his vow.

Elkanah and his family went to the temple to offer their yearly sacrifice to the LORD.

1. Sacrifice: A Life of Worship

2. Vows: Keeping Our Promises to God

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Psalm 116:14 - I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

1 Samuel 1:22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide for ever.

Hannah promised her husband that she would bring their son to the Lord once he was weaned.

1. The Strength of Hannah's Faith

2. A Parent's Responsibility to Nurture Faith

1. Genesis 22:2-3 "Then He said, Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.

2. Psalm 71:17-18 O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works. Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.

1 Samuel 1:23 And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the LORD establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him.

Elkanah encouraged his wife to do what she thought was best for her and her son and she stayed with him until she had weaned him.

1. God's Word Is Established - God's promises are true, and He will ensure what He has said is fulfilled.

2. Abide In What Is Good - While trusting in God's promises, we should also make good choices and stay committed to them.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 1:24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

Hannah brought her son Samuel to the house of the Lord at Shiloh, offering three bullocks, a measure of flour, and a bottle of wine.

1. The Strength of a Mother's Love: Hannah's Commitment to Raising Samuel

2. The Power of Giving: Hannah's Offering to the House of the Lord

1. Luke 2:22-24 - And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord; And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:9 - And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

1 Samuel 1:25 And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Eli.

Hannah brought her son Samuel to the priest Eli after offering a sacrifice to the Lord.

1. The Importance of Sacrificing to the Lord

2. Trusting God and His Plan for Our Lives

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

1 Samuel 1:26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

A woman expresses her faith in the Lord while praying to Him.

1. "The Power of Faithful Prayer."

2. "Trusting in the Lord."

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint."

1 Samuel 1:27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

Hannah prayed to the Lord and He answered her prayer by giving her a child.

1. God answers prayer and is always faithful to His promises.

2. Our faith can move mountains and bring comfort in times of need.

1. Matthew 17:20 - He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

1 Samuel 1:28 Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

This passage from 1 Samuel 1:28 describes Hannah's willingness to lend her son Samuel to the LORD as long as he lived.

1. Our Calling to Devotion: Living Our Lives for God's Glory

2. The Power of Surrender: How Our Sacrifices Bring Us Closer to God

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Matthew 10:37-39 - Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

1 Samuel 4 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 4:1-11 introduces the battle between Israel and the Philistines. In this chapter, the Israelites go out to fight against the Philistines. They bring the Ark of the Covenant, believing that its presence will ensure their victory. However, the Philistines prove to be a formidable opponent and defeat Israel in battle, killing about four thousand soldiers. The Israelite leaders are devastated by their loss.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 4:12-18, it recounts the capture of the Ark of God by the Philistines. After their defeat, the Israelites bring forth a plan they decide to bring the Ark of God from Shiloh into battle, hoping that it will turn things around for them. However, instead of bringing victory, they suffer an even greater loss the Philistines not only defeat them again but also capture and take away the Ark.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 4 concludes with news reaching Eli about his sons' death and his reaction to it. In 1 Samuel 4:19-22, it is mentioned that upon hearing about their devastating defeat and how his sons had died in battle, Eli falls backward from his seat at Shiloh and dies due to his old age. Additionally, when Eli's daughter-in-law hears about her husband's death and her father-in-law's passing along with losing possession of the Ark of God she goes into labor prematurely and gives birth to a son named Ichabod a name signifying "the glory has departed" because she believes that God's glory has left Israel.

In summary:

1 Samuel 4 presents:

Battle between Israel and Philistines defeat of Israel;

Capture of the Ark of God by Philistines;

News reaching Eli his death and the birth of Ichabod.

Emphasis on:

Battle between Israel and Philistines defeat of Israel;

Capture of the Ark of God by Philistines;

News reaching Eli his death and the birth of Ichabod.

The chapter focuses on the battle between Israel and the Philistines, the capture of the Ark of God, and news reaching Eli about his sons' death along with his own passing, as well as the birth of Ichabod. In 1 Samuel 4, Israel goes out to fight against their enemies, bringing along the Ark of the Covenant in hopes that its presence will secure victory. However, they suffer a devastating defeat at the hands of their adversaries the Philistines who kill thousands of Israeli soldiers.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 4, after their initial defeat, Israel devises a plan to bring forth their secret weapon the Ark of God to turn things around. However, this strategy backfires as not only do they face another defeat but also lose possession of the sacred Ark itself it falls into enemy hands.

1 Samuel 4 concludes with news reaching Eli about his sons' deaths in battle and how they had lost possession of the Ark. Upon hearing this tragic news alongside his own advanced age, Eli falls backward from his seat at Shiloh and dies. Furthermore, when Eli's daughter-in-law learns about her husband's death and her father-in-law's passing along with losing possession of God's presence symbolized by the captured Ark she goes into premature labor and gives birth to a son named Ichabod a name signifying that "the glory has departed" from Israel due to these calamities.

1 Samuel 2 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 2:1-10 presents Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving. In this chapter, Hannah rejoices and praises God for answering her prayer and granting her a son, Samuel. She exalts God's power, holiness, and sovereignty over all things. Hannah acknowledges that God brings down the proud and exalts the humble. She contrasts her own transformation from barrenness to motherhood with the fate of those who oppose God's ways.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 2:11-26, it recounts the corruption of Eli's sons Hophni and Phinehas and their disregard for their priestly duties. Despite being priests themselves, they engage in wicked behavior by taking advantage of their position to satisfy their own desires. Their actions provoke the Lord's anger, and a man of God comes to Eli with a message of judgment against his family.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 2 concludes with a prophecy against Eli's house and the rise of Samuel as a faithful servant. In 1 Samuel 2:27-36, it is mentioned that God speaks through the man of God, foretelling severe consequences for Eli's household due to their disobedience and dishonor towards Him. However, amidst this judgment, there is hope as God promises to raise up a faithful priest who will do according to His heart a reference to Samuel.

In summary:

1 Samuel 2 presents:

Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving exalting God's power;

Corruption of Eli's sons disregard for priestly duties;

Prophecy against Eli's house rise of faithful servant (Samuel).

Emphasis on:

Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving exalting God's power;

Corruption of Eli's sons disregard for priestly duties;

Prophecy against Eli's house rise of faithful servant (Samuel).

The chapter focuses on Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving, the corruption of Eli's sons, and a prophecy against Eli's house with the promise of a faithful servant rising up. In 1 Samuel 2, Hannah expresses her joy and gratitude to God for answering her prayer and granting her a son. She praises God for His power, holiness, and sovereignty over all things. Hannah contrasts her own transformation from barrenness to motherhood with the fate of those who oppose God.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 2, the focus shifts to the corrupt behavior of Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas. Despite being priests themselves, they engage in wicked actions by exploiting their priestly position for personal gain. Their disregard for their sacred duties provokes God's anger.

1 Samuel 2 concludes with a prophecy against Eli's household due to their disobedience and dishonor towards God. A man of God delivers this message to Eli, foretelling severe consequences for his family. However, amidst this judgment, there is hope as God promises to raise up a faithful priest who will do according to His heart a reference to Samuel who will play an important role in future events.

1 Samuel 2:1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

Hannah praises the Lord for His salvation and rejoices in it.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: How to Find Joy in God's Salvation

2. Trusting in the Lord: Recognizing God's Power and Providence

1. Psalm 34:2 - My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; the humble shall hear of it and be glad.

2. Isaiah 12:2 - Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

1 Samuel 2:2 There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

The LORD is the only one who is holy and there is no one like him.

1. The Holiness of the LORD: A Celebration of His Uniqueness

2. Beholding the Rock of Salvation: Our Refuge in God

1. Psalm 71:3 - Be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust.

1 Samuel 2:3 Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

This verse from 1 Samuel warns against pride and reminds us that God is omniscient, meaning He knows and judges our actions.

1. "The Danger of Pride: A Lesson from 1 Samuel 2:3"

2. "God, Our Judge: Understanding 1 Samuel 2:3"

1. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Samuel 2:4 The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength.

The strong and mighty are weakened and those who were weak are now strengthened.

1. God's Strength is Perfected in Weakness

2. The Power of Faith in Overcoming Difficulties

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1 Samuel 2:5 They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble.

Those who had plenty have become desperate for food, while those who were hungry are now satisfied. The previously barren woman has given birth to seven children, while the woman who already had many children has become weak.

1. God provides abundantly for those who trust in Him

2. God cares for the needs of all, both the rich and the poor

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about what you will eat or drink, for God will provide for your needs.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

1 Samuel 2:6 The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.

The Lord has power over life and death.

1. God is in control of our lives and our destinies.

2. We must trust in the Lord for all things.

1. Psalm 139:16 - Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

1 Samuel 2:7 The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up.

The Lord has the power to bring down the proud and lift up the poor.

1: God's Love is for All: No Matter Who You Are

2: Pride Goeth Before a Fall

1: James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2: Isaiah 2:11 - The haughty looks of man shall be brought low, and the lofty pride of men shall be humbled, and the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.

1 Samuel 2:8 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and he hath set the world upon them.

God lifts the poor and needy from their difficult circumstances and sets them among the powerful, allowing them to inherit glory and share in his power.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Mercy for the Least of These

2. The Power of the Lord and His Unchanging Will

1. James 2:5-7 - "Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?"

2. Proverbs 29:23 - "One's pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor."

1 Samuel 2:9 He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

He will protect and strengthen the righteous, while the wicked will remain in darkness. No one can succeed through sheer strength.

1. God's protection and strength is available for those who seek it.

2. The power of God surpasses all other power.

1. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 40:29, "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

1 Samuel 2:10 The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

God will judge his adversaries and strengthen and exalt his chosen king.

1. The Power of God: He Judges, Strengthens, and Exalts

2. Relying on God: Strength and Victory in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 18:14 - He sent out his arrows and scattered the enemy, great bolts of lightning and routed them.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 2:11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.

Elkanah and his son went to Ramah and his son ministered to the LORD before Eli the priest.

1. The Power of Faithful Obedience

2. Serving the Lord with a Heart of Humility

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

1 Samuel 2:12 Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD.

The sons of Eli were wicked and had no knowledge of the Lord.

1. Sin Destroys: A Study in 1 Samuel 2:12

2. Knowing the Lord: An Introduction to 1 Samuel 2:12

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 9:17 - The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

1 Samuel 2:13 And the priests' custom with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a fleshhook of three teeth in his hand;

The priest's servant would use a three-toothed hook when a person offered a sacrifice.

1. How God Uses Ordinary Tools for Extraordinary Purposes

2. The Power of Sacrifice in Our Lives

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Mark 12:28-34 - One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, Of all the commandments, which is the most important? The most important one, answered Jesus, is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

1 Samuel 2:14 And he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither.

The priest took all that the fleshhook brought up for himself.

1: God is generous and gives us more than we need.

2: God rewards us for our faithfulness.

1: Matthew 6:33 Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 If you will listen diligently to the voice of the Lord your God, being watchful to do all His commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

1 Samuel 2:15 Also before they burnt the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.

The priest's servant asked the man who was sacrificing to give the priest raw flesh to roast, rather than sodden flesh.

1. Sacrifice: Giving to God with a Willing Heart.

2. The Priest: Serving as an Intercessor between Man and God.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

1 Samuel 2:16 And if any man said unto him, Let them not fail to burn the fat presently, and then take as much as thy soul desireth; then he would answer him, Nay; but thou shalt give it me now: and if not, I will take it by force.

The passage tells of a man who demanded payment for his services before providing them, and threatened to take it by force if he was not paid.

1. God is the provider of all things, and we must trust in Him for our needs.

2. We should not use force or coercion to achieve our goals, but rather trust in God to provide.

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

1 Samuel 2:17 Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD: for men abhorred the offering of the LORD.

Eli's sons were sinning greatly against the Lord by not properly performing their duties as priests.

1. The Power of Righteousness: How To Live A Life Of Holiness

2. The Weight of Sin: How To Overcome The Power Of Temptation

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. Matthew 6:13 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

1 Samuel 2:18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

Samuel ministered to the Lord at a young age, wearing an ephod made of linen.

1. The Power of Young Leaders: An Exploration of 1 Samuel 2:18

2. The Power of Dressing for the Occasion: Examining 1 Samuel 2:18

1. 1 Timothy 4:12 - Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

1 Samuel 2:19 Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

Every year, Hannah made her son Samuel a coat and brought it with her when they went to offer sacrifices.

1. The Sacrifice of Love: The Story of Hannah and Samuel

2. The Power of Parental Love: A Reflection on Hannah and Samuel

1. Genesis 22:13-18 - Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac

2. Ephesians 5:2 - "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us."

1 Samuel 2:20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.

Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, thanking the Lord for the loan they had made to him. They then returned home.

1. God rewards those who show Him generosity.

2. The power of a blessing from those in authority.

1. Matthew 6:1-4 - Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

1 Samuel 2:21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

The Lord blessed Hannah and she gave birth to three sons and two daughters, including Samuel who grew up in the service of the Lord.

1. God's faithfulness in the midst of difficulty

2. The importance of raising children in the service of the Lord

1. Hebrews 11:11 - Through faith even Sarah herself received power to conceive seed when she was past age, since she considered Him faithful who had promised.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward.

1 Samuel 2:22 Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Eli was an old man who heard about his sons' immoral behavior with the women who gathered near the Tabernacle of the Congregation.

1. The Danger of Sin: How Unchecked Sin Brings Shame to Our Families

2. The Need for Accountability: Do We Have Someone Keeping Us Accountable in Our Lives?

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Samuel 2:23 And he said unto them, Why do ye such things? for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people.

The passage is about the Lord questioning people for their wrongdoings.

1. Our actions have consequences and we must be accountable for them.

2. We must strive to live a life of righteousness and integrity to please the Lord.

1. Matthew 5:16 - "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

1 Samuel 2:24 Nay, my sons; for it is no good report that I hear: ye make the LORD's people to transgress.

The report of the sons of Eli is not good and they are causing others to break the Lord's commandments.

1. The Strength of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Influence: How Our Actions Affect Those Around Us

1. Romans 2:12-16 - For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

2. Proverbs 28:7 - Whoever keeps the law is a discerning son, but a companion of gluttons disgraces his father.

1 Samuel 2:25 If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him? Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the LORD would slay them.

Eli's sons did not listen to his warnings against sinning against the Lord, even though they understood that the Lord would punish them for it.

1. The consequences of disobeying God's word.

2. The importance of listening to wise counsel.

1. Proverbs 13:1 - "A wise son hears his father's instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

1 Samuel 2:26 And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men.

Samuel was a child who was greatly favored by both God and man.

1. God's Favor: The story of Samuel is a reminder of the power and favor God bestows on each one of us.

2. The Power of Love: The love of God and man for Samuel is an example of the power of love and how it can make a lasting impact.

1. Luke 1:30 - "And the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

2. Romans 5:5 - And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

1 Samuel 2:27 And there came a man of God unto Eli, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Did I plainly appear unto the house of thy father, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh's house?

A man of God visited Eli to remind him that God had appeared to Eli's father's family in Egypt while they were in Pharaoh's house.

1: We must remember the faithfulness of God and how He has been faithful in the past, even in the darkest of times.

2: God's faithfulness to His people is something that we should always be grateful for and strive to emulate.

1: Psalm 31:14-15 But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, You are my God. My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

2: Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

1 Samuel 2:28 And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? and did I give unto the house of thy father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel?

God chose Aaron and his descendants from among the tribes of Israel to serve as His priest, offering sacrifices and burning incense on His altar and wearing an ephod in His presence. He also gave offerings to Aaron's family from the offerings of the children of Israel.

1. God s Choice: Honoring Aaron and His Descendants

2. The Call of God: Answering the Call and Serving Him

1. Exodus 28:1-2 - Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.

2. Hebrews 5:1-4 - For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

1 Samuel 2:29 Wherefore kick ye at my sacrifice and at mine offering, which I have commanded in my habitation; and honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people?

Eli's sons dishonored God by stealing from offerings and giving them to themselves.

1. The importance of honoring God with our words and actions.

2. God is the source of all blessings and should be given the ultimate honor and respect.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

1 Samuel 2:30 Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.

The Lord God of Israel is declaring that those who honor Him will be honored in return, while those who disrespect Him will be lightly esteemed.

1. The Blessings of Honoring God

2. The Consequences of Disrespecting God

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine."

1 Samuel 2:31 Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thine house.

God warns Eli that he and his descendants will be punished for their sins, and there will not be an old man in his house.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of 1 Samuel 2:31

2. God's Judgment: A Reflection on 1 Samuel 2:31

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

1 Samuel 2:32 And thou shalt see an enemy in my habitation, in all the wealth which God shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in thine house for ever.

God promises to bless Israel with wealth, but this wealth will come with a cost - no one in Eli's house will ever be old.

1. The Cost of God's Blessing - Exploring how our pursuit of God's blessings can come with a cost.

2. God's Provision - Examining God's promises of provision and the faith needed to accept them.

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. James 4:3 - "When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

1 Samuel 2:33 And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thine heart: and all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age.

The Lord will punish those who wrong Him by taking away the people they love and depriving them of their prosperity.

1. God's justice is perfect and will be served.

2. Rejecting God's commands can bring dire consequences.

Cross-

1. Proverbs 11:21 - "Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free."

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."

1 Samuel 2:34 And this shall be a sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall die both of them.

In 1 Samuel 2:34, God gave a sign to Eli that his two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, would die in a single day.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Eli's Sons

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God's Plans Supersede Our Own

1. James 1:14-15 - Each person is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

2. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.

1 Samuel 2:35 And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever.

God promises to raise up a faithful priest that will do according to His heart and mind, and will be a sure house for His anointed.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness in Priesthood

2. The Assurance of God's Protection

1. 1 Corinthians 1:9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Hebrews 6:19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast.

1 Samuel 2:36 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread.

People in the house of Eli will come and beg for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread in order to be appointed as a priest in his house.

1. The Power of Generosity: Learning to Share God's Blessings

2. The Richness of God's Mercy: Receiving and Giving Grace

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

2. Proverbs 22:9 - The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

1 Samuel 3 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 introduces the calling of Samuel. In this chapter, Samuel is a young boy serving under Eli the priest in the tabernacle at Shiloh. During this time, the word of the Lord is rare and visions are infrequent. One night, as Samuel lies down to sleep, he hears a voice calling his name. Thinking it is Eli, he goes to him but discovers that it was not Eli who called him. This happens three times until Eli realizes that it is God who is speaking to Samuel.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 3:11-18, it recounts God's message to Samuel and its significance. The Lord reveals Himself to Samuel and delivers a message of judgment against Eli's household because of their wickedness and failure to restrain their sons' sinful behavior. The next morning, Eli asks Samuel about what God had spoken to him during the night, urging him not to hide anything from him. Reluctantly, Samuel shares all that God had revealed.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 3 concludes with the establishment of Samuel as a prophet. In 1 Samuel 3:19-21, it is mentioned that as Samuel grows up, his reputation as a prophet becomes known throughout Israel from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south because God continues to reveal Himself through His word to him at Shiloh.

In summary:

1 Samuel 3 presents:

Calling of young boy named Samuel;

God's message of judgment against Eli's household;

Establishment of Samuel as a prophet.

Emphasis on:

Calling of young boy named Samue;

God's message of judgment against Eli's household;

Establishment of Samueas a prophet.

The chapter focuses on the calling of Samuel, God's message of judgment against Eli's household, and the establishment of Samuel as a prophet. In 1 Samuel 3, Samuel is a young boy serving under Eli in the tabernacle at Shiloh. One night, he hears a voice calling his name and mistakenly thinks it is Eli. After this happens three times, Eli realizes that it is God who is speaking to Samuel.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 3, God reveals Himself to Samuel and delivers a message of judgment against Eli's household due to their wickedness and failure to restrain their sons' sinful behavior. The next morning, Eli urges Samuel to share what God had spoken during the night. Reluctantly, Samuel shares all that he had heard from God a message that carries significant consequences for Eli's family.

1 Samuel 3 concludes with the establishment of Samuel as a prophet. As he grows up, his reputation spreads throughout Israel because God continues to reveal Himself through His word to him at Shiloh. This marks an important turning point in Israel's history as they enter into a new era where God speaks directly through His chosen servant Samuel who will play a crucial role in guiding and leading the nation.

1 Samuel 3:1 And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

The Word of the Lord was precious in the time of Eli and Samuel, with no open vision.

1. The importance of listening and obeying the Lord's Word

2. The need for faithfulness in a time of limited vision

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1 Samuel 3:2 And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see;

Eli was unable to see due to his eyesight deteriorating as he lay in his bed.

1. Seeing Beyond Our Disability: A Lesson from Eli

2. Embracing the Challenges of Age: Learning from Eli

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - Paul's reliance on God's grace in the face of his own spiritual affliction.

2. Psalm 71:9, 17-18 - God's faithfulness to those who are old and feeble.

1 Samuel 3:3 And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;

The Bible passage of 1 Samuel 3:3 describes the scene of the Ark of God in the Temple of the Lord when the lamp of God went out and Samuel was sleeping.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Difficult Times

2. God's Light in a Dark World

1. Psalm 27:1 - "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?"

2. Isaiah 60:1 - "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you."

1 Samuel 3:4 That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

God called Samuel and he responded with a willingness to serve.

1. "Called to Serve: Our Response to God's Invitation"

2. "Ready to Answer: Responding to God's Call"

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

2. John 15:16 - You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

1 Samuel 3:5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

A young boy named Samuel hears a voice calling him and he runs to Eli, the priest, but Eli denies having called him.

1. God is always calling us to serve Him - 1 Samuel 3:5

2. Listen to God's voice in all circumstances - 1 Samuel 3:5

1. Proverbs 8:17 - I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

1 Samuel 3:6 And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

Passage The LORD called out to Samuel and when he answered, Eli told him he did not call for him.

1. God's callings are for us to obey, not ignore.

2. God's callings are to be taken seriously, even when they seem insignificant.

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 3:7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

The Lord had not yet revealed Himself to Samuel, and Samuel did not yet know the Lord.

1. "Waiting on the Lord: The Story of Samuel"

2. "Expectant Hope: Understanding the Path of a Prophet"

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

1 Samuel 3:8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.

Eli perceived that the Lord had called Samuel, and Samuel went to Eli when he was called a third time.

1. God's calling is unmistakable when it comes; we must be prepared to answer.

2. Be obedient to the Lord's call no matter how many times it comes.

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Jeremiah 1:7 - But the Lord said to me, Do not say, I am too young. You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.

1 Samuel 3:9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Eli instructs Samuel to lie down and be ready to respond if God calls him by saying "Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth."

1. "God is Always Speaking: Learning to Listen"

2. "God's Call and Our Response: Obeying God's Voice"

1. John 10:27 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

1 Samuel 3:10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

The Lord appeared to Samuel and called out to him, and Samuel answered, ready to listen.

1. God calls us in different ways, and our response should be one of readiness and obedience.

2. God is present in our lives, and it is important to be attentive to His voice.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1 Samuel 3:11 And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.

The Lord speaks to Samuel and promises an important event in Israel that will shock everyone who hears of it.

1. God will always work in mysterious ways - 1 Corinthians 2:7-9

2. Have faith in the Lord - Matthew 17:20

1. Isaiah 64:3 - When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence.

2. Job 37:5 - God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend.

1 Samuel 3:12 In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end.

God promised to Eli that He will carry out all of the things He has said regarding his house, both starting and completing them.

1. God is Faithful: His Promises to You

2. How to Persevere in Difficult Times

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

1 Samuel 3:13 For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

God will judge Eli's house for eternity due to his sons' sinful behavior, which Eli failed to properly address.

1. God's judgment is just and fair, and we must take responsibility for our actions.

2. We must be vigilant in holding ourselves and others accountable for their sins.

1. Romans 2:6-8 "For he will render to every man according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are factious and do not obey the truth, but obey wickedness, there will be wrath and fury."

2. 1 Peter 4:17-18 "For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? And If the righteous man is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear? "

1 Samuel 3:14 And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.

God declares that the iniquity of Eli's house will not be purged with sacrifice or offering.

1. Faithfulness in the Face of Hardship

2. The Power of God's Judgment

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. Habakkuk 2:3 - For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

1 Samuel 3:15 And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

Samuel received a vision from God but was afraid to tell Eli about it.

1. Trust in God's guidance and courage to follow through with it

2. Knowing when to take a step of faith despite fear

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 3:16 Then Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he answered, Here am I.

Eli calls Samuel to him and Samuel responds.

1. "God Calls Us" - Exploring how God calls us to serve Him and follow His will for our lives.

2. "The Gift of Obedience" - Exploring how Samuel's obedience to God's call is an example of Biblical faith.

1. Luke 5:1-11 - Jesus calls his disciples to follow him.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children obey your parents in the Lord.

1 Samuel 3:17 And he said, What is the thing that the LORD hath said unto thee? I pray thee hide it not from me: God do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide any thing from me of all the things that he said unto thee.

Eli asked Samuel to tell him what God had said to him, and promised to bless him if he did not hide anything from him.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Commands

2. Putting God First: Prioritizing God's Will in Our Lives

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Samuel 3:18 And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the LORD: let him do what seemeth him good.

Samuel told Eli everything that God had said to him, without hiding anything. Eli responded that God should be allowed to do whatever He pleases.

1) God's Sovereignty: Remembering Who is in Control

2) Listening to God: Obeying His Will

1) Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2) Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.

1 Samuel 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him, ensuring that none of his words were forgotten.

1. The Power of Words: Let us use our words to bring glory to God.

2. God's Faithfulness: God is always there, guiding us even when we do not realize it.

1. James 3:9-10 - With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

2. Psalm 139:7-8 - Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

1 Samuel 3:20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.

Samuel is established to be a prophet of the Lord and all of Israel knows it.

1. A Prophet of the Lord: How to Receive the Message

2. Samuel: An Example of Faith and Obedience

1. Jeremiah 1:4-10 - God's Call to Jeremiah

2. Acts 3:22-26 - Peter Preaches in Jerusalem

1 Samuel 3:21 And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

The Lord revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by speaking through His Word.

1. The Importance of the Word of God: Examining 1 Samuel 3:21

2. Listening for the Voice of the Lord: An Exposition of 1 Samuel 3:21

1. Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Psalm 19:7, "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple."

1 Samuel 4:1 And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside Ebenezer: and the Philistines pitched in Aphek.

The word of Samuel was made known to all of Israel, who then went out to battle against the Philistines, setting up camp beside Ebenezer and the Philistine camp at Aphek.

1. The Power of the Word of God - how Samuel's word spurred all of Israel to battle against the Philistines and of God's faithfulness to His promises.

2. The Strength of Unity - how Israel's strength was multiplied when they stood together as one.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

1 Samuel 4:2 And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel: and when they joined battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines: and they slew of the army in the field about four thousand men.

The Philistines defeated the Israelites in battle, killing around four thousand men.

1. The Power of God's Protection: How God Can Protect Us In Times of Trouble.

2. The Strength of Our Faith: How We Can Persevere Through Tests of Our Faith.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

1 Samuel 4:3 And when the people were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, Wherefore hath the LORD smitten us to day before the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of Shiloh unto us, that, when it cometh among us, it may save us out of the hand of our enemies.

The elders of Israel wanted to bring the Ark of the Covenant from Shiloh to their camp in the hopes that it would save them from their enemies.

1. "The Power of Faith: A Look at 1 Samuel 4:3"

2. "The Strength of the Covenant: What We Can Learn from 1 Samuel 4:3"

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation."

2. Joshua 3:13-17 - "And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap."

1 Samuel 4:4 So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth between the cherubims: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.

The people of Israel sent to Shiloh to bring the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD of Hosts, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with it.

1. The Importance of Obedience: The People of Israel's Honor for the Ark of the Covenant

2. The Faithfulness of God: The LORD of Hosts' Covenant with His People

1. Deuteronomy 31:9-13: God's Covenant with the People of Israel

2. 1 Chronicles 13:5-10: King David's Obedience in Bringing the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem

1 Samuel 4:5 And when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang again.

The Ark of the Covenant of the Lord came to the camp of Israel, and the people rejoiced with a great shout.

1. God is with us- Praise Him for His Presence

2. Rejoice in the Lord- Celebrate His Love and Mercy

1. Isaiah 12:2- "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid; for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also has become my salvation."

2. Psalm 118:14- "The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation."

1 Samuel 4:6 And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, What meaneth the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ark of the LORD was come into the camp.

The Philistines heard the loud shouting from the Hebrews and realized that the Ark of the LORD had come into their camp.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will provide protection and guidance.

2. God's presence brings joy and celebration, and should be welcomed into our lives.

1. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Romans 8:31 "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

1 Samuel 4:7 And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, God is come into the camp. And they said, Woe unto us! for there hath not been such a thing heretofore.

The Philistines were terrified when they realized that God had come into their camp as it had never happened before.

1. God Is With Us: We Are Not Alone

2. The Power of Fear: Recognizing the Presence of God

1. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Deuteronomy 31:8 "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

1 Samuel 4:8 Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these are the Gods that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

The Israelites were dismayed at the great power of the Philistine gods, remembering how the Lord had smitten the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

1. God Is Greater Than Any Other Power

2. God s Power Is Unmatched

1. Exodus 7:14-12:36 The Lord s plagues against Egypt

2. Psalm 24:1 The Lord is the Creator of all things

1 Samuel 4:9 Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you: quit yourselves like men, and fight.

The Philistines are being encouraged to be strong and fight against the Hebrews, like men.

1. "God's Strength: Don't Be a Servant to Others"

2. "The Power of Courage: Stand Up and Fight"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

1 Samuel 4:10 And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

The Philistines fought against Israel and Israel was defeated, leading to a great slaughter where 30,000 footmen died.

1. God's Providence in the Midst of Disaster

2. The Cost of Disobedience

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Joshua 7:10-12 - Then the Lord said to Joshua, Stand up! What are you doing down on your face? Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions. That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.

1 Samuel 4:11 And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

The Ark of God was captured and Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas were killed.

1. The Loss of God's Presence and the Devastating Consequences

2. The Inevitability of Reaping What We Sow

1. Psalm 78:61-64 - He delivered his power to captivity, his glory to the hand of the enemy. He gave his people to be mocked of all nations. He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent he had pitched among men. He gave his strength to captivity and his glory into the hand of the enemy.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

1 Samuel 4:12 And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes rent, and with earth upon his head.

The army of Israel was defeated in battle and a man of Benjamin returned in distress to Shiloh.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Defeat

2. The Strength of Perseverance in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

1 Samuel 4:13 And when he came, lo, Eli sat upon a seat by the wayside watching: for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city, and told it, all the city cried out.

Eli was sitting by the side of the road, fearful for the fate of the Ark of God, when a man arrived in the city to report the news. The whole city responded in shock.

1. Fear Not: Dealing with Anxiety in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of One Person: How Our Actions Impact Our Community

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

1 Samuel 4:14 And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What meaneth the noise of this tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli.

A man came to Eli to inform him of a loud noise in the area.

1. God's Word is the Ultimate Authority: Eli sought the truth from the man who came to him, trusting that the information he provided was accurate.

2. Be Alert to God's Voice: Eli's alertness to the noise in the area enabled him to receive the news from the man.

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. 1 John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1 Samuel 4:15 Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes were dim, that he could not see.

Eli, the High Priest of Israel, was 98 years old and his eyesight was failing.

1. "The Blessing of a Long Life: Reflections on 1 Samuel 4:15"

2. "Seeing the Unseen: A Study of Faith in 1 Samuel 4:15"

1. 2 Corinthians 5:7 - "for we walk by faith, not by sight"

2. Psalm 90:10 - "The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years"

1 Samuel 4:16 And the man said unto Eli, I am he that came out of the army, and I fled to day out of the army. And he said, What is there done, my son?

A man told Eli that he had fled from the army and asked what had happened.

1. Choosing Obedience Over Fear: How to Respond When Life Gets Hard

2. Standing Firm in Times of Trouble: Drawing Strength from God

1. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 4:17 And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God is taken.

Israel has been defeated in battle by the Philistines, and many have been killed, including Hophni and Phinehas. The ark of God has also been taken.

1. God's Will is Sovereign Over Human Events - 1 Samuel 4:17

2. Hope in God's Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity - 1 Samuel 4:17

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

1 Samuel 4:18 And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died: for he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

Eli, an old man who was a judge of Israel for forty years, died when he heard mention of the Ark of God, falling from his seat and breaking his neck.

1. God's power is greater than any man's and we must be careful to remain humble before Him.

2. The life of Eli serves as a reminder that God's timing is perfect and that He is ultimately in control.

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die.

1 Samuel 4:19 And his daughter in law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, near to be delivered: and when she heard the tidings that the ark of God was taken, and that her father in law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed; for her pains came upon her.

Phinehas' wife, who was pregnant, heard news that the Ark of God was taken and her father-in-law and husband were dead. Upon hearing the news, she experienced pain as she was about to give birth.

1. The Strength of a Woman in Times of Trouble

2. The Comfort of God in All Circumstances

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 4:20 And about the time of her death the women that stood by her said unto her, Fear not; for thou hast born a son. But she answered not, neither did she regard it.

A woman is nearing death, and the women around her attempt to comfort her by saying she has given birth to a son. However, she does not respond or acknowledge them.

1. God's Love and Comfort in Times of Loss

2. Hope in the Face of Uncertainty

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

1 Samuel 4:21 And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband.

The glory of Israel departed when the ark of God was taken, causing distress for the family of Eli and Ichabod.

1. God's glory never truly departs from His people, even in times of difficulty and distress.

2. Trusting in God's glory and promises can bring us hope and courage in times of trial.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 4:22 And she said, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of God is taken.

The glory of Israel had departed, as the Ark of God had been captured.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: Learning from the Consequences of Disobedience

2. Finding Our Hope: Understanding That Our Future Is Secure in God

1. 2 Corinthians 4:7-9 - But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

2. Psalm 16:5-6 - The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot. The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

1 Samuel 5 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 5:1-5 introduces the capture of the Ark by the Philistines. In this chapter, the Philistines bring the captured Ark of God to their city of Ashdod and place it in the temple of their god Dagon. The next morning, they find that the statue of Dagon has fallen face down before the Ark. They set it upright again, but on the following day, they discover that not only has Dagon fallen again but this time its head and hands have been broken off.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 5:6-9, it recounts how God afflicts the people of Ashdod with a plague. Realizing that keeping the Ark in their midst brings disaster upon them, the people of Ashdod decide to move it to another city Gath. However, wherever they take it, God's hand continues to afflict both Gath and its inhabitants with tumors or some form of affliction.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 5 concludes with further consequences for those who possess the Ark. In 1 Samuel 5:10-12, it is mentioned that after experiencing calamity from having possession of the Ark for seven months, a sense of fear and desperation grips both cities Ashdod and Gath and their people cry out for relief from God's judgment. The Philistine rulers convene a meeting where they decide to send back the Ark to Israel along with offerings as a way to appease God's wrath.

In summary:

1 Samuel 5 presents:

Capture of Ark by Philistines Dagon's fall;

God afflicts people with plague;

Consequences for possessing Ark cry for relief.

Emphasis on:

Capture of Ark by Philistines Dagon's fall;

God afflicts people with plague;

Consequences for possessing Ark cry for relief.

The chapter focuses on the capture of the Ark by the Philistines, God's affliction upon them, and the consequences they face for possessing the Ark. In 1 Samuel 5, after capturing the Ark of God, the Philistines bring it to their city of Ashdod and place it in Dagon's temple. However, they wake up to find that their idol Dagon has fallen face down before the Ark. They set it upright again but discover that Dagon falls once more and this time its head and hands are broken off.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 5, God inflicts a plague upon the people of Ashdod as a consequence for keeping His sacred Ark in their midst. Realizing that disaster follows wherever they take it, they decide to move it to another city Gath but God continues to afflict both Gath and its inhabitants with tumors or some form of affliction.

1 Samuel 5 concludes with further consequences faced by those who possess the Ark. After enduring calamity from having possession of it for seven months, fear and desperation grip both cities Ashdod and Gath and their people cry out for relief from God's judgment. The Philistine rulers gather together and decide to send back the captured Ark to Israel along with offerings as an attempt to appease God's wrath upon them.

1 Samuel 5:1 And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod.

The Philistines captured the ark of God from Ebenezer and took it to Ashdod.

1. The Power of God in the Face of Adversity

2. The Provision of God in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn."

2. Romans 8:37 - "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

1 Samuel 5:2 When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon.

The Philistines captured the Ark of God and placed it next to the statue of their god, Dagon.

1. The Sovereignty of God - how God can take what the Philistines thought was a victory and turn it into a defeat.

2. Idolatry - how trusting in idols instead of God eventually leads to failure.

1. Isaiah 46:5-7 - "To whom will you liken me and make me equal and compare me, that we may be alike? They lavish gold out of the bag and weigh silver on the scales; they hire a goldsmith and he makes it into a god; they prostrate themselves, yea, they worship. They bear it on the shoulder, they carry it and set it in its place, and it stands; from its place it shall not move. Though one cries out to it, yet it cannot answer nor save him out of his trouble."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

1 Samuel 5:3 And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again.

The people of Ashdod discovered that their god Dagon had fallen before the Ark of the Lord. They put Dagon back in place.

1. The Power of the Lord's Presence: A Study of 1 Samuel 5:3

2. The Significance of Dagon's Fall: Learning from 1 Samuel 5:3

1. Isaiah 45:5-6 I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other.

2. Revelation 19:6-7 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

1 Samuel 5:4 And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threshold; only the stump of Dagon was left to him.

The Philistines found that when they awoke, their idol Dagon had fallen before the Ark of the Lord, and its head and hands had been cut off.

1. God's power is greater than any idol, and God shows his supremacy over all through his mighty works.

2. We can trust in God even when it seems like our enemies are gaining the upper hand, for God will ultimately prevail.

1. Daniel 5:22-23 - "And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:"

2. 2 Kings 19:14-15 - "And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up unto the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord. And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said, O Lord God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth."

1 Samuel 5:5 Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day.

The priests of Dagon in Ashdod were forbidden from stepping on the threshold of Dagon's house.

1. Don't let pride lead you to destruction- 1 Samuel 2:3

2. Honor and respect God's house- Deuteronomy 12:5-7

1. 1 Corinthians 10:12- Let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he falls.

2. Daniel 4:37- Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice.

1 Samuel 5:6 But the hand of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the coasts thereof.

The Lord struck the people of Ashdod, causing them to experience emerods, and the surrounding areas were also affected.

1. God's justice will be visited upon those who disobey Him.

2. We must remain faithful to God, despite the consequences of our actions.

1. Isaiah 5:24 Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2. Nehemiah 9:17 And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.

1 Samuel 5:7 And when the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not abide with us: for his hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god.

The people of Ashdod realized that the God of Israel was greater than their own god, Dagon, when they saw the consequences of their actions.

1. God's power is greater than anything we can imagine.

2. We must always put our faith in God's will.

1. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein."

2. Matthew 28:20 - "Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

1 Samuel 5:8 They sent therefore and gathered all the lords of the Philistines unto them, and said, What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? And they answered, Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried about unto Gath. And they carried the ark of the God of Israel about thither.

The Philistines gathered all their lords to ask what should be done with the ark of the God of Israel. They decided to carry the ark to Gath.

1. The importance of seeking God's guidance.

2. How God's power changes circumstances.

1. James 1:5-8 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Matthew 17:20 - And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

1 Samuel 5:9 And it was so, that, after they had carried it about, the hand of the LORD was against the city with a very great destruction: and he smote the men of the city, both small and great, and they had emerods in their secret parts.

The people of the city of Ashdod were attacked by the Lord with a great destruction and many people were afflicted with emerods in their private parts.

1. God Is Sovereign and His Judgment Is Just - Exploring the implications of 1 Samuel 5:9

2. The Power of God's Punishment - Understanding why God punishes and how we can avoid it.

1. Job 5:17 - Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty.

2. Proverbs 3:11-12 - My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

1 Samuel 5:10 Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ark of the God of Israel to us, to slay us and our people.

The Ekronites were afraid that the ark of God would bring destruction upon them and their people.

1. God's presence brings both blessing and judgement, and it is up to us to decide how we respond to it.

2. We must be careful to not harden our hearts to God's will as the Ekronites did.

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

2. Isaiah 6:10 - Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

1 Samuel 5:11 So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there.

The Philistines gathered together their leaders and asked them to send the Ark of the God of Israel back to its own place because a deadly destruction was happening throughout the city and the hand of God was very heavy.

1. How We Respond to the Hand of God

2. The Power of God Over Our Lives

1. Habakkuk 3:5 - Before Him went pestilence, and burning coals went forth at His feet.

2. Psalm 91:13 - You shall tread upon the lion and cobra, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

1 Samuel 5:12 And the men that died not were smitten with the emerods: and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

The people of the city were afflicted with a plague, and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

1. The Power of Prayer: How We Cry Out To God In Times of Trouble

2. The Blessing of Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. James 5:13-16 (Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.)

2. Isaiah 41:10 (So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.)

1 Samuel 6 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 6:1-9 introduces the return of the Ark to Israel by the Philistines. In this chapter, after experiencing God's affliction and calamity, the Philistine rulers consult their priests and diviners for guidance on what to do with the captured Ark. They decide to send it back to Israel along with a guilt offering in order to appease God's anger. The Philistines prepare a new cart, place the Ark upon it, and include golden images representing the tumors and rats that afflicted them as part of their offering.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 6:10-12, it recounts how they test whether their misfortunes were indeed caused by God's hand. The Philistines set loose two cows that have recently given birth and attach them to the cart carrying the Ark. They observe if these cows naturally head towards Israelite territory or not. If they do, it would confirm that God's hand was upon them; if not, they would know that their misfortunes were mere coincidences.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 6 concludes with the return of the Ark and its reception by the people of Beth-shemesh. In 1 Samuel 6:13-21, it is mentioned that as expected, guided by God's providence, the cows head straight towards Beth-shemesh an Israelite city pulling along with them both cart and Ark. The people of Beth-shemesh rejoice at its arrival; they offer burnt offerings to God using wood from the cart itself as fuel for sacrifice.

In summary:

1 Samuel 6 presents:

Return of Ark by Philistines consultation for guidance;

Testing whether misfortunes were caused by God's hand;

Return of Ark reception by people of Beth-shemesh.

Emphasis on:

Return of Ark by Philistines consultation for guidance;

Testing whether misfortunes were caused by God's hand;

Return of Ark reception by people of Beth-shemesh.

The chapter focuses on the return of the Ark to Israel by the Philistines, their consultation for guidance, testing whether their misfortunes were caused by God's hand, and the reception of the Ark by the people of Beth-shemesh. In 1 Samuel 6, after experiencing affliction and calamity due to possessing the captured Ark, the Philistine rulers consult their priests and diviners for guidance. They decide to send it back to Israel along with a guilt offering in order to appease God's anger.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 6, as part of their test to determine if their misfortunes were indeed caused by God's hand or mere coincidences, they set loose two cows that have recently given birth and attach them to a cart carrying the Ark. If these cows naturally head towards Israelite territory, it would confirm that God was responsible for their afflictions; otherwise, they would conclude that it was mere chance.

1 Samuel 6 concludes with the return of the Ark guided by divine providence. As expected, the cows head straight towards Beth-shemesh an Israelite city pulling along with them both cart and Ark. The people of Beth-shemesh rejoice at its arrival and offer burnt offerings to God using wood from the cart itself as fuel for sacrifice a demonstration of gratitude and reverence towards God's presence returning among them.

1 Samuel 6:1 And the ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months.

The Ark of the Lord was in the hands of the Philistines for seven months.

1. Trust in the Lord: How to Overcome Trials and Tribulations

2. The Power of Faithfulness: What We Can Learn from the Ark of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

1 Samuel 6:2 And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, What shall we do to the ark of the LORD? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place.

The Philistines asked the priests and diviners to tell them how to return the ark of the LORD to its rightful place.

1. God's Presence is Powerful and Can't be Contained

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - Instructions on how to build the Ark of the Covenant

2. Exodus 40:34-38 - The glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle when the Ark was placed inside.

1 Samuel 6:3 And they said, If ye send away the ark of the God of Israel, send it not empty; but in any wise return him a trespass offering: then ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why his hand is not removed from you.

The people of Israel asked to return the ark of God with a trespass offering in order to be healed and to know why God has not removed his hand from them.

1. God's Mercy: Even in the Midst of Sin

2. The Power of Repentance and Return

1. Isaiah 30:15 - For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength.

2. Joel 2:12-13 - Yet even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

1 Samuel 6:4 Then said they, What shall be the trespass offering which we shall return to him? They answered, Five golden emerods, and five golden mice, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines: for one plague was on you all, and on your lords.

The Philistines asked the Israelites what should be offered as a trespass offering for the plague that had been inflicted on them. The Israelites responded that five golden emerods and five golden mice should be given as an offering, one for each of the lords of the Philistines.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How We Can Receive and Give It

2. The Importance of Repentance: Taking Responsibility for Our Actions

1. Colossians 3:13 - Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Ezekiel 18:21-22 - But if a wicked person turns away from all the sins they have committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, that person will surely live; they will not die. None of the offenses they have committed will be remembered against them. They will live because of the righteous things they have done.

1 Samuel 6:5 Wherefore ye shall make images of your emerods, and images of your mice that mar the land; and ye shall give glory unto the God of Israel: peradventure he will lighten his hand from off you, and from off your gods, and from off your land.

The Philistines were instructed to give glory to the God of Israel as a sign of repentance and seek his mercy for their affliction.

1. Rely on God even in the midst of your afflictions

2. Repent and seek the mercy of the Lord

1. Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

2. James 4:8-10 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall exalt you.

1 Samuel 6:6 Wherefore then do ye harden your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when he had wrought wonderfully among them, did they not let the people go, and they departed?

The Israelites are warned not to harden their hearts like the Egyptians and Pharaoh did, who only allowed the people to go after God performed many miracles among them.

1. God's Wonders: Recognizing the Miracles in Our Lives

2. God's Patience: Learning from the Pharaoh's Hardened Heart

1. Exodus 14:31 "And when the Israelites saw the great power the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant."

2. Exodus 3:20 "And I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wonders that I will do in it..."

1 Samuel 6:7 Now therefore make a new cart, and take two milch kine, on which there hath come no yoke, and tie the kine to the cart, and bring their calves home from them:

The Philistines were instructed to make a new cart and take two milch kine, which had no yoke, and tie the kine to the cart and bring their calves home from them.

1. "The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions"

2. "The Significance of a New Cart: Starting Anew"

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you this day for your good?

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

1 Samuel 6:8 And take the ark of the LORD, and lay it upon the cart; and put the jewels of gold, which ye return him for a trespass offering, in a coffer by the side thereof; and send it away, that it may go.

The people of Beth-shemesh were instructed to take the ark of the Lord and lay it on a cart, and to put the jewels of gold as a trespass offering in a coffer beside the ark before sending it away.

1. The Lord's Trespass Offering: Learning to Give in Gratitude

2. Understanding the Significance of the Ark of the Lord

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Exodus 25:10-22 - Have them make an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high. Overlay it with pure gold, both inside and out, and make a gold molding around it.

1 Samuel 6:9 And see, if it goeth up by the way of his own coast to Bethshemesh, then he hath done us this great evil: but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand that smote us: it was a chance that happened to us.

The people of Bethshemesh ask the Philistines to send back the ark of the covenant to them, and if it returns, they will know that the plague they were experiencing was not caused by God.

1. God's sovereignty in the midst of human suffering

2. How to trust God when life doesn't make sense

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

1 Samuel 6:10 And the men did so; and took two milch kine, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home:

The men of Beth-shemesh followed the Lord's instructions and took two milch kine and attached them to a cart, leaving their calves at home.

1. Following the Lord's instructions is an act of faith and obedience.

2. We must be willing to give of ourselves to fulfill God's will.

1. Matthew 10:37-39 - "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

2. Philippians 2:1-11 - Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

1 Samuel 6:11 And they laid the ark of the LORD upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their emerods.

The Israelites placed the Ark of the LORD onto a cart, along with a chest containing gold mice and images of their tumors.

1. How God's Presence Transcends Human Suffering

2. The Paradox of Holiness and Sin

1. Isaiah 6:1-3 - Isaiah's vision of God's holiness

2. 2 Corinthians 4:7-12 - Paul's message of the power of God's presence despite suffering

1 Samuel 6:12 And the kine took the straight way to the way of Bethshemesh, and went along the highway, lowing as they went, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left; and the lords of the Philistines went after them unto the border of Bethshemesh.

The kine (cows) took the highway to Bethshemesh and did not turn away; the Philistine lords followed them all the way to the border of Bethshemesh.

1. The Power of God to Direct Our Paths

2. The Lord's Guidance in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 48:17, I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go

2. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Samuel 6:13 And they of Bethshemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it.

The people of Bethshemesh were harvesting wheat in the valley when they suddenly saw the ark and were filled with joy.

1. God's Presence Brings Joy: A Reflection on 1 Samuel 6:13

2. Rejoice in What You Have: A Reflection on 1 Samuel 6:13

1. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. Isaiah 35:10 - And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

1 Samuel 6:14 And the cart came into the field of Joshua, a Bethshemite, and stood there, where there was a great stone: and they clave the wood of the cart, and offered the kine a burnt offering unto the LORD.

A cart carrying the Ark of the Covenant stopped in the field of a Bethshemite named Joshua and a great stone was found there. The wood from the cart was then used to make a burnt offering to the Lord.

1. The Value of Faith in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Giving to God

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Philippians 4:18 - "I have received full payment, and more; I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

1 Samuel 6:15 And the Levites took down the ark of the LORD, and the coffer that was with it, wherein the jewels of gold were, and put them on the great stone: and the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day unto the LORD.

The Levites took the ark of the LORD and the coffer with its jewels of gold and placed them on the great stone. The people of Bethshemesh offered sacrificial offerings to the LORD.

1. The Importance of Sacrifice: Understanding the Purpose of Sacrifice in Our Lives

2. Obeying God's Commands: Following the Instructions of the LORD

1. Leviticus 7:11-15 - This is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings which he shall offer unto the LORD. And if he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried. Besides the cakes, he shall offer for his offering leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings. And of it he shall offer one out of the whole oblation for an heave offering unto the LORD, and it shall be the priest's that sprinkleth the blood of the peace offerings. And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 Samuel 6:16 And when the five lords of the Philistines had seen it, they returned to Ekron the same day.

The five lords of the Philistines saw the Ark of the Covenant and returned to Ekron on the same day.

1. The Power of the Ark: How the Presence of the Sacred Reveals God's Holiness

2. The Journey Home: How Obedience to God Leads Us to Righteousness

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - Instructions on how to build the Ark of the Covenant

2. Joshua 6:20-22 - The Walls of Jericho Fall Down in the Presence of the Ark of the Covenant

1 Samuel 6:17 And these are the golden emerods which the Philistines returned for a trespass offering unto the LORD; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one;

The Philistines returned golden emerods to the LORD as a trespass offering, one for each of the five cities of Ashdod, Gaza, Askelon, Gath, and Ekron.

1. God Requests a Repentance: The Philistines' Trespass Offering

2. The Power of Repentance: The Philistines' Response to God

1. 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

2. Luke 3:8 - Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

1 Samuel 6:18 And the golden mice, according to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five lords, both of fenced cities, and of country villages, even unto the great stone of Abel, whereon they set down the ark of the LORD: which stone remaineth unto this day in the field of Joshua, the Bethshemite.

The Philistines had five lords and the LORD provided them with golden mice according to the number of cities belonging to the lords. The ark of the LORD was placed on a great stone in the field of Joshua, the Bethshemite, which stone still remains to this day.

1. Recognizing the Lord's Sovereignty in Our Lives

2. How the Ark of the Lord Brought Blessing to the Philistines

1. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

2. 1 Peter 2:9 - "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

1 Samuel 6:19 And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men: and the people lamented, because the LORD had smitten many of the people with a great slaughter.

The LORD smote the men of Bethshemesh with a great slaughter, killing 50,070 of them for looking into the Ark of the Lord.

1. The LORD's Wrath: Learning from the Punishment of Bethshemesh

2. The Holiness of the LORD: Respecting the Lord's Power and Boundaries

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - God commands Moses to build the Ark of the Covenant.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Drawing near to God with a true heart and full assurance of faith.

1 Samuel 6:20 And the men of Bethshemesh said, Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God? and to whom shall he go up from us?

The men of Bethshemesh recognized the power of God and questioned who could stand before Him.

1. Who Can Stand Before God?

2. Recognizing the Power of the Lord

1. Hebrews 4:13 - "And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

1 Samuel 6:21 And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjathjearim, saying, The Philistines have brought again the ark of the LORD; come ye down, and fetch it up to you.

The Philistines returned the Ark of the Lord to the inhabitants of Kirjathjearim, who were asked to come and retrieve it.

1. Receive God's Gifts with Gratitude

2. God's Promises are Reliable

1. Psalm 50:14 - Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 7 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 7:1-6 introduces the repentance and renewal of Israel under Samuel's leadership. In this chapter, the people of Israel gather at Mizpah and confess their sins, turning away from their idols and committing themselves to the Lord. Samuel leads them in a period of fasting and prayer, seeking God's forgiveness and deliverance from the Philistines who had oppressed them. The Israelites remove their foreign gods and commit themselves to serving the Lord alone.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 7:7-11, it recounts God's intervention in response to their repentance. When the Philistines hear that Israel has gathered at Mizpah, they prepare to attack. However, as Samuel offers a burnt offering to God, He thunders against the Philistines with a great noise that causes confusion among them. The Israelites seize this opportunity and pursue their enemies, defeating them in battle.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 7 concludes with the establishment of Ebenezer as a memorial stone. In 1 Samuel 7:12-17, it is mentioned that after their victory over the Philistines, Samuel sets up a stone between Mizpah and Shen called Ebenezer meaning "stone of help." This serves as a reminder of how God helped them overcome their enemies. From then on, throughout his lifetime, Samuel continues to judge Israel and travels on an annual circuit to different cities Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah where he administers justice for his people.

In summary:

1 Samuel 7 presents:

Repentance and renewal of Israel under Samuel's leadership;

God's intervention against the Philistines;

Establishment of Ebenezer as a memorial stone.

Emphasis on:

Repentance and renewal of Israel under Samuel's leadership;

God's intervention against the Philistines;

Establishment of Ebenezer as a memorial stone.

The chapter focuses on the repentance and renewal of Israel under Samuel's leadership, God's intervention in their battles against the Philistines, and the establishment of Ebenezer as a memorial stone. In 1 Samuel 7, the people of Israel gather at Mizpah where they confess their sins, remove their foreign gods, and commit themselves to serving the Lord alone. They seek God's forgiveness and deliverance from the oppression of the Philistines.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 7, when the Philistines hear about Israel's gathering at Mizpah, they prepare to attack. However, as Samuel offers a burnt offering to God, He intervenes with thunder against the Philistines causing confusion among them. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Israel pursues their enemies and achieves victory in battle.

1 Samuel 7 concludes with Samuel setting up a stone between Mizpah and Shen called Ebenezer a symbol meaning "stone of help." This serves as a memorial to remind future generations how God helped them overcome their enemies. Throughout his lifetime, Samuel continues to judge Israel and travels on an annual circuit to different cities Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah where he administers justice for his people a testament to his leadership role in guiding Israel during this period.

1 Samuel 7:1 And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD.

The men of Kirjathjearim fetched the Ark of the Lord and brought it to the house of Abinadab. They also consecrated Eleazar, Abinadab's son, to keep the Ark of the Lord.

1. The Faithfulness of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commandments Brings Blessings

2. The Importance of a Righteous Heart: Having a Pure Heart is Necessary to Serve God

1. 1 Samuel 3:1 - Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli. And word from the Lord was rare in those days, visions were infrequent.

2. Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

1 Samuel 7:2 And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD.

The Ark of the Lord stayed in Kirjathjearim for twenty years, and all the people of Israel longed for the Lord during that time.

1. The Power of Longing for God

2. Waiting on the Lord

1. Romans 8:25-27 - But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

1 Samuel 7:3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

Samuel speaks to the people of Israel, calling for them to return to the Lord and serve Him alone, and in turn He will deliver them out of the hand of the Philistines.

1. "The Lord's Deliverance" - focusing on God's power to save and the importance of trusting and relying on Him.

2. "Return to the Lord" - emphasizing the need to return to the Lord and to serve Him alone.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

1 Samuel 7:4 Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

The Israelites stopped worshipping false gods and served the Lord alone.

1. The Importance of Faithfully Serving the Lord

2. Overcoming False Idols and Focusing on God Alone

1. Ephesians 6:5-7 - "Slaves, be obedient to those who are your earthly masters, with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as to Christ; not in the way of eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to men."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

1 Samuel 7:5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD.

Samuel called for all of Israel to gather in Mizpeh, where he would pray to the LORD on their behalf.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God's People Come Together and Seek His Help

2. The Importance of Unity: How We Become Stronger Together in Our Faith

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Ephesians 6:18-19 - "Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints."

1 Samuel 7:6 And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the LORD. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.

The people of Israel gathered together in Mizpeh, drew water and poured it out before the Lord as an act of repentance and confession of their sins. Samuel then judged the people.

1. Repentance: Acknowledging and Confessing Our Sins

2. The Power of Gathering Together for Support and Repentance

1. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

2. "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." Acts 3:19

1 Samuel 7:7 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.

The Philistines heard that the children of Israel had gathered at Mizpeh, prompting the lords of the Philistines to attack Israel. When the children of Israel heard this, they were filled with fear.

1. God is with us even in the midst of fear.

2. We can overcome our fears with faith in God.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

1 Samuel 7:8 And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.

The Israelites asked Samuel to continue praying to God for deliverance from the Philistines.

1. The Power of Prayer: The Israelites demonstrate that prayer is an effective way to receive help from God.

2. Faith in God: The Israelites show their trust in God's ability to answer their prayers.

1. Matthew 7:7-8, Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

2. James 5:16, The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

1 Samuel 7:9 And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him.

Samuel offered a burnt offering to the Lord and prayed to the Lord on behalf of Israel, and the Lord answered his prayer.

1. Prayer is Powerful: How Communion with God is the Key to Answered Prayers

2. The Blessing of Obedience: The Reward of Faithful Worshiping of the Lord

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. 1 John 5:14-15 - And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

1 Samuel 7:10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

Samuel offered a burnt offering and the Philistines attacked Israel, but the LORD thundered and defeated them.

1. God is always with us and will defend us in times of danger.

2. We should rely on God in difficult times and seek His help.

1. Psalm 46:1, God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 7:11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar.

The men of Israel went out of Mizpeh to pursue the Philistines and eventually defeated them at Bethcar.

1. God is always with us, even in our darkest moments.

2. Through faith and courage, we can overcome any obstacle.

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

1 Samuel 7:12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.

Samuel set up a stone as a memorial to God's help and called it Ebenezer.

1. God is always there to help us - 1 Samuel 7:12

2. The importance of remembering God's faithfulness - 1 Samuel 7:12

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 7:13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

The Philistines were defeated by the Lord through Samuel and no longer threatened Israel.

1. God is our protector and savior.

2. We should trust in the Lord and his power.

1. Psalm 121:2 "My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. 1 John 4:4 "Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

1 Samuel 7:14 And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

The Philistines had taken control of certain cities from Israel, but Israel was able to take them back and make peace with the Amorites.

1. Peace is possible when we rely on God's power.

2. Working together can break down walls and restore relationships.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

1 Samuel 7:15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

Samuel judged Israel for the duration of his life.

1. The Power of a Life Devoted to Service

2. The Impact of a life Faithfully Lived

1. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2. Hebrews 13:7 - Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

1 Samuel 7:16 And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places.

Samuel went on a yearly circuit to four cities - Bethel, Gilgal, Mizpeh - to judge Israel.

1. The importance of spiritual guidance - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

2. The importance of discipline and justice - Proverbs 16:10-11

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice; help the oppressed

2. Proverbs 22:22-23 - Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court.

1 Samuel 7:17 And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.

This passage tells of Samuel's return to Ramah where he built an altar for the LORD and judged Israel.

1: We can learn from Samuel's example of faith and obedience to the LORD.

2: We can be inspired to follow the LORD's guidance and build an altar in our own lives.

1: Joshua 22:5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

2: Deuteronomy 11:22 For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;

1 Samuel 8 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 8:1-9 introduces the request for a king by the people of Israel. In this chapter, Samuel becomes old and appoints his sons as judges over Israel. However, they do not walk in his ways and are corrupt. The elders of Israel approach Samuel and express their desire for a king to rule over them like other nations have. This request displeases Samuel, but he seeks guidance from God.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 8:10-18, it recounts God's warning about the consequences of having a king. God instructs Samuel to listen to the voice of the people and appoint a king for them but warns him about the negative aspects of kingship. He tells Samuel that kings will take their sons for military service, demand taxes and labor from their subjects, and exert control over their lives. Despite these warnings, the people insist on having a king.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 8 concludes with the appointment of Saul as Israel's first king. In 1 Samuel 8:19-22, it is mentioned that after hearing God's warnings through Samuel, the people refuse to change their minds they still want a king to rule over them. Following God's instructions, Samuel tells them to go back to their cities while he seeks out a suitable candidate for kingship on behalf of God. The chapter ends with Saul being chosen by lot as Israel's first king.

In summary:

1 Samuel 8 presents:

Request for a king by Israel;

God's warning about the consequences;

Appointment of Saul as Israel's first king.

Emphasis on:

Request for a king by Israel;

God's warning about consequences;

Appointment of Saul as first King.

The chapter focuses on the request for a king by the people of Israel, God's warning about the consequences of kingship, and the appointment of Saul as Israel's first king. In 1 Samuel 8, Samuel appoints his sons as judges over Israel, but they prove to be corrupt. The elders approach Samuel and express their desire for a king to rule over them like other nations. Although this displeases Samuel, he seeks guidance from God.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 8, God instructs Samuel to listen to the voice of the people and appoint a king for them. However, He warns about the negative aspects of kingship how kings will demand military service from their sons, taxes and labor from their subjects, and exert control over their lives. Despite these warnings, the people insist on having a king.

1 Samuel 8 concludes with Samuel telling the people to go back to their cities while he seeks out a suitable candidate for kingship on behalf of God. Following God's instructions, Saul is chosen by lot as Israel's first king a significant turning point in Israel's history as they transition from being led by judges appointed by God to having a centralized monarchy under Saul's rule.

1 Samuel 8:1 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel.

As Samuel aged, he appointed his sons to be judges over Israel.

1. The importance of passing down wisdom and guidance to the next generation.

2. The responsibility of taking up the mantle of leadership.

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 - And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

1 Samuel 8:2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba.

This passage from 1 Samuel 8:2 describes the names of Samuel's two sons, Joel and Abiah, who were judges in Beersheba.

1. The Importance of Family: Lessons from the Life of Samuel

2. The Calling to Serve: What Are the Responsibilities of a Judge?

1. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

2. Proverbs 17:15 - He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the Lord.

1 Samuel 8:3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

The sons of Samuel were not following in their father's footsteps, but were seeking money and bribes to influence their decisions.

1: Do not be tempted by the allure of money and instead focus on doing what is right.

2: Choose to follow in the footsteps of your parents and make decisions based on righteousness, not greed.

1: Proverbs 28:6 Better is the poor that walketh in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

1 Samuel 8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah,

The elders of Israel met with Samuel at Ramah.

1. The importance of gathering together in times of need.

2. The power of prayer in uniting people.

1. Acts 2:42-47 - They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

1 Samuel 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

The people of Israel asked Samuel to appoint a king to judge them like all the nations.

1. The Need for Leadership: Examining 1 Samuel 8:5

2. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Israel's Request for a King

1. Proverbs 11:14: "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

2. Romans 13:1-2: "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God."

1 Samuel 8:6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.

Samuel was displeased when the people asked for a king, so he prayed to the Lord.

1. God is Our Judge - 1 Samuel 8:6

2. Let Us Seek God's Will - 1 Samuel 8:6

1. Proverbs 21:1 - The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will.

2. Romans 13:1 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God.

1 Samuel 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

The people of Israel rejected God's rule and asked for a human king to rule over them.

1. God is Sovereign: Understanding the Sovereignty of God in Light of 1 Samuel 8:7

2. Rejecting God's Kingship: A Warning from 1 Samuel 8:7

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

1 Samuel 8:8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.

Samuel warns the Israelites that if they continue to reject God and worship other gods, the same consequences they have been suffering since they left Egypt will happen to them as well.

1. We must never turn away from God, or else we will suffer the same consequences as the Israelites.

2. Even though God is always with us, He will not hesitate to punish us if we forsake Him.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Deuteronomy 11:16 - Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them.

1 Samuel 8:9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.

The people of Israel asked for a king, and God told the prophet Samuel to warn them of the consequences of having a king before they make their choice.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Rules over All

2. The Power of Choice: Knowing When to Follow & When to Protest

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - God's commands regarding a king in Israel

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

1 Samuel 8:10 And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king.

Samuel relayed God's words to the people who requested a king.

1. Don't be afraid to trust God's plan, even if it doesn't look like what you asked for.

2. We must be prepared to accept God's will, even when it doesn't align with our own desires.

1. Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Proverbs 19:21: "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

1 Samuel 8:11 And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots.

God warned the Israelites that the king they will appoint will take their sons for his own purposes.

1. The importance of Godly leadership.

2. The dangers of human authority.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commandments."

2. Proverbs 29:2 - "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan."

1 Samuel 8:12 And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots.

Samuel warns the Israelites that if they appoint a king, he will appoint officers over them to command them and make them work for him.

1. God's people must always be aware of the dangers of seeking earthly power and authority.

2. We must not forget God's authority and place Him first in our lives.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - All of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

1 Samuel 8:13 And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers.

Samuel warns the people of Israel that their king will take their daughters to serve as confectioners, cooks, and bakers.

1. God's kingdom is greater than earthly kings - Matthew 6:33

2. The importance of protecting our loved ones - Ephesians 6:4

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 8:14 And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants.

The Lord warns His people of the consequences of demanding a king: their fields, vineyards, and oliveyards, even the best of them, will be taken away and given to the king's servants.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty and Our Submission

2. Putting God's Will Above Our Own Desires

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - "Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.' Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

2. Isaiah 55:7-9 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 8:15 And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants.

The passage describes how a ruler will take a tenth of a group's crops and give it to his servants and officers.

1. Sharing the Harvest: The Importance of Generosity

2. The Power of Serving Others

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

1 Samuel 8:16 And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work.

Samuel warns the Israelites of the consequences of requesting a king, such as the king taking their servants and resources for his own work.

1. The Warning of a King: How the Israelites' Request for a King Cost Them More Than They Expected.

2. God's Sovereign Plan: A Study of 1 Samuel 8:16 and How God Uses Our Circumstances to Accomplish His Will.

1. 1 Samuel 8:16- "And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work."

2. Ephesians 1:11- "In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will."

1 Samuel 8:17 He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants.

God is warning the people of Israel that if they choose to have a king, that king will take ten percent of their sheep as taxes.

1. God's Warning: Consider the Consequences Before Making a Decision

2. The Sovereignty of God: He Alone Determines Who Will Rule Over Us

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20

2. Isaiah 10:5-7

1 Samuel 8:18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day.

The people of Israel choose a king, but God will not hear their cries for help in that day.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting God: A Study on 1 Samuel 8:18

2. The Power of Choice: Understanding the Need for Divine Guidance.

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - Context: God's instructions to Israel regarding the appointment of a king.

2. Jeremiah 17:5-10 - Context: God's warning to the people of Israel against trusting in man and not in God.

1 Samuel 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;

The people of Israel rejected Samuel's advice and demanded a king to rule over them.

1. "Obedience in Disobedience: Lessons from 1 Samuel 8:19"

2. "The Call for a King: Submitting to God's Will"

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

1 Samuel 8:20 That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

The people of Israel ask for a king so that they can be like other nations and have their leader fight their battles.

1. God's Will vs. Society's Pressure - The Israelites' desire for a king.

2. The Search for Identity - Exploring the need to fit in and be like others.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 - For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Samuel 8:21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the LORD.

Samuel listened to the people's words and repeated them to the Lord.

1: God hears us when we speak, even if no one else does.

2: We should always talk to God and be sure to listen to Him.

1: James 1:19 "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2: 1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."

1 Samuel 8:22 And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city.

The Lord instructs Samuel to listen to the people's request and appoint a king. Samuel then tells the men of Israel to return to their cities.

1. The importance of listening to God's commands and obeying His will.

2. The need to submit to authority and respect those in positions of power.

1. Exodus 23:20-21 - "Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him."

2. Matthew 22:21 - "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

1 Samuel 9 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 9:1-14 introduces Saul's encounter with Samuel. In this chapter, Saul, the son of Kish, is introduced as a young and handsome man from the tribe of Benjamin. His father sends him to search for some lost donkeys. After searching for a while without success, Saul decides to consult a seer in the land of Zuph Samuel to seek guidance regarding the lost donkeys. As they approach the city where Samuel resides, they meet some young women who inform them that Samuel is about to hold a sacrifice and that they should hurry to meet him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 9:15-24, it recounts Samuel's meeting with Saul and God's revelation about his future kingship. As Saul arrives at the high place where Samuel is conducting the sacrifice, God reveals to Samuel that Saul is the man whom He has chosen to be prince over His people Israel. When Saul meets Samuel, he learns about his reputation as a prophet and receives an invitation to dine with him as an honored guest.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 9 concludes with Saul being anointed by Samuel privately. In 1 Samuel 9:25-27, it is mentioned that after their conversation during dinner, early in the morning before sunrise, Samuel calls upon Saul's servant to leave ahead while he privately anoints Saul as king over Israel by pouring oil on his head. Before parting ways, Samuel provides further instructions regarding what will happen next and tells Saul that certain signs will confirm God's choice of him as king.

In summary:

1 Samuel 9 presents:

Saul's encounter with Samue;

God's revelation about his future kingship;

Saul being anointed by Samuel privately.

Emphasis on:

Saul's encounter with Samuel;

God's revelation about future kingship;

Saul being anointed by Samuel privately.

The chapter focuses on Saul's encounter with Samuel, God's revelation about his future kingship, and the private anointing of Saul by Samuel. In 1 Samuel 9, Saul is introduced as a young and handsome man from the tribe of Benjamin. He is sent by his father to search for lost donkeys but ends up seeking guidance from the seer Samuel in the land of Zuph. As they approach the city where Samuel resides, they receive information about his upcoming sacrifice and are advised to meet him.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 9, as Saul arrives at the high place where Samuel is conducting the sacrifice, God reveals to Samuel that Saul is the chosen one to be prince over Israel. When they meet, Saul learns about Samuel's prophetic reputation and receives an invitation to dine with him as an honored guest a significant encounter that sets in motion events leading to Saul's kingship.

1 Samuel 9 concludes with a private anointing ceremony performed by Samuel. Early in the morning before sunrise, he calls upon Saul's servant to leave ahead while he anoints Saul as king over Israel privately pouring oil on his head an act symbolizing divine appointment and authority. Before parting ways, further instructions are given regarding what will happen next along with signs that will confirm God's choice of Saul as king.

1 Samuel 9:1 Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power.

Kish, a mighty man of power from Benjamin, is introduced.

1. God uses the least likely of people to bring about greatness.

2. No matter your background, God has a plan for you.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 - For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

1 Samuel 9:2 And he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.

Saul was the son of Kish, and he was the most handsome and tallest among the Israelites.

1. We should be thankful for the gifts God has given us.

2. Saul's example of humility and grace should be a reminder of how we should strive to serve God.

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

1 Samuel 9:3 And the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the servants with thee, and arise, go seek the asses.

Kish, the father of Saul, loses his donkeys and sends Saul and one of his servants to look for them.

1. God will use our searches to uncover His plans for us.

2. God can use even our smallest tasks to shape our future.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

2. Isaiah 55: 8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

1 Samuel 9:4 And he passed through mount Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found them not: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and there they were not: and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found them not.

Saul and his servant went on a journey in search of lost donkeys, but were unsuccessful in finding them in the regions of Ephraim, Shalisha, Shalim, and Benjamin.

1. The Importance of Persistence: A Study in 1 Samuel 9:4

2. God's Plan and Provision: Learning from Saul's Journey in 1 Samuel 9:4

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

1 Samuel 9:5 And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave caring for the asses, and take thought for us.

Saul and his servant traveled to the land of Zuph and Saul wanted to return home in case his father was worrying.

1. Learning to be Responsible - The story of Saul in 1 Samuel 9:5 teaches us the importance of being responsible and understanding our obligations.

2. Prioritizing Family - Saul's concern for his father in 1 Samuel 9:5 demonstrates the value of prioritizing family.

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

1 Samuel 9:6 And he said unto him, Behold now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honourable man; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us our way that we should go.

A man tells Saul of a man of God in the city who is honorable and all that he says comes to pass. They decide to go to him to see if he can show them the way.

1. The Power of Trusting God's Word

2. The Importance of Seeking Godly Counsel

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

1 Samuel 9:7 Then said Saul to his servant, But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God: what have we?

Saul and his servant had nothing to give the man of God, as their supply of bread had been depleted.

1. When We Find Ourselves in Need, We Can Turn to God for Help

2. God Will Provide in Our Time of Need

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:10 - "The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

1 Samuel 9:8 And the servant answered Saul again, and said, Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver: that will I give to the man of God, to tell us our way.

A servant of Saul informs him that he has a fourth part of a shekel of silver, which he is willing to give to a man of God to ask for guidance.

1. The Value of Guidance: Learning to Follow God s Path

2. Don t Underestimate the Power of a Small Gift

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. John 10:14 - I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

1 Samuel 9:9 (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to enquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.)

In ancient Israel, prophets were referred to as seers and people would go to them to ask God for guidance.

1. Discovering God's Guidance in the World Around Us

2. Understanding the Power of a Prophet

1. Isaiah 30:21 - And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 9:10 Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, let us go. So they went unto the city where the man of God was.

Saul and his servant went to the city to visit the man of God.

1. Trusting in God's Guidance: Learning to Follow the Lord's Leading

2. Pursuing a Relationship with God: Connecting with the Man of God

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

1 Samuel 9:11 And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, Is the seer here?

Two men asked young maidens if the seer was in the city while they were walking up a hill.

1. The Power of Questioning: How Asking the Right Questions Can Lead Us to Answers

2. Seeking the Right Direction: Following the Path of Wisdom and Discernment

1. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Samuel 9:12 And they answered them, and said, He is; behold, he is before you: make haste now, for he came to day to the city; for there is a sacrifice of the people to day in the high place:

Two people tell Saul and his servant that Samuel is in the city and there is a sacrifice at the high place.

1. The importance of heeding God's call and coming to Him with haste.

2. The importance of keeping God's feasts and offering sacrifices.

1. Isaiah 55:6 - "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near."

2. Leviticus 23:27 - "Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD."

1 Samuel 9:13 As soon as ye be come into the city, ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat: for the people will not eat until he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice; and afterwards they eat that be bidden. Now therefore get you up; for about this time ye shall find him.

The people of the city will not eat until the man blessed the sacrifice, and they will find him around this time.

1. The Power of Blessing: What it Means to be Blessed

2. Drawing Closer to God Through Sacrificial Offerings

1. 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 - The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

2. Matthew 5:44-45 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

1 Samuel 9:14 And they went up into the city: and when they were come into the city, behold, Samuel came out against them, for to go up to the high place.

Saul and his servant were on their way to Samuel in order to ask for guidance about a lost animal. When they arrived in the city, they were met by Samuel.

1. The importance of seeking wise counsel in times of uncertainty.

2. God's guidance is always available for those who seek it.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

1 Samuel 9:15 Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying,

Passage The Lord told Samuel the day before Saul arrived that he was coming.

1. How God Prepares Our Paths - How the Lord revealed to Samuel the coming of Saul and how God prepares our paths before us.

2. Trusting God in Uncertainty - How the Lord revealed the future to Samuel and how we can trust God in moments of uncertainty.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.

1 Samuel 9:16 To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me.

God tells Samuel to anoint a man from Benjamin to be the captain of the people of Israel, in order to save them from the Philistines.

1. God's Provision for His People: Trusting in God's Plan

2. The Call of Leadership: Serving God's People

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

1 Samuel 9:17 And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said unto him, Behold the man whom I spake to thee of! this same shall reign over my people.

The LORD showed Samuel Saul and declared that he would be the one to reign over the people.

1. God's Choice for Leaders: Examining 1 Samuel 9:17

2. God's Sovereign Choice in Leadership

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. 2 Timothy 2:20-21 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

1 Samuel 9:18 Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, where the seer's house is.

Saul approaches Samuel and asks for the location of the seer's house.

1. The importance of humility when seeking guidance from God.

2. The power of prayer to ask for wisdom.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

1 Samuel 9:19 And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to day, and to morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thine heart.

Samuel tells Saul that he is the seer and invites him to the high place to eat with him, assuring him that he will answer the questions in his heart the following day.

1. The power and wisdom of God is greater than our own.

2. God is our ultimate source of guidance and understanding.

1. John 16:13 - When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

1 Samuel 9:20 And as for thine asses that were lost three days ago, set not thy mind on them; for they are found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on thee, and on all thy father's house?

Saul had lost his donkeys and was told by the seer that they had been found and also that all the desires of Israel were on him and on his father's house.

1. The importance of trusting God in times of difficulty

2. The importance of understanding God's purpose for our lives

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

1 Samuel 9:21 And Saul answered and said, Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou so to me?

Saul questions why he is being addressed in such a manner, as he is from the smallest tribe of Israel and his family is the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin.

1. God Chooses the Lowly: A on how God chooses the least likely people to do great things.

2. The Power of Humility: A on how humility is essential in order to be successful in God's eyes.

1. Matthew 23:12 - "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

2. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

1 Samuel 9:22 And Samuel took Saul and his servant, and brought them into the parlour, and made them sit in the chiefest place among them that were bidden, which were about thirty persons.

Samuel invited Saul to the chiefest seat at a dinner with thirty other guests.

1. The Power of Gracious Hospitality

2. The Value of Honor and Respect

1. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

2. Matthew 22:11-14 - "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

1 Samuel 9:23 And Samuel said unto the cook, Bring the portion which I gave thee, of which I said unto thee, Set it by thee.

Samuel asked the cook to bring him the food he had set aside for him.

1. Learn to be content with what you have been given.

2. What we sow, we will reap.

1. Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

2. Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

1 Samuel 9:24 And the cook took up the shoulder, and that which was upon it, and set it before Saul. And Samuel said, Behold that which is left! set it before thee, and eat: for unto this time hath it been kept for thee since I said, I have invited the people. So Saul did eat with Samuel that day.

Saul and Samuel shared a meal together, with the cook presenting Saul with the portion that had been saved for him.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the provision of food for Saul.

2. We can find joy and contentment in simple meals shared with others.

1. Genesis 18:1-8 - God's provision for Abraham and Sarah.

2. Luke 24:30-35 - Jesus' provision of food for his disciples.

1 Samuel 9:25 And when they were come down from the high place into the city, Samuel communed with Saul upon the top of the house.

Samuel and Saul had a conversation as they descended from a high place into the city and continued talking on the roof of a house.

1. The Power of Conversation in Building Relationships

2. Learning to Listen and Speak with Respect

1. Proverbs 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

1 Samuel 9:26 And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.

Saul and Samuel arose early, and Samuel called Saul to the top of the house in order to send him away.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Saul's Obedience to Samuel's Call Changed His Life

2. Prioritizing Your Purpose: How Samuel's Guidance Led Saul to His Destiny

1. Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

1 Samuel 9:27 And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on), but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God.

Samuel and Saul were walking down to the end of the city and Samuel told Saul to wait a bit so he could show him the word of God.

1. Waiting on God s Word - How to Trust and Obey God's Timing

2. God's Word is Always Worth the Wait - Learning Patience and Faith

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

1 Samuel 10 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 10:1-8 introduces Saul's anointing and the signs confirming his kingship. In this chapter, Samuel takes a flask of oil and anoints Saul as king over Israel, proclaiming God's choice of him. After the anointing, Samuel provides Saul with a series of signs that will occur on his journey back home. These signs include encountering two men near Rachel's tomb who will inform him that the donkeys have been found, meeting three men carrying various offerings who will give him two loaves of bread, and encountering a group of prophets with musical instruments who will be prophesying.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 10:9-16, it recounts the transformation of Saul through the Spirit of God. As Saul turns to leave Samuel, God changes his heart and fills him with His Spirit. This transformation is evident when he encounters the group of prophets mentioned earlier and joins them in prophesying. People who knew Saul are surprised by this change and wonder what has happened to him.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 10 concludes with Saul's public proclamation as king. In 1 Samuel 10:17-27, it is mentioned that after gathering all the tribes of Israel at Mizpah, Samuel presents them before God for selection by lot. The tribe of Benjamin is chosen first, followed by the family clan within Benjamin Matri and finally, Saul himself is selected as king by lot from among all the people present. However, when they search for him to present him as king before everyone else, they cannot find him because he is hiding among the baggage.

In summary:

1 Samuel 10 presents:

Saul's anointing and signs confirming kingship;

Transformation of Saul through the Spirit of God;

Saul's public proclamation as king.

Emphasis on:

Saul's anointing and signs confirming kingship;

Transformation of Saul through the Spirit of God;

Saul's public proclamation as king.

The chapter focuses on Saul's anointing and the signs confirming his kingship, his transformation through the Spirit of God, and his public proclamation as king. In 1 Samuel 10, Samuel takes a flask of oil and anoints Saul as king over Israel, declaring God's choice. Following the anointing, Samuel provides Saul with a series of signs that will occur to confirm his appointment.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 10, as Saul turns to leave Samuel, God changes his heart and fills him with His Spirit. This transformation becomes evident when he encounters a group of prophets and joins them in prophesying a clear sign that he has been touched by divine power. People who knew Saul are amazed by this change in him.

1 Samuel 10 concludes with a public gathering at Mizpah where all the tribes of Israel are present. Through a process involving lots, Benjamin is chosen first, followed by Matri within Benjamin. Finally, when they search for Saul to present him as king before everyone else, they find him hiding among the baggage a humble beginning for Israel's first appointed king.

1 Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?

Samuel anoints Saul with oil and appoints him as the leader of Israel.

1. God's Anointing: How to Receive and Respond to His Call

2. The Power of God's Anointing: How It Equips Us for Leadership

1. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 - The gifts of the Holy Spirit that equip believers for ministry.

2. 1 John 2:20-27 - Abiding in Christ and His anointing that gives us victory.

1 Samuel 10:2 When thou art departed from me to day, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found: and, lo, thy father hath left the care of the asses, and sorroweth for you, saying, What shall I do for my son?

Saul is sent off by Samuel and finds two men at Rachel's sepulchre who tell him that the lost donkeys have been found and his father is worried for him.

1. God's provision in times of need

2. Trusting in God's timing

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours

1 Samuel 10:3 Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine:

Three men are journeying to Bethel, each carrying different items: three kids, three loaves of bread, and a bottle of wine.

1. The Power of Fellowship: The Journey of the Three Men to Bethel

2. The Importance of Sharing: The Significance of the Gifts Carried by the Three Men

1. Acts 2:46-47 - And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

2. Luke 11:5-8 - And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

1 Samuel 10:4 And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

Samuel instructs Saul to receive two loaves of bread from the people of the town he is visiting as a sign of their respect.

1. The importance of honoring and respecting authority figures.

2. How small acts of kindness can have a lasting impact.

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

2. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment."

1 Samuel 10:5 After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy:

Saul meets a group of prophets on his way to the hill of God, which is the garrison of the Philistines, and they are playing music and prophesying.

1. We are called to use our gifts to bring glory to God.

2. God's power is made known through the prophetic word.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 - Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

2. Acts 2:17-21 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.

1 Samuel 10:6 And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

The Spirit of the Lord comes upon Saul and he is transformed into a new person who is able to prophesy.

1. We can be transformed when we open our hearts to the Spirit of the Lord.

2. God can work wonders in our lives when we allow Him to.

1. Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

2. Philippians 2:13 For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

1 Samuel 10:7 And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

God will be with us in all occasions and will provide us with signs to guide us.

1. God is with us in every situation

2. Signs from God to guide us through life

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

1 Samuel 10:8 And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.

Saul is instructed by the prophet Samuel to wait in Gilgal for seven days, during which time Samuel will come to him and tell him what he must do.

1. Patience and Obedience: The Example of Saul

2. Following God's Plan: Waiting in Gilgal

1. Philippians 4:5-7 - Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

1 Samuel 10:9 And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

God gave Saul a new heart and all the signs indicated by Samuel on the same day came true.

1. God can change hearts and bring about new beginnings.

2. God is the one who allows us to experience transformation and renewal.

1. Jeremiah 24:7 - I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord.

2. Ezekiel 11:19-20 - I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.

1 Samuel 10:10 And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

Saul traveled to a hill and was met by a company of prophets, upon whom the Spirit of God came and Saul prophesied among them.

1. God is always with us, even when we feel alone, and He can use us to do great things.

2. The power of the Spirit of God can be seen through our faith and obedience.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Acts 2:1-4 - And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

1 Samuel 10:11 And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?

When people who had known Saul before saw him prophesying among the prophets, they were surprised and asked each other if Saul was really a prophet.

1. God can use the most unlikely people to fulfill his plans.

2. Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and follow God.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

1 Samuel 10:12 And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul also among the prophets?

A proverb was created questioning if Saul was among the prophets due to a lack of knowledge of his father.

1. God Knows Who We Are: Even If We Don't

2. Trusting in God's Plan for Us

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 10:13 And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place.

Saul was made king and after he was anointed, he went to a high place after prophesying.

1. God makes kings and gives them authority over His people.

2. The importance of following God's will and purpose for our lives.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Samuel 10:14 And Saul's uncle said unto him and to his servant, Whither went ye? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that they were no where, we came to Samuel.

Saul's uncle asked Saul and his servant where they had gone, and Saul replied that they had gone to look for some lost asses and, upon not finding them, had gone to Samuel.

1. The power of perseverance in the face of adversity.

2. The importance of seeking out wise counsel.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1 Samuel 10:15 And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.

Saul's uncle asked what Samuel had said to Saul.

1. God's guidance can come from unexpected sources.

2. Seek the wisdom that can be found in relationships.

1. Proverbs 11:14 "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

2. Luke 2:47-48 "And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing."

1 Samuel 10:16 And Saul said unto his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not.

Saul had asked his uncle about the asses they were searching for, and his uncle told him they had been found. However, he did not tell Saul the details of what Samuel said regarding the kingdom.

1. Understand the importance of listening to God's words and obeying them.

2. Recognize that not all of God's plans will be revealed to us at the same time.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

1 Samuel 10:17 And Samuel called the people together unto the LORD to Mizpeh;

Samuel gathered the people of Israel at Mizpeh to commune with the Lord.

1. The Lord's Invitation: Reaching Out to Reunite

2. The Importance of Gathering Together to Seek the Lord

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.

1 Samuel 10:18 And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you:

Samuel spoke to the children of Israel, reminding them of how God had brought them out of Egypt and delivered them from the hand of their oppressors.

1. God is Always with Us - How to Trust in His Protection and Provision

2. The Miraculous Power of the Lord - Reflections on the Exodus

1. Exodus 3:7-10 - God reveals himself to Moses at the burning bush

2. Isaiah 63:9 - God s mercy endures forever and He saves His people from oppression.

1 Samuel 10:19 And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes, and by your thousands.

The people of Israel reject God and demand a king, so Samuel tells them to present themselves before the Lord by their tribes and by their thousands.

1. Rejecting God's Sovereignty and Looking for Solutions in Human Leaders.

2. The Need to Reaffirm Our Commitment to God.

1. Isaiah 33:22 - For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

2. Jeremiah 17:5 - Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.

1 Samuel 10:20 And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken.

All the tribes of Israel were brought together and the tribe of Benjamin was selected.

1. God provides opportunities for us to serve and be chosen.

2. Being chosen by God is a great honour and privilege.

1. Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me.

1 Samuel 10:21 When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found.

Saul, the son of Kish, was chosen from the tribe of Benjamin but was unable to be found when searched for.

2

1. God's sovereignty is evident in the selection of Saul as king of Israel despite his inability to be found.

2. We can trust God's plan, even when it is unclear to us.

2

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 10:22 Therefore they enquired of the LORD further, if the man should yet come thither. And the LORD answered, Behold, he hath hid himself among the stuff.

The people asked God if the man they were looking for was still in the area, and God answered them, saying he was hiding among the belongings.

1. God knows where we are and what we are doing, no matter how well we try to hide.

2. We can trust in God to provide us the answers we seek.

1. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Samuel 10:23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

Saul was chosen by Samuel to be the first king of Israel. When he stood among the people, he was taller than anyone else.

1. The Lord Lifts Up the Humble

2. Faithfulness Rewarded

1. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Proverbs 22:4 - The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life.

1 Samuel 10:24 And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

God has chosen a leader and there is no one like him.

1: God is sovereign and He chooses who He desires to lead us.

2: We should honor God's choice and submit to His leadership.

1: Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Samuel 10:25 Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

Samuel informed the people of the rules of the kingdom and wrote it in a book, then sent everyone home.

1. God's Kingdom is Governed by His Rules

2. Obeying God's Law Brings Blessings

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; For length of days and long life and peace they will add to you.

1 Samuel 10:26 And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

Saul went back to Gibeah with a group of men who had been moved by God.

1. How Our Hearts Can Be Touched By God

2. The Power of God To Transform Lives

1. Ephesians 3:16-19 - that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

2. Romans 5:5 - And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

1 Samuel 10:27 But the children of Belial said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

The people of Belial questioned how Saul could save them and refused to give him gifts, but Saul remained silent.

1. The Power of Silence: How to Respond to Doubting Voices

2. Finding Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. Proverbs 17:28 - Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; when he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.

1 Samuel 11 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 11:1-5 introduces Nahash's threat and Saul's response. In this chapter, Nahash the Ammonite besieges the city of Jabesh-gilead. The inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead offer to make a treaty with Nahash, but he responds by demanding that he gouge out their right eyes as a sign of humiliation. Distressed by this threat, the people of Jabesh-gilead send messengers throughout Israel to seek help. When Saul hears about their plight, he is filled with righteous anger.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 11:6-9, it recounts Saul's leadership and victory over the Ammonites. Upon hearing about the distressing situation in Jabesh-gilead, Saul is overcome by the Spirit of God and becomes filled with great anger. He takes a pair of oxen, cuts them into pieces, and sends these pieces throughout Israel as a call to action against Nahash and his army. The people respond to his call, gather together at Bezek under Saul's command, and defeat the Ammonites in battle.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 11 concludes with Saul's confirmation as king after his victory over the Ammonites. In 1 Samuel 11:10-15, it is mentioned that after their victory over Nahash and his forces, the people are greatly encouraged by Saul's leadership. They gather at Gilgal where they officially confirm him as king before God a recognition and affirmation of his authority over Israel.

In summary:

1 Samuel 11 presents:

Nahash's threat against Jabesh-gilead;

Saul's response and leadership;

Saul's confirmation as king after victory.

Emphasis on:

Nahash's threat against Jabesh-gilead;

Saul's response and leadership;

Saul's confirmation as king after victory.

The chapter focuses on Nahash's threat against Jabesh-gilead, Saul's response and leadership in rallying Israel to defend the city, and his subsequent confirmation as king after the victory. In 1 Samuel 11, Nahash the Ammonite besieges Jabesh-gilead and demands a humiliating treaty by gouging out their right eyes. Distressed by this threat, the people of Jabesh-gilead seek help from throughout Israel.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 11, when Saul hears about their distressing situation, he is filled with righteous anger. He takes decisive action by cutting a pair of oxen into pieces and sending them throughout Israel as a call to arms against Nahash. The people respond to his call, gather under Saul's command at Bezek, and defeat the Ammonites in battle a testament to Saul's leadership.

1 Samuel 11 concludes with the people being greatly encouraged by Saul's victorious leadership over Nahash and his forces. They gather at Gilgal where they officially confirm him as king before God a significant moment that solidifies his position as the recognized leader of Israel. This chapter showcases both Saul's military prowess and his growing acceptance among the people as their chosen king

1 Samuel 11:1 Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabeshgilead: and all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee.

Nahash the Ammonite laid siege to Jabeshgilead, and the people of Jabesh asked him to enter into a covenant with them.

1. The Power of Covenant: How God Uses Covenant to Fulfill His Promises

2. Perseverance in Faith: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

1. Jeremiah 32:40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

2. Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

1 Samuel 11:2 And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this condition will I make a covenant with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it for a reproach upon all Israel.

The Ammonite king Nahash offered to make a covenant with the Israelites, but he demanded that they all have their right eyes gouged out as a form of reproach.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from King Nahash's Example

2. The Dangers of Pride: Avoiding the Mistakes of King Nahash

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Samuel 11:3 And the elders of Jabesh said unto him, Give us seven days' respite, that we may send messengers unto all the coasts of Israel: and then, if there be no man to save us, we will come out to thee.

The elders of Jabesh asked for seven days to send messengers to all the coasts of Israel to search for someone who can save them, and if there is no one, they will come out to the speaker.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Rely on God in Times of Need

2. Trusting in the Lord's Timing: Waiting on God's Perfect Plan

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

1 Samuel 11:4 Then came the messengers to Gibeah of Saul, and told the tidings in the ears of the people: and all the people lifted up their voices, and wept.

Messengers came to Gibeah and announced the news to the people, and all the people wept in response.

1. God's sovereignty is seen even in difficult times.

2. We must mourn with those who mourn.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

1 Samuel 11:5 And, behold, Saul came after the herd out of the field; and Saul said, What aileth the people that they weep? And they told him the tidings of the men of Jabesh.

The people of Jabesh share news with Saul, which causes him to ask why the people are weeping.

1. The Power of Compassion: How Saul's Response to the News Reflects the Heart of God

2. The Power of Community: How the People of Jabesh Come Together to Comfort and Encourage Each Other

1. 1 Corinthians 12:26 - "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

1 Samuel 11:6 And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly.

Saul was greatly angered when he heard the news.

1. The Power of Anger - how our anger can be a source of strength and motivation.

2. The Power of the Spirit - how the Spirit of God can move us to action.

1. Proverbs 16:32 - He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

2. Ephesians 4:26-27 - Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

1 Samuel 11:7 And he took a yoke of oxen, and hewed them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whosoever cometh not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen. And the fear of the LORD fell on the people, and they came out with one consent.

Saul and Samuel sent messengers throughout Israel with a warning that anyone who did not come out with them would have their oxen hewed in pieces. This had a powerful effect, and the people came out with one consent.

1. The Power of Fear: How Saul and Samuel Used Fear to Lead the People

2. The Power of Unity: How Saul and Samuel Brought the People Together

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

1 Samuel 11:8 And when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand.

There were 300,000 men of Israel and 30,000 men of Judah present in Bezek.

1: We can find strength in numbers when we come together.

2: We can find unity in our diversity when we come together.

1: John 17:21 - That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

2: Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

1 Samuel 11:9 And they said unto the messengers that came, Thus shall ye say unto the men of Jabeshgilead, To morrow, by that time the sun be hot, ye shall have help. And the messengers came and shewed it to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad.

The messengers from Saul to Jabeshgilead informed them that they would receive help the following day when the sun was hot. The men of Jabesh were pleased with the news.

1. God is always with us, and His timing is perfect.

2. We have hope in the midst of despair when we rely on the Lord.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 15:13 - Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

1 Samuel 11:10 Therefore the men of Jabesh said, To morrow we will come out unto you, and ye shall do with us all that seemeth good unto you.

The men of Jabesh agreed to surrender to Saul and accept whatever he decided.

1. Submission to Authority: A Lesson from the Men of Jabesh

2. Making Wise Decisions in the Wake of Conflict

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Proverbs 3:5-7

1 Samuel 11:11 And it was so on the morrow, that Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the host in the morning watch, and slew the Ammonites until the heat of the day: and it came to pass, that they which remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

Saul divided his people into three companies and they attacked the Ammonites in the morning, killing them until the heat of the day. By the end of the battle, only two of the Ammonites were left alive.

1. God s power never fails - 1 Samuel 11:11 shows us that God's power is so great that even when Saul's army was outnumbered, they were still able to win the battle.

2. Trust in God s plan - 1 Samuel 11:11 teaches us that even in the face of overwhelming odds, we can have faith that God's plan will work out in the end.

1. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

1 Samuel 11:12 And the people said unto Samuel, Who is he that said, Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death.

The people of Israel asked Samuel to identify and punish the individuals who had spoken against Saul ruling over them.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Can Impact the Lives of Others

2. The Importance of Obedience: Follow the Leadership God Has Provided

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

2. Acts 5:29 - But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: We ought to obey God rather than men.

1 Samuel 11:13 And Saul said, There shall not a man be put to death this day: for to day the LORD hath wrought salvation in Israel.

Saul declared that no one should be put to death on this day, as the Lord had granted salvation to Israel.

1. The Power of Salvation: How God Saves Us from Sin

2. The Strength of One Voice: How We Can Make a Difference

1. Romans 10:9 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

2. 1 Peter 1:3-5 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Samuel 11:14 Then said Samuel to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.

Samuel called the people to Gilgal to re-establish the kingdom.

1. Rededicating Ourselves to God's Kingdom

2. Renewing Our Commitment to God's Plan

1. 1 Samuel 11:14

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

1 Samuel 11:15 And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

All the people of Israel gathered in Gilgal to make Saul king and offered peace sacrifices to the Lord. Saul and the people of Israel celebrated.

1. The Importance of Celebrating God's Goodness in Our Lives

2. The Need for Unity and Sacrifice in Pursuing God's Plan

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

1 Samuel 12 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 12:1-5 focuses on Samuel's integrity and accountability. In this chapter, Samuel addresses the people of Israel and testifies to his righteous conduct as their leader. He reminds them that he has walked before them from his youth until that day, and they bear witness to his honesty and integrity. Samuel challenges the people to bring forth any accusation against him if he has taken anything unjustly or oppressed anyone during his time as their judge.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 12:6-15, it recounts Samuel's reminder of God's faithfulness and Israel's unfaithfulness. Samuel reminds the people of God's continuous faithfulness throughout their history, from delivering them out of Egypt to providing judges like Gideon, Barak, Jephthah, and himself. Despite God's faithfulness, the people have repeatedly turned away from Him by worshiping other gods.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 12 concludes with a demonstration of God's power through thunder and rain. In verses such as 1 Samuel 12:16-19, it is mentioned that after hearing Samuel's words, the people recognize their wrongdoing and acknowledge their need for forgiveness from both God and Samuel. In response to their repentance, God sends thunder and rain a sign of His power to demonstrate His displeasure with their request for a king while assuring them that He will not forsake them if they follow Him faithfully.

In summary:

1 Samuel 12 presents:

Samuel's integrity and accountability;

Reminder of God's faithfulness and Israel's unfaithfulness;

Demonstration of God's power through thunder and rain.

Emphasis on:

Samuel's integrity and accountability;

Reminder of God's faithfulness;

Demonstration of God's power through thunder and rain.

The chapter focuses on Samuel's integrity and accountability as a leader, his reminder of God's faithfulness throughout Israel's history, and a demonstration of God's power through thunder and rain. In 1 Samuel 12, Samuel addresses the people of Israel, testifying to his righteous conduct during his time as their judge. He challenges them to bring forth any accusation against him if he has taken anything unjustly or oppressed anyone.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 12, Samuel reminds the people of God's faithfulness throughout their history from delivering them out of Egypt to providing judges for their deliverance. Despite this faithfulness, the people have repeatedly turned away from God by worshiping other gods a pattern of unfaithfulness that Samuel highlights.

1 Samuel 12 concludes with a demonstration of God's power as a response to the people's repentance. After hearing Samuel's words, the people recognize their wrongdoing and acknowledge their need for forgiveness from both God and Samuel. In response to their repentance, God sends thunder and rain a display of His power to demonstrate His displeasure with their request for a king while assuring them that He will not forsake them if they follow Him faithfully.

1 Samuel 12:1 And Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.

Samuel listened to the Israelites' request for a king and granted it.

1. God listens to our requests and will answer them in His own time.

2. God will provide if we are faithful and obedient.

1. Matthew 7:7-8 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

2. James 1:5-6 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

1 Samuel 12:2 And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.

Samuel, an old and gray-haired prophet, reminds the Israelites that he has walked with them since his childhood and that the king now walks before them.

1. The Importance of Faithful Leadership

2. The Power of a Faithful Walk

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Proverbs 4:25-26 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

1 Samuel 12:3 Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.

Samuel reminds the people of Israel that he has never taken advantage of them or taken a bribe to look away from their wrongdoings. He calls them to be his witnesses before the Lord and his anointed one and promises to restore any wrongdoings if they can prove it.

1. The Power of Integrity: How following God's moral standards brings honor and blessings.

2. The Need for Accountability: How everyone must be held to a higher standard before the Lord.

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

2. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

1 Samuel 12:4 And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand.

The people of Israel declared that Samuel had not taken advantage of them, nor had he taken anything from anyone.

1. Godly leaders are those who serve faithfully and do not take advantage of their position.

2. We should strive to serve faithfully and be careful not to use our position for personal gain.

1. Ephesians 4:28 - let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

2. 1 Peter 5:2 - Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.

1 Samuel 12:5 And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found ought in my hand. And they answered, He is witness.

Samuel reminded the Israelites that the Lord and his anointed were witnesses to their lack of finding anything against him.

1. Living a life of integrity before God and man.

2. Being true to your word and fulfilling your promises.

1. James 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

2. Romans 2:21-24 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

1 Samuel 12:6 And Samuel said unto the people, It is the LORD that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

Samuel reminded the people of Israel that it was the Lord who had brought their ancestors out of Egypt and had provided for them through Moses and Aaron.

1. God is faithful and will provide for us just as He did for the people of Israel.

2. We can trust in the Lord and His miracles.

1. Psalm 23:6 - Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 12:7 Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the righteous acts of the LORD, which he did to you and to your fathers.

This passage speaks of God's righteous acts and how they have been bestowed upon the people throughout the ages.

1. God's Amazing Grace: Understanding His Righteous Acts

2. Abundant Blessings: Experiencing God's Righteous Acts

1. Psalm 103:6-7 The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

2. Romans 5:17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

1 Samuel 12:8 When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

The LORD sent Moses and Aaron to rescue the Israelites from Egypt and bring them to the Promised Land.

1. God Always Provides: Examining the Story of the Rescue of the Israelites from Egypt

2. The Power of Faith: How the Israelites' Belief in the Lord Led to Their Salvation

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - Moses told the Israelites, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again."

2. Deuteronomy 6:20-21 - "When your son asks you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the LORD our God has commanded you?' then you shall say to your son..."

1 Samuel 12:9 And when they forgat the LORD their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

The Israelites had forgotten the LORD their God, so he sold them into the hands of their enemies, which included Sisera, the Philistines, and the king of Moab.

1. "The Consequences of Forgetting God"

2. "The Power of Remembering God"

1. Deuteronomy 8:11-14

2. Isaiah 5:12-14

1 Samuel 12:10 And they cried unto the LORD, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.

The people of Israel cried out to the Lord and asked for forgiveness of their sins of idolatry and for deliverance from their enemies.

1. How to Repent and Seek Forgiveness

2. The Power of Prayer and Faith in God

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

1 Samuel 12:11 And the LORD sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

The Lord sent four leaders - Jerubbaal, Bedan, Jephthah, and Samuel - to deliver the people of Israel from their enemies and provide them with safety.

1. God uses both the expected and the unexpected to deliver us from our enemies and provide us with safety.

2. We can trust God to use whatever means necessary to bring us comfort and security.

1. Romans 8:31-32 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

1 Samuel 12:12 And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD your God was your king.

The Israelites asked for a king to rule over them, even though God had already been their king.

1. God is always present and should always be our first choice for kingship.

2. When we are faced with difficult decisions, we should remember that God is always our ultimate leader.

1. John 1:14 - And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2. Isaiah 40:28 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

1 Samuel 12:13 Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired! and, behold, the LORD hath set a king over you.

The people of Israel have chosen a king and the Lord has allowed it.

1. The Lord allows us to choose our own paths and the grace of God will always be with us.

2. We can find strength and comfort in knowing that God is always with us, even when we make choices.

1. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

2. Psalm 37:23-24 The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, And He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the Lord upholds him with His hand.

1 Samuel 12:14 If ye will fear the LORD, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD your God:

The passage encourages the people of Israel to obey the Lord and serve Him, so that both the people and the king can remain faithful to God.

1. God's Call to Obedience: How to Remain Faithful to God

2. Serving God with a Whole Heart: The Blessing of Obeying the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

1 Samuel 12:15 But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your fathers.

People must obey the voice of the Lord or else they will face the consequences of his wrath, just like their ancestors.

1. Obeying God's Commandments Brings Blessing, Disobeying Brings Curses

2. Rejecting God's Voice Has Consequences

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - The Blessings of Obedience and the Curses of Disobedience

2. Romans 6:23 - The Wages of Sin is Death

1 Samuel 12:16 Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which the LORD will do before your eyes.

The Lord is about to perform a great thing before the people of Israel.

1. Stand and See: The Power of Faith in Action

2. A Sign from the Lord: Taking Notice of God's Miracles

1. Romans 4:20-21 - He did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

1 Samuel 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and rain; that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

The prophet Samuel warned the Israelites of their wickedness and called upon the Lord to send thunder and rain as a sign of His disapproval of their request for a king.

1. The Lord Warns Us of Our Wickedness

2. Relying on God Through Difficult Times

1. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

1 Samuel 12:18 So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

This passage describes how the people of Israel responded to Samuel's call to the Lord by showing great reverence through fear of the Lord and Samuel.

1. Fear of the Lord: The Power of Revering God

2. Samuel: A Model of Faithful Leadership

1. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

2. 1 Corinthians 11:1 - Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

1 Samuel 12:19 And all the people said unto Samuel, Pray for thy servants unto the LORD thy God, that we die not: for we have added unto all our sins this evil, to ask us a king.

The people of Israel ask Samuel to pray to the Lord on their behalf, asking that they not die for their sin of asking for a king.

1. The Danger of Sin: How Sin Can Lead to Destruction

2. The Power of Prayer: Trusting God to Guide Us Through Difficult Times

1. James 1:15 - Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 12:20 And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;

Samuel tells the people not to be afraid, even though they have done wicked things, and to remain faithful to the Lord by serving Him with all their hearts.

1. "The Power of Forgiveness: God's Love for His People"

2. "Living with a Heart of Obedience: Serving the Lord with All Your Heart"

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

1 Samuel 12:21 And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain.

We should not turn away from God as doing so will lead us to vain things which cannot help or deliver us.

1. God's Provision is Sufficient: Relying on Him Instead of Vain Things

2. Staying True to God: The Futility of Turning Away

1. Psalm 62:8 - Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 12:22 For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.

The Lord will never abandon his people because of his great name and because it has pleased him to make them his people.

1. Put your trust in the Lord, for he will never forsake his people.

2. Do not be afraid to rely on God, for he will never turn away from those he has chosen.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. 1 John 4:18 - There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

1 Samuel 12:23 Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:

Samuel reminds the people of Israel that he will always be praying for them and will continue to teach them the good and right way.

1. How to Live a Life of Faithfulness in Prayer

2. Learning to Walk in the Good and Right Way

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. John 14:6 - "Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

1 Samuel 12:24 Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

The passage encourages us to serve the Lord in truth and to consider the great things he has done for us.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: Celebrating God's Faithfulness and Benefits

2. Serving God with a Whole Heart: A Call to Commitment

1. Psalm 107:1-2 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

1 Samuel 12:25 But if ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be consumed, both ye and your king.

The people of Israel are warned that if they continue to do wickedly, they and their king will be destroyed.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study on 1 Samuel 12:25

2. The Danger of Wickedness: Understanding the Warning of 1 Samuel 12:25

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?

1 Samuel 13 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 13:1-7 introduces Saul's impatience and the rising threat of the Philistines. In this chapter, Saul becomes king and begins his reign. He chooses three thousand men from Israel to serve as his army, while Jonathan, his son, leads a thousand men. The Philistines gather a massive army with chariots and horses to wage war against Israel. The Israelites become afraid and hide in caves, thickets, rocks, tombs, and pits.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 13:8-14, it recounts Saul's impatience and disobedience towards God's command through Samuel. As the Israelites wait for Samuel to arrive at Gilgal for offerings before going into battle against the Philistines, they grow anxious due to his delay. Saul takes matters into his own hands by offering burnt offerings himself a task reserved for priests or prophets disobeying God's command through Samuel.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 13 concludes with the consequences of Saul's actions and the continued threat of the Philistines. In verses such as 1 Samuel 13:15-23, it is mentioned that when Samuel arrives at Gilgal after Saul has offered the burnt offerings, he rebukes him for his disobedience. As a result of Saul's actions, God declares that His kingdom will not endure through him but will be given to another man who is loyal to Him. Furthermore, due to their lack of weapons caused by previous conflicts with the Philistines who controlled ironworking technology in their region the Israelites are at a disadvantage against their enemies.

In summary:

1 Samuel 13 presents:

Saul's impatience and rise as king;

Saul's impatience and disobedience towards God's command;

Consequences of Saul's actions and the continued threat of the Philistines.

Emphasis on:

Saul's impatience and rise as king;

Saul's impatience and disobedience towards God's command;

Consequences of Saul's actions and the continued threat of the Philistines.

The chapter focuses on Saul's impatience and rise as king, his disobedience towards God's command, and the consequences that follow along with the continued threat posed by the Philistines. In 1 Samuel 13, Saul becomes king and selects a sizable army to serve under him. Meanwhile, the Philistines gather a formidable force to wage war against Israel. The Israelites grow fearful, seeking refuge in various hiding places.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 13, as they wait for Samuel to arrive at Gilgal for offerings before going into battle, Saul grows impatient due to Samuel's delay. He takes it upon himself to offer burnt offerings a task reserved for priests or prophets disobeying God's command through Samuel. This act reveals Saul's impulsive nature and lack of trust in God.

1 Samuel 13 concludes with Samuel rebuking Saul for his disobedient actions. As a consequence, God declares that His kingdom will not endure through Saul but will be given to another man who is loyal to Him. Additionally, due to previous conflicts with the Philistines controlling ironworking technology in their region, Israel lacks proper weapons an ongoing threat that leaves them at a disadvantage against their enemies. This chapter serves as an important turning point highlighting both Saul s shortcomings as a leader and foreshadowing future challenges faced by Israel under his rule.

1 Samuel 13:1 Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,

Saul reigned as king of Israel for two years.

1. The Story of Saul: A Reminder of God's Sovereignty

2. Saul's Reign: A Short-Lived Reflection of God's Authority

1. Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2. Daniel 4:35 - All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

1 Samuel 13:2 Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.

Saul selected three thousand men of Israel to accompany him in the battle against the Philistines. Two thousand were with him in Michmash and in mount Bethel, while one thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. The remainder of the people were sent back to their tents.

1. The Power of Unity: How Saul's Division of His People Resulted in Victory

2. The Importance of Teamwork: Lessons from Saul's Leadership

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

1 Samuel 13:3 And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear.

Jonathan defeats the Philistine garrison at Geba, and Saul sounds a trumpet throughout the land to alert the Hebrews.

1. The Power of One: How Jonathan's Brave Act Changed the Course of History

2. The Courage to Stand Against the Odds: A Look at Jonathan's Triumph

1. Joshua 6:20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat.

2. Judges 7:21 And they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands. And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Bethshittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abelmeholah, unto Tabbath.

1 Samuel 13:4 And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal.

Saul smote a garrison of the Philistines, thus causing Israel to become despised by the Philistines. The people of Israel were called to gather at Gilgal.

1. God is always with us, even in the face of adversity.

2. Put your faith in God, not in the things of the world.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 13:5 And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

The Philistines gathered a great multitude of chariots, horsemen, and people to fight with Israel, and they camped in Michmash east of Bethaven.

1. The Power of Collective Effort: How We are Stronger Together

2. Overcoming Fear in the Face of the Unknown: Faithful Courage in the Midst of Adversity

1. Ephesians 6:10-12 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

1 Samuel 13:6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.

The men of Israel were in a difficult situation and hid in various places in order to protect themselves.

1. The Strength of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Turning to God in Times of Distress

1. Psalm 27:5 - For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.

2. Hebrews 11:23 - By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

1 Samuel 13:7 And some of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

Saul and the Hebrews went to Gad and Gilead, while Saul remained in Gilgal and the people followed him in fear.

1. The importance of trusting in God and not in ourselves.

2. The power of fear and how it can drive our decisions.

1. Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Samuel 13:8 And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

Samuel had appointed a set time for the people of Gilgal to meet him, but he did not show up and the people began to scatter.

1. The Power of Commitment in the Face of Uncertainty

2. The Importance of Following Through

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

1 Samuel 13:9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.

Saul asked for a burnt offering and peace offering, and then proceeded to offer the burnt offering.

1. The importance of offering sacrifices to God with sincerity and devotion.

2. The significance of worshipping God through offerings.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

2. Leviticus 1:1-17 - "The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock."

1 Samuel 13:10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.

Saul offers a burnt offering to God and Samuel arrives to meet him.

1. The importance of offering sacrifices to God.

2. The blessing of having a godly mentor.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

1 Samuel 13:11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;

Saul disobeyed God by offering up a sacrifice in Samuel's place when he did not arrive on time.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The consequences of disobedience to God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

2. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

1 Samuel 13:12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

Saul recognized his error in not seeking the Lord's guidance and took it upon himself to offer a burnt offering.

1. The Power of Repentance - Recognizing our need to seek God's guidance and our errors when we don't.

2. The Strength of Self-Motivation - Taking action to rectify our errors despite feeling uncertain.

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

1 Samuel 13:13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.

Samuel rebuked Saul for not following the Lord's commands and told him that because of this, the Lord would not have established Saul's kingdom permanently.

1. The importance of following God's commands

2. The consequences of not obeying God's word

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

2. James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

1 Samuel 13:14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.

Saul's kingdom will come to an end because he failed to obey the Lord's commands, and the Lord has chosen another man to lead His people.

1. The Lord's Way: Obeying God's Commands

2. Disobedience and God's Plan

1. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

1 Samuel 13:15 And Samuel arose, and gat him up from Gilgal unto Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people that were present with him, about six hundred men.

Samuel and Saul journeyed from Gilgal to Gibeah in Benjamin, and Saul counted the 600 men present with him.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the journey from Gilgal to Gibeah.

2. Saul's obedience is evident in the counting of the 600 men.

1. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. Joshua 6:2-5 - Then the Lord said to Joshua, See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.

1 Samuel 13:16 And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people that were present with them, abode in Gibeah of Benjamin: but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.

Saul and his son Jonathan, along with their people, stayed in Gibeah of Benjamin while the Philistines camped in Michmash.

1. Don't let fear keep you from fighting the good fight of faith.

2. God will provide a way of escape in times of trouble.

1. John 16:33 - I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

1 Samuel 13:17 And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned unto the way that leadeth to Ophrah, unto the land of Shual:

The Philistines sent out three groups of raiders to attack the Israelites, with one group heading towards Ophrah and the land of Shual.

1. The Lord's protection in times of difficulty

2. The importance of trusting God in times of trial

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

1 Samuel 13:18 And another company turned the way to Bethhoron: and another company turned to the way of the border that looketh to the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

The Israelites split their forces, with some going to Bethhoron and others to the border of the valley of Zeboim.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Achieve Great Things

2. Overcoming Adversity: The Strength to Persevere in Difficult Times

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Romans 8:31-37 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

1 Samuel 13:19 Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears:

The Philistines had prevented the Israelites from making swords or spears by not allowing any smiths to be found throughout the land of Israel.

1. The Power of Fear: How the Philistines Used Fear to Control the Israelites

2. The Strength of Unity: How the Israelites Overcame the Oppressive Fear of the Philistines

1. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

1 Samuel 13:20 But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock.

The Israelites went to the Philistines to sharpen their agricultural tools.

1. The Value of Preparation: being prepared for what lies ahead in life.

2. The Power of Community: coming together in times of need.

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

2. Ephesians 4:16 - From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

1 Samuel 13:21 Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads.

The Israelites had taken steps to keep their tools sharp and ready to use.

1: God calls us to stay prepared and ready to serve him.

2: We must take steps to ensure that our faith is sharp so that we can serve God faithfully.

1: Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

2: Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

1 Samuel 13:22 So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.

Saul and Jonathan's army were without swords or spears on the day of battle.

1. The importance of preparation for battle.

2. God's protection in the midst of danger.

1. Ephesians 6:13-17 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

1 Samuel 13:23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash.

The Philistine garrison marched to the Michmash pass.

1. God will always equip His people to fight the spiritual battles they face.

2. Never underestimate the power of a small group of people who are determined to do God's work.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - putting on the whole armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Judges 7:7 - the Lord reduced Gideon's army to 300 men so that Israel would not think their victory was because of their own strength.

1 Samuel 14 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 14:1-15 introduces Jonathan's daring attack on the Philistines. In this chapter, Jonathan, Saul's son, devises a plan to strike against the Philistines. Accompanied by his armor-bearer, he secretly ventures out of the Israelite camp and climbs up a rocky cliff towards a Philistine outpost. Jonathan takes it as a sign from God when the Philistines invite him to come up to them. He interprets this invitation as an opportunity for victory and proceeds with his plan.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 14:16-23, it recounts Jonathan's successful attack and the ensuing confusion among the Philistines. As Jonathan and his armor-bearer approach the outpost, they kill about twenty men in their initial assault. This sudden act of aggression causes panic among the Philistines, leading to confusion within their ranks. At that moment, Saul's watchmen notice that chaos has broken out among the enemy forces.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 14 concludes with Saul's rash oath and its consequences for his army. In verses such as 1 Samuel 14:24-46, it is mentioned that Saul orders his troops not to eat until evening a rash oath he makes without knowing that Jonathan has already violated it by eating honey during battle. This oath weakens his army both physically and morally since they are exhausted from fighting all day without sustenance. When evening comes, unaware of Saul's commandment due to being engaged in battle earlier, they consume animals without properly draining their blood a violation of God's law.

In summary:

1 Samuel 14 presents:

Jonathan's daring attack on the Philistines;

Jonathan's successful assault causing confusion among the enemy;

Saul's rash oath and its consequences for his army.

Emphasis on:

Jonathan's daring attack on the Philistines;

Jonathan's successful assault causing confusion among the enemy;

Saul's rash oath and its consequences for his army.

The chapter focuses on Jonathan's daring attack against the Philistines, his successful assault causing confusion among the enemy, and Saul's rash oath that negatively impacts his own army. In 1 Samuel 14, Jonathan devises a plan to strike against a Philistine outpost. Accompanied by his armor-bearer, he takes advantage of an invitation from the Philistines as a sign from God and proceeds with his daring attack.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 14, Jonathan and his armor-bearer successfully carry out their assault, killing several Philistine soldiers. This unexpected aggression causes panic and confusion among the enemy forces. Meanwhile, Saul's watchmen observe this chaos unfolding among the Philistines.

1 Samuel 14 concludes with Saul making a rash oath that hinders his own army. He orders them not to eat until evening but is unaware that Jonathan has already violated this commandment by eating honey during battle. This ill-advised oath weakens Saul's troops both physically and morally since they have been fighting all day without sustenance. When evening comes, they consume animals without properly draining their blood a violation of God's law due to being unaware of Saul's commandment earlier because they were engaged in battle.

1 Samuel 14:1 Now it came to pass upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that is on the other side. But he told not his father.

Jonathan, son of Saul, decided to go to the Philistines' garrison without telling his father.

1. Taking Risks for God: How Jonathan Lived Boldly for God's Glory

2. The Power of Obedience: How Choosing to Obey God Can Lead to Miracles

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

1 Samuel 14:2 And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron: and the people that were with him were about six hundred men;

Saul and 600 men camped at the edge of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron.

1. "God's Provision: A Pomegranate Tree in Migron"

2. "The Power of 600: Saul's Army"

1. Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

2. 1 Samuel 14:6, "And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few."

1 Samuel 14:3 And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD's priest in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone.

Jonathan, the son of Saul, went out to battle without the knowledge of the people, and he was accompanied by Ahiah, the priest of the LORD in Shiloh.

1. The importance of trusting in God in times of battle.

2. Following God s will, even when it is not the same as what others are doing.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. 1 John 4:4 - "Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

1 Samuel 14:4 And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, there was a sharp rock on the one side, and a sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh.

Jonathan tried to pass through a passage with two sharp rocks on either side, named Bozez and Seneh.

1. We should exercise faith and courage in the face of obstacles.

2. We can learn from Jonathan's example of faith in difficult circumstances.

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Samuel 14:5 The forefront of the one was situate northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah.

The two armies of Israel and the Philistines were stationed opposite each other, with one army north of Michmash and the other south of Gibeah.

1. The Power of God in Overcoming Fear - 1 Samuel 17:45-47

2. The Importance of Prayer in Times of Conflict - James 5:16

1. Psalm 18:29 - For by you I can run against a troop; by my God I can leap over a wall.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

1 Samuel 14:6 And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.

Jonathan suggested to a young man that they go to the Philistine garrison in hopes that the Lord will work for them, as He is not restrained by the number of people.

1. God's power is not limited by our resources- 1 Samuel 14:6

2. Trust in the Lord, not in numbers- 1 Samuel 14:6

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's

2. Isaiah 40:28-29 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

1 Samuel 14:7 And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I am with thee according to thy heart.

Jonathan's armor-bearer encourages him to follow his heart and assures him he will be with him no matter what.

1. Choosing the Courage to Follow Your Heart

2. The Comfort of Knowing You are Not Alone

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

1 Samuel 14:8 Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will discover ourselves unto them.

Jonathan and his armor bearer plan to reveal themselves to the Philistine forces.

1. Risking the Unkown: Taking Chances in Faith

2. Courage in the Face of Adversity: Jonathan's Faithful Example

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

1 Samuel 14:9 If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them.

In 1 Samuel 14:9, Saul instructs the Israelites to wait for the Philistines to come to them before engaging in battle.

1. The Value of Patience in Difficult Situations

2. Taking a Stand for What is Right

1. James 1:4 - Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

2. Ephesians 6:13 - Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground.

1 Samuel 14:10 But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the LORD hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us.

Saul's army was ready to fight against the Philistines, and they asked God what they should do. God told them that if the Philistines said to come up to them, then they should go up, and this would be a sign to them that God had delivered them into their hands.

1. God will provide the strength and courage we need in times of difficulty.

2. Be confident in the Lord and He will guide you in the right direction.

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

1 Samuel 14:11 And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves.

Two Hebrews revealed themselves to the Philistine garrison, and the Philistines realized that they had been hiding in the holes.

1. In times of fear and uncertainty, God will provide us with strength and courage.

2. We must have faith in God and trust in his divine plan even when we don't understand it.

1. Isaiah 41:10, So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 56:3, When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

1 Samuel 14:12 And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will shew you a thing. And Jonathan said unto his armourbearer, Come up after me: for the LORD hath delivered them into the hand of Israel.

The men of the garrison challenged Jonathan and his armorbearer, and Jonathan confidently declared that the LORD had delivered them into the hands of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness and power in delivering His people from their enemies.

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord and His ability to bring victory.

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

1 Samuel 14:13 And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him.

Jonathan and his armor bearer fought together and slew their enemies.

1. God will provide strength and courage to those who are faithful to Him.

2. Working together with others can help us achieve God's will.

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Samuel 14:14 And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armourbearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were an half acre of land, which a yoke of oxen might plow.

Jonathan and his armorbearer killed around twenty men in a half acre area.

1. The Power of Faith and Action

2. God's Protection in Battle

1. Ephesians 6:10-18

2. Joshua 1:9

1 Samuel 14:15 And there was trembling in the host, in the field, and among all the people: the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled, and the earth quaked: so it was a very great trembling.

The people of Israel were filled with fear and trembling as the earth quaked and shook.

1. God Is in Control: Trusting in the Lord Despite Our Fear

2. The Strength of Our Faith: Standing Firm in the Lord's Might

1. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

1 Samuel 14:16 And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked; and, behold, the multitude melted away, and they went on beating down one another.

Saul's watchmen in Gibeah of Benjamin observed a chaotic scene as the multitude of people began to disperse and fight against each other.

1. The Danger of Following a Leader Without Discernment

2. The Importance of Patience & Discernment in Making Decisions

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. Isaiah 11:3 - And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear.

1 Samuel 14:17 Then said Saul unto the people that were with him, Number now, and see who is gone from us. And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armourbearer were not there.

Saul orders his people to count and discovers that Jonathan and his armor bearer are not present.

1. Trusting God Amidst Uncertainty: How Jonathan and his Armor Bearer Courageously Followed God's Will

2. Taking the Initiative in Faith: Lessons From Jonathan's Faithful Leadership

1. 2 Chronicles 20:12 - "for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 14:18 And Saul said unto Ahiah, Bring hither the ark of God. For the ark of God was at that time with the children of Israel.

Saul asked Ahiah to bring the ark of God to him, which was with the Israelites at the time.

1. The Significance of the Ark of God: How We Can Learn from Saul's Request

2. Understanding Obedience: Saul's Request of the Ark of God

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation.

2. Exodus 25:10-22 - They shall make an ark of acacia wood. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, a cubit and a half its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height.

1 Samuel 14:19 And it came to pass, while Saul talked unto the priest, that the noise that was in the host of the Philistines went on and increased: and Saul said unto the priest, Withdraw thine hand.

Saul was speaking to the priest when the noise from the Philistine army grew louder, so Saul told the priest to stop talking.

1. The importance of staying alert and aware of our surroundings.

2. Recognizing the power of God in even the most dire of circumstances.

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Matthew 10:28 "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

1 Samuel 14:20 And Saul and all the people that were with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle: and, behold, every man's sword was against his fellow, and there was a very great discomfiture.

Saul and his people assembled for battle, but they ended up fighting one another, resulting in a great discomfiture.

1. The Greatest Discomfiture Comes From Within Ourselves

2. Beware the Lure of Pride and Self-Importance

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

1 Samuel 14:21 Moreover the Hebrews that were with the Philistines before that time, which went up with them into the camp from the country round about, even they also turned to be with the Israelites that were with Saul and Jonathan.

Hebrews previously allied with the Philistines changed sides to join Israelites Saul and Jonathan.

1. The Power of Friendship: How Friendship Can Lead to Unity

2. Strength Through Unity: The Benefits of Working Together

1. Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

2. Philippians 2:2-4 Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Samuel 14:22 Likewise all the men of Israel which had hid themselves in mount Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle.

The men of Israel, who had been hiding in Mount Ephraim, joined the battle against the Philistines after hearing of their retreat.

1. The Power of Community: How God Can Unite Us to Achieve Great Things

2. Overcoming Fear: God s Strength to Conquer the Unknown

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 14:23 So the LORD saved Israel that day: and the battle passed over unto Bethaven.

On that day, the Lord saved Israel from their enemies and the battle moved to Bethaven.

1. The Lord is our Protector and Deliverer.

2. The Lord is with us in our battles.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

1 Samuel 14:24 And the men of Israel were distressed that day: for Saul had adjured the people, saying, Cursed be the man that eateth any food until evening, that I may be avenged on mine enemies. So none of the people tasted any food.

On a certain day, Saul made a decree that none of the Israelites were to eat any food until evening in order to avenge himself on his enemies.

1. The Power of Our Words: How Our Words Can Impact Others

2. A Heart for Justice: Pursuing Righteousness and Fairness in Our Lives

1. Matthew 12: 36-37: "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

2. James 3:5-6: Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

1 Samuel 14:25 And all they of the land came to a wood; and there was honey upon the ground.

All the people of the land came to a wood and found honey on the ground.

1. The Lord Provides: How God Rewards Faithfulness.

2. Abundance in Unexpected Places: Finding God s Blessings in Unusual Circumstances.

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-10 - God s faithfulness in providing for His people.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Trusting God for daily needs even in difficult circumstances.

1 Samuel 14:26 And when the people were come into the wood, behold, the honey dropped; but no man put his hand to his mouth: for the people feared the oath.

The people of Israel refused to consume the honey they found in the wood, as they had taken an oath not to do so.

1. The Power of an Oath - How our words have the power to shape our lives.

2. The Strength of Commitment - How our dedication to our beliefs can affect us and those around us.

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teaching on the power of our words.

2. James 5:12 - The importance of fulfilling our oaths.

1 Samuel 14:27 But Jonathan heard not when his father charged the people with the oath: wherefore he put forth the end of the rod that was in his hand, and dipped it in an honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes were enlightened.

Jonathan, the son of Saul, disobeyed his father's oath by dipping the end of his rod into an honeycomb and eating from it.

1. Obedience is the path to enlightenment.

2. Our faith can be nourished and strengthened by the sweet promises of God.

1. Psalm 19:11 - In them is the life of my spirit; you restore me to health and let me live.

2. Isaiah 28:23-29 - Listen and hear my voice; pay attention and hear what I say. When a farmer plows for planting, does he plow continually? Does he keep on breaking up and harrowing the soil? When he has leveled the surface, does he not sow caraway and scatter cumin? Does he not plant wheat in its place, barley in its plot, and spelt in its field?

1 Samuel 14:28 Then answered one of the people, and said, Thy father straitly charged the people with an oath, saying, Cursed be the man that eateth any food this day. And the people were faint.

The people of Israel were exhausted and hungry, but Saul had forbidden them from eating anything during battle.

1. God provides strength and sustenance in times of need.

2. Obeying God's commands brings blessings, not curses.

1. Exodus 16:15 - And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

2. Psalm 34:8 - O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

1 Samuel 14:29 Then said Jonathan, My father hath troubled the land: see, I pray you, how mine eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey.

Jonathan realizes that his father Saul has troubled the land and that his eyes have been enlightened after tasting a little honey.

1. The Power of Seeing Things Differently

2. The Impact of a Small Change

1. Proverbs 15:13-14 - A joyful heart makes a cheerful face, but when the heart is sad, the spirit is broken. The mind of one who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 14:30 How much more, if haply the people had eaten freely to day of the spoil of their enemies which they found? for had there not been now a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?

Jonathan's victory over the Philistines was hindered by the people's lack of hunger, leading to a greater slaughter had they feasted on the spoils of their enemies.

1. The Power of Hunger: What Could Have Been.

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together to Make a Difference.

1. Proverbs 13:4 - "The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

1 Samuel 14:31 And they smote the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon: and the people were very faint.

The Israelites defeated the Philistines from Michmash to Aijalon, but the victory was exhausting.

1. "The Cost of Victory: The Reality of Weariness"

2. "God's Strength in Our Weakness"

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 14:32 And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground: and the people did eat them with the blood.

The people of Israel took sheep, oxen, and calves after defeating their enemies and then killed and ate them with the blood.

1. Living in God's Abundance: Learning to Receive and Give Thanks

2. The Power of Sacrifice: How It Unites Us

1. Deuteronomy 12:20-24 - Eating animal meat with blood still in it

2. Leviticus 17:10-14 - Eating animal meat with blood still in it

1 Samuel 14:33 Then they told Saul, saying, Behold, the people sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the blood. And he said, Ye have transgressed: roll a great stone unto me this day.

Saul was informed that the people were sinning by eating with blood and he commanded them to roll a great stone as a punishment.

1. God's Justice: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Obedience: Choosing to Follow God's Commands

1. Psalm 119:11 - Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 14:34 And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them, Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood. And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there.

Saul commanded the people of Israel to bring their livestock to be slaughtered and consumed with the warning that it would be considered a sin against the Lord if they ate the meat with the blood. Everyone brought their animals and killed them that night.

1: Our actions have consequences, and we must take great care to ensure that we are following the Lord's laws. We must take responsibility for our actions and not sin against the Lord.

2: We must remember to obey the Lord's commands, even when it is difficult. We must take action to ensure that we are not sinning against the Lord, and we must take responsibility for our actions.

1: Deuteronomy 12:23-25 - Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood is the life; and thou mayest not eat the life with the flesh. Thou shalt not eat it; thou shalt pour it upon the earth as water. Thou shalt not eat it; that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, when thou shalt do that which is right in the sight of the Lord.

2: Leviticus 17:10-12 - And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people. For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood.

1 Samuel 14:35 And Saul built an altar unto the LORD: the same was the first altar that he built unto the LORD.

Saul built an altar to the Lord, which was his first altar dedicated to the Lord.

1. God is always worth worshipping, even when times are tough.

2. We must never forget to give God the glory He deserves.

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

1 Samuel 14:36 And Saul said, Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them. And they said, Do whatsoever seemeth good unto thee. Then said the priest, Let us draw near hither unto God.

Saul and his men propose to attack the Philistines at night and plunder them until morning. The people agree with Saul's proposal, and the priest then suggests they draw near to God for guidance.

1. "God is Our Guide: Seeking God's Will in Difficult Situations"

2. "The Power of Obedience: Following God's Command Even When It's Difficult"

1. James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

2. 1 John 5:14 - And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

1 Samuel 14:37 And Saul asked counsel of God, Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into the hand of Israel? But he answered him not that day.

Passage Saul asked God if he should pursue the Philistines but God did not answer him that day.

1. The importance of trusting in God s timing and guidance.

2. Waiting on God for the right answer.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 16:9 "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

1 Samuel 14:38 And Saul said, Draw ye near hither, all the chief of the people: and know and see wherein this sin hath been this day.

Saul called the leaders of the people to him to investigate the sin that had been committed that day.

1. The Power of Accountability: How We Can Learn From Saul's Example

2. God is the Final Judge: Understanding the Importance of Discerning Right and Wrong

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Matthew 18:15-17 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

1 Samuel 14:39 For, as the LORD liveth, which saveth Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die. But there was not a man among all the people that answered him.

Saul decreed that Jonathan should die as punishment, but nobody stepped forward to agree with him.

1. God expects us to speak up for what is right.

2. Have courage to stand up for justice, even when it is unpopular.

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

2. John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends."

1 Samuel 14:40 Then said he unto all Israel, Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the people said unto Saul, Do what seemeth good unto thee.

Saul asked the people of Israel to separate into two sides and he and Jonathan would stand on the other side. The people agreed to Saul's request.

1. God gives us the strength and freedom to make decisions that will bring us closer to Him.

2. Obedience to God is always the best choice, no matter how hard it may seem.

1. Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

1 Samuel 14:41 Therefore Saul said unto the LORD God of Israel, Give a perfect lot. And Saul and Jonathan were taken: but the people escaped.

Saul and Jonathan are taken while the people escape.

1: God is sovereign and his purposes will never be thwarted.

2: We must trust in God's plan even when it is unclear.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 14:42 And Saul said, Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan was taken.

Saul and Jonathan decide to cast lots to determine who is guilty of breaking Saul's oath and Jonathan is chosen.

1. God is sovereign and works in mysterious ways.

2. We must be willing to submit to the Lord's will even when it doesn't go our way.

1. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" - yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."

2. Proverbs 16:33 - The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.

1 Samuel 14:43 Then Saul said to Jonathan, Tell me what thou hast done. And Jonathan told him, and said, I did but taste a little honey with the end of the rod that was in mine hand, and, lo, I must die.

Saul asked Jonathan to explain his actions, and Jonathan confessed to having tasted a little honey with the end of his staff.

1. How Jonathan's honesty and humility shines a light on our own need to confess our sins and accept the consequences.

2. The importance of truth and integrity, even in the face of unfavorable consequences.

1. Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

2. 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Samuel 14:44 And Saul answered, God do so and more also: for thou shalt surely die, Jonathan.

Saul declared that Jonathan would die for his actions.

1. A Life of Consequences: What happens when we make the wrong choices?

2. God's Justice: What does it mean to be held accountable for our actions?

1. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A person reaps what they sow. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

2. Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

1 Samuel 14:45 And the people said unto Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great salvation in Israel? God forbid: as the LORD liveth, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground; for he hath wrought with God this day. So the people rescued Jonathan, that he died not.

The people of Israel asked Saul to spare Jonathan's life, as he had been the one to achieve a great victory for them. God spared Jonathan's life, and the people saved him.

1. God's Miraculous Provision: Learning to Trust in God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. Jonathan's Faithfulness: The Power of Faith and Obedience

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

1 Samuel 14:46 Then Saul went up from following the Philistines: and the Philistines went to their own place.

Saul stopped pursuing the Philistines and they returned to their own land.

1. God can bring victory and peace in unexpected ways.

2. We must remain humble and remember that God has the ultimate power.

1. Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

1 Samuel 14:47 So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and whithersoever he turned himself, he vexed them.

Saul became the king of Israel and fought against his enemies in all directions.

1. In times of trouble, God can provide strength and courage to overcome our enemies.

2. We must persevere through adversity and trust in God's guidance.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

1 Samuel 14:48 And he gathered an host, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.

Saul gathered an army and defeated the Amalekites, thereby freeing Israel from their oppression.

1. Our Deliverance Through the Strength of God

2. God's Provision for Our Salvation

1. Psalm 18:32-34 It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to stand on the heights. He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

2. Exodus 15:2 The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

1 Samuel 14:49 Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchishua: and the names of his two daughters were these; the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal:

Saul had three sons, Jonathan, Ishui, and Melchishua, and two daughters, Merab and Michal.

1. God intends us to have a special relationship with family members.

2. God can provide us with unexpected blessings through our family members.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

2. Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Samuel 14:50 And the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.

This passage reveals the names of King Saul's wife and captain of his host.

1. The Power of Good Relationships: Exploring the importance of cultivating strong relationships in our lives.

2. A Heart for Service: Examining the power of serving others out of a spirit of love.

1. Ruth 3:1-13 - Ruth's commitment to her mother-in-law Naomi and the power of loyal relationships.

2. Acts 20:35 - Paul's exhortation to the Church to serve one another in love.

1 Samuel 14:51 And Kish was the father of Saul; and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel.

Saul was the son of Kish, and Abner was the son of Ner, the son of Abiel.

1) The importance of family and ancestry.

2) How God uses the generations to bring about His plans.

1) Matthew 1:1-17 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ.

2) Acts 13:22 - The generations God used to bring about His plan for salvation.

1 Samuel 14:52 And there was sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he took him unto him.

Saul fought against the Philistines all the days of his reign and recruited strong and valiant men to join his ranks.

1. The Strength of God's People: How to be a Valiant Man of God

2. Saul's Legacy: The Power of Recruitment and Dedication

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron Sharpens Iron

1 Samuel 15 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 15:1-9 introduces Saul's mission to destroy the Amalekites. In this chapter, Samuel delivers a message from God to Saul, instructing him to completely destroy the Amalekites as an act of judgment for their past actions against Israel. Saul gathers an army of two hundred thousand men and proceeds to attack the Amalekites. However, he shows mercy towards their king, Agag, and spares some of the best livestock.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 15:10-23, it recounts Samuel's confrontation with Saul over his disobedience. After Saul returns from his campaign against the Amalekites, Samuel confronts him about sparing Agag and keeping the best livestock. Saul justifies his actions by claiming that he spared the livestock for sacrifices to God. However, Samuel rebukes him for his disobedience and declares that obedience is more important than sacrifices.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 15 concludes with God rejecting Saul as king due to his disobedience. In verses such as 1 Samuel 15:24-35, it is mentioned that when confronted by Samuel about his disobedience, Saul confesses his sin but offers excuses for his actions. Realizing that God has rejected him as king because of his disobedience and lack of repentance, Saul pleads with Samuel not to publicly humiliate him before the people. Despite this plea, Samuel remains resolute in delivering God's judgment and departs from Saul.

In summary:

1 Samuel 15 presents:

Saul's mission to destroy the Amalekites;

Samuel's confrontation with Saul over his disobedience;

God rejecting Saul as king due to his disobedience.

Emphasis on:

Saul's mission to destroy the Amalekites;

Samuel's confrontation with Saul over his disobedience;

God rejecting Saul as king due to his disobedience.

The chapter focuses on Saul's mission to destroy the Amalekites, Samuel's confrontation with him over his disobedience, and God rejecting Saul as king due to his actions. In 1 Samuel 15, Saul receives a command from God through Samuel to completely destroy the Amalekites. He leads an army against them but spares their king and keeps some of the best livestock.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 15, Samuel confronts Saul about his disobedience in sparing Agag and keeping the livestock. Despite Saul's attempt to justify his actions by claiming they were for sacrifices to God, Samuel rebukes him and emphasizes that obedience is more important than sacrifices.

1 Samuel 15 concludes with God rejecting Saul as king because of his disobedience. When confronted by Samuel, Saul confesses his sin but offers excuses for his actions. Realizing that he has lost favor with God, he pleads with Samuel not to humiliate him before the people. However, Samuel remains steadfast in delivering God's judgment upon him. This chapter marks a significant turning point in Saul's reign as it reveals both his disregard for God's commands and the consequences that follow.

1 Samuel 15:1 Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

Samuel tells Saul that God has chosen him to be the king of Israel, and he must obey God's commands.

1. God has a plan for our lives, and we must be obedient to His will.

2. God can work through anyone, no matter their background or circumstances.

1. Joshua 1:8 - "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

2. Philippians 2:12-13 - "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

1 Samuel 15:2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

God remembers the evil actions of Amalek against the Israelites as they journeyed out of Egypt.

1. How to respond to evil with grace and mercy.

2. The importance of remembering God's faithfulness in the face of adversity.

1. Romans 12:19-21 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. Psalm 103:6-10 - The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

1 Samuel 15:3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

God commanded Saul to utterly destroy the Amalekites.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Power of Following His Will

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Rejecting God's Authority

1. Matthew 4:4, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

2. Romans 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

1 Samuel 15:4 And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

Saul gathered an army of 210,000 soldiers.

1. The power of unity - how working together can create powerful results.

2. Having faith in God - trusting in His strength and guidance.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

1 Samuel 15:5 And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

Saul and his army laid wait in the valley of a city belonging to the Amalekites.

1. The importance of patience and waiting on the Lord s timing.

2. The power of taking action in faith.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 2:14-17 - What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

1 Samuel 15:6 And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

Saul instructed the Kenites to leave the Amalekites, to avoid being destroyed with them, because the Kenites had been kind to the Israelites when they left Egypt.

1. The Power of Kindness: A Study on 1 Samuel 15:6

2. The Benefits of Obedience: Exploring 1 Samuel 15:6

1. Romans 12:10: Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

2. Hebrews 13:2: Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

1 Samuel 15:7 And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

The passage describes Saul's victory over the Amalekites in Havilah and Shur, which is near Egypt.

1. Our faith in God can give us the strength to overcome every challenge.

2. Victory comes when we trust and obey God's commands.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. 1 John 5:4-5 - For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 Samuel 15:8 And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

Saul spared the king of the Amalekites, Agag, and killed all of the people with his sword.

1. The Power of Mercy: How God's Love is Greater than Our Fear

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Will Despite Our Feelings

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

2. Ephesians 6:1 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

1 Samuel 15:9 But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, oxen, fatlings, and lambs, but destroyed the vile and refuse.

1. The Power of Mercy and Compassion

2. Making Godly Choices in Life

1. Exodus 34:6-7: And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth. Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

2. Joshua 24:15: Choose you this day whom ye will serve.

1 Samuel 15:10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

The passage is about the Lord speaking to Samuel.

1. The Power of God's Word: Learning to Listen

2. Obedience: The Path to True Fulfillment

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

1 Samuel 15:11 It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

Samuel was greatly distressed when Saul failed to follow God's commandments and disobeyed God.

1. God's commands are not to be taken lightly, and it is important to stay faithful to Him.

2. We should respond to God's commands with obedience and humility.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. Psalm 119:1-2 - "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart!"

1 Samuel 15:12 And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

Saul visited Carmel and set up a place for himself, then he passed on to Gilgal.

1. Taking Time to Reflect: Saul's Journey to Gilgal

2. Growing in Obedience: Saul's Visit to Carmel

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

1 Samuel 15:13 And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.

Saul informs Samuel that he has fulfilled the Lord's commandment.

1. God's commands are to be taken seriously and followed wholeheartedly.

2. Obeying God brings blessing and fulfillment.

1. Ephesians 6:5-6 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

2. Matthew 7:21 Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

1 Samuel 15:14 And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

Samuel asked what the noise of sheep and oxen in his ears was.

1. The Power of Our Words: How We Speak to God and Others

2. Learning to Listen: The Importance of Listening to God and Others

1. James 3:1-10 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

2. Proverbs 18:2 - A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

1 Samuel 15:15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

Saul claims the people spared the best of their sheep and oxen to sacrifice to the Lord, while the rest they have destroyed.

1. Loving God with All We Have: The Example of Saul

2. Sacrificing to the Lord: Putting God Above Our Own Wants

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Deuteronomy 14:23 - And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always.

1 Samuel 15:16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

Samuel tells Saul that he will tell him what the Lord has said to him that night.

1. God will speak to us in unexpected ways.

2. Be still and listen for God's voice.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:2 - "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

1 Samuel 15:17 And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?

Samuel rebukes Saul for disobeying God's command by questioning why Saul was made the head of Israel when he felt so small.

1. The Power of Humility - How recognizing our smallness before God leads to greatness.

2. Obedience Above All - The importance of faithfully following God's commands.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

1 Samuel 15:18 And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

God commanded Saul to completely destroy the Amalekites, a group of sinners, and fight against them until they were completely destroyed.

1. The importance of following God's commands and the danger of disobeying them.

2. The power of faith and obedience to God's will.

1. Joshua 6:17 - "And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent."

2. Deuteronomy 7:2 - "And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them."

1 Samuel 15:19 Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?

Saul disobeyed God's commands and instead chose to pursue his own desires.

1. "The Danger of Disobeying God"

2. "The Benefits of Obeying God"

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

1 Samuel 15:20 And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

Saul disobeys God's command to destroy the Amalekites and instead brings the king of the Amalekites, Agag, to Samuel.

1. Disobedience of God's commands has consequences.

2. We must always listen and obey the Lord.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Obey the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.

2. Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only those who do the will of the Father.

1 Samuel 15:21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

The people took spoils of war to sacrifice to the Lord God at Gilgal.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How Our Offering to God Can Redeem Us

2. The Power of Obedience: Why We Should Follow the Commands of God

1. Ephesians 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

2. Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

1 Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

Samuel conveys that obedience to God is more important than offerings and sacrifices.

1. "Obedience is Better than Sacrifice"

2. "Hear and Obey the Voice of the Lord"

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commands.

1 Samuel 15:23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

Passage Saul has been rejected by the Lord as king for rejecting the word of the Lord and for his rebellious and stubborn behaviour.

1. The Danger of Rebelling Against God

2. The Importance of Obeying God s Word

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Proverbs 16:2 - All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

1 Samuel 15:24 And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

Saul admits to Samuel that he has sinned by disobeying the Lord's commandment.

1: We must always obey God and not compromise our faith, no matter what.

2: Fear of man should never outweigh our fear of God.

1: Proverbs 29:25 "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe."

2: Romans 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

1 Samuel 15:25 Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD.

Saul pleads with Samuel to forgive his sin and return with him so he can worship the Lord.

1. The Power of Repentance: How Asking for Forgiveness Can Lead to Renewed Worship

2. The Journey of Following God: How Our Relationship with God Can Lead to Repentance and Restoration

1. Luke 13:3 - "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

2. Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

1 Samuel 15:26 And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

Samuel informs Saul that because Saul has rejected the word of the Lord, the Lord has rejected Saul from being king over Israel.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

1. Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Ephesians 5:1-2 - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

1 Samuel 15:27 And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.

Samuel tears his mantle when turning to leave Saul after his disobedience.

1. The Power of Obedience: Examining Saul's Disobedience in 1 Samuel 15

2. The Heart of a Prophet: Exploring Samuel's Grief in 1 Samuel 15

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Obedience brings blessing

2. Isaiah 50:7 - God's strength in times of sorrow

1 Samuel 15:28 And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.

Samuel tells Saul that God has taken the kingdom of Israel from him and given it to someone better than him.

1. God's justice: No one is beyond His judgement.

2. Obedience: We must follow God's commands even when it's hard.

1. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

1 Samuel 15:29 And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent.

The Strength of Israel will not lie or repent, for He is not a man and therefore cannot repent.

1. God's Character - Unchanging and Unwavering

2. Trusting in God's Perfection and Love

1. Malachi 3:6 - "For I am the Lord, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

2. Psalm 33:4 - "For the word of the Lord is right, and all His work is done in truth.

1 Samuel 15:30 Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.

Saul has recognized his sin and is asking God to be honored by the elders of his people and the people of Israel, and to be allowed to worship the LORD.

1. The Power of Repentance: Learning from Saul's Example

2. Restoring Honor in the Eyes of Others: The Impact of Righteousness

1. Psalm 51:17 "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."

2. Isaiah 57:15 "For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

1 Samuel 15:31 So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.

Saul repents and worships the Lord.

1. Repentance restores our relationship with God.

2. True worship comes from a heart of repentance.

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2. Acts 3:19 - Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

1 Samuel 15:32 Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.

Samuel instructs his followers to bring him Agag, the king of the Amalekites. Agag comes to him confidently and states that death is no longer bitter.

1. Understanding the Power of Confidence: Agag's Example in 1 Samuel 15:32

2. God's Sovereignty in the Face of Death: Lessons from 1 Samuel 15:32

1. 1 Peter 2:24 - "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."

2. Romans 5:17 - "For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ."

1 Samuel 15:33 And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

Samuel executed Agag for his wickedness before the Lord in Gilgal.

1. God's justice is perfect and must be respected.

2. We must rely on God's mercy in all our decisions.

1. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

2. Isaiah 28:17 - "And I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plummet; and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place."

1 Samuel 15:34 Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

Samuel went to Ramah while Saul returned to his home in Gibeah.

1: We must learn to differentiate between our earthly home and our heavenly home.

2: When God calls us, we must be willing to leave our earthly home and follow Him.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Matthew 19:29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name s sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life.

1 Samuel 15:35 And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Samuel had stopped visiting Saul after Saul disobeyed God, but he still mourned for him and God regretted making Saul king of Israel.

1. Despite our mistakes, God still loves us and seeks to redeem us.

2. Even when we disobey God, He still has compassion for us.

1. Isaiah 43:25 I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

2. James 4:17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

1 Samuel 16 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 16:1-7 introduces Samuel's anointing of David as the future king. In this chapter, God instructs Samuel to go to Bethlehem and anoint one of Jesse's sons as the next king of Israel. Samuel is initially hesitant due to his fear of Saul, but God assures him to carry out His command. When Samuel arrives in Bethlehem, he invites Jesse and his sons to a sacrifice. As each son passes before him, Samuel assumes that the eldest son, Eliab, is the chosen one due to his impressive appearance. However, God reminds Samuel that He looks at the heart rather than outward appearances.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 16:8-13, it recounts David's anointing and empowerment by the Spirit of God. When all of Jesse's sons have passed before him without being chosen by God, Samuel asks if there are any other sons left. Jesse reveals that David the youngest is tending sheep in the fields. Upon David's arrival, God confirms through His Spirit that he is the chosen one and directs Samuel to anoint him as king in front of his brothers.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 16 concludes with David being brought into Saul's service and receiving favor from God. In verses such as 1 Samuel 16:14-23, it is mentioned that after being anointed by Samuel, David enters Saul's service as a musician playing the lyre whenever Saul experiences distress from an evil spirit sent by God. Through David's music and presence, Saul finds temporary relief from his troubled state.

In summary:

1 Samuel 16 presents:

Samuel's anointing of David as future king;

David's anointing and empowerment by the Spirit of God;

David being brought into Saul's service and receiving favor from God.

Emphasis on:

Samuel's anointing of David as future king;

David's anointing and empowerment by the Spirit of God;

David being brought into Saul's service and receiving favor from God.

The chapter focuses on Samuel anointing David as the future king, David's anointing and empowerment by the Spirit of God, and his subsequent entry into Saul's service. In 1 Samuel 16, God instructs Samuel to go to Bethlehem and anoint one of Jesse's sons as the next king. Initially hesitant, Samuel obeys and invites Jesse and his sons to a sacrifice. Despite assuming that Eliab is chosen due to his appearance, God reminds Samuel that He looks at the heart.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 16, when all of Jesse's sons have passed before him without being chosen by God, David the youngest son is revealed as the chosen one while tending sheep in the fields. Anointed by Samuel in front of his brothers, David receives confirmation through the Spirit of God. This marks a significant moment in David's life as he is empowered for his future role as king.

1 Samuel 16 concludes with David entering Saul's service as a musician playing the lyre. Through his music and presence, he brings temporary relief to Saul who experiences distress from an evil spirit sent by God. This establishes a connection between David and Saul while also highlighting how favor rests upon David through divine intervention. The chapter sets the stage for David's journey towards kingship while demonstrating how obedience to God leads to His blessings.

1 Samuel 16:1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

Passage God tells Samuel to stop mourning for Saul and to go to Bethlehem to anoint a new king from among Jesse's sons.

1. The Importance of Embracing Change in God's Kingdom

2. The Faithfulness of God in Anointing New Leaders

1. Luke 1:37 - "For nothing is impossible with God."

2. Psalm 102:25-27 - "From eternity to eternity, You are God. You will return us to dust again, and say, Turn back, you mortals. For Your mercy is great to the heavens, and Your truth to the skies."

1 Samuel 16:2 And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

Samuel is instructed by the LORD to take an heifer with him and explain that he is going to sacrifice to the LORD, despite the possibility that Saul could hear and kill him.

1. The Courage of Faith: Learning to Trust God in the Face of Fear

2. The Power of Obedience: Doing What God Commands Despite the Consequences

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

1 Samuel 16:3 And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee.

God instructs Samuel to go to the sacrifice at Jesse's and anoint the one whom He names.

1. God Knows Who We Need - 1 Samuel 16:3

2. The Power of God's Direction - 1 Samuel 16:3

1. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 - For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

1 Samuel 16:4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?

Samuel went to Bethlehem in accordance with the Lord's instructions, and the elders of the town were fearful of his arrival.

1. The Power of Faith: How Samuel's Faithful Walk Led to Miracles

2. God's Provision: How Our Lord Met the Needs of His People

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation."

2. Philippians 4:19 "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

1 Samuel 16:5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

God commanded Jesse and his sons to sanctify themselves and join him for a sacrifice.

1. Obedience to God is Essential

2. The Power of Sacrifice

1. 1 Samuel 16:5

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

1 Samuel 16:6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.

God chose David to be king of Israel instead of his eldest brother Eliab, who looked the part.

1. God's Plans Are Not Always Our Plans: How God Sees Beyond the Surface.

2. The Power of Faith: How God Calls the Unlikely to Do Great Things.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

God looks at the heart; appearances do not matter.

1: We should not judge people based on their appearance, but on their heart.

2: God looks at the heart, not the outward appearance.

1: Matthew 7:15-20 - Jesus warns against judging by appearances.

2: 1 John 4:20 - God is love and loves us no matter what.

1 Samuel 16:8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.

Jesse had his sons pass before Samuel so that he could choose one of them to be anointed as the next king of Israel, but none of them were chosen by the Lord.

1. The Lord's Will Is Not Always Obvious - how we can accept His choices even when we do not understand them

2. Seeking the Lord's Will - how to discern God's will for our lives and be obedient to it

1. James 4:13-15 - submit to the Lord and He will exalt you

2. Matthew 6:33-34 - seek first the Kingdom of God and all else will be added

1 Samuel 16:9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.

The Lord did not choose the person Jesse presented.

1. To not be discouraged when God does not choose us - His plans are always perfect.

2. God's choices are always right - trust in His wisdom and grace.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 16:10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel, but the Lord had not chosen any of them.

1. We can trust God to make the best choice for us.

2. God's selection is far greater than our own.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 16:11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

Samuel asked Jesse if he had any other sons, and Jesse said he had a youngest son who was out tending the sheep. Samuel instructed Jesse to send for the son, saying that they would not sit down until he arrived.

1. The Call of the Youngest: Understanding God's Appointment of the Unseen and Unqualified

2. The Power of Obedience: Stepping Out In Faith When You Don't Know the Outcome

1. Philippians 2:13 - "for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

1 Samuel 16:12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

God chose David to be anointed as the next king of Israel.

1. The Power of God's Will: How God's Choices Shape Our Lives

2. The True Character of Leadership: Qualities to Look For in Leaders

1. Psalm 89:20-21: I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him: With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17: Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

1 Samuel 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

Samuel anointed David to be the next king of Israel, and from that day forward the Spirit of the Lord was upon David.

1. God Has a Plan: How to Find Direction in Uncertain Times

2. The Anointing of the Spirit: What it Means for Our Lives

1. Isaiah 11:2 - "And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - "Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."

1 Samuel 16:14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

Saul, the King of Israel, was troubled by an evil spirit sent from the LORD.

1. The Power of God's Spirit: How the Lord's Spirit Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: How Saul's Rebelliousness Led to His Downfall

1. Romans 8:14-15 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father!

2. Galatians 5:16-17 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

1 Samuel 16:15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

Saul's servants noticed that he was being troubled by an evil spirit from God.

1. The Power of God's Presence in Our Lives

2. Taming the Beast Within

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

2. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

1 Samuel 16:16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.

The passage discusses Saul's request for a skilled harpist to play when the evil spirit from God descended upon him.

1. Finding Comfort Through Music: How We Rely On The Arts In Times Of Trouble

2. God's Mercy: How Saul Was Protected From The Evil Spirit

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise Him with the harp and lyre, praise Him with tambourine and dancing, praise Him with the strings and pipe.

2. 1 Corinthians 14:15 - What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

1 Samuel 16:17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me.

Saul asked his servants to bring him a musician who could play well.

1. We can all learn from Saul's example to seek out those with special gifts and skills.

2. God can use our unique talents to serve others and bring glory to His name.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 - Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

2. Ephesians 4:11-13 - And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

1 Samuel 16:18 Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him.

The servant of King Saul described David, a son of Jesse from Bethlehem, as a skillful musician, brave warrior, wise adviser, and a handsome man, noting the Lord was with him.

1. God Uses the Unlikely: Lessons from David's Call

2. God's Presence Makes All the Difference

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

1 Samuel 16:19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.

Saul sends messengers to Jesse to ask for David to join him.

1. God's plans for us will be evident, even when those around us don't recognize them.

2. We should seek God's will for our lives, not the approval of others.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

1 Samuel 16:20 And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul.

Jesse sent David with an ass laden with bread, a bottle of wine, and a kid to Saul.

1. Let us use our gifts to serve others.

2. We can learn from David's example of humble obedience.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

1 Samuel 16:21 And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer.

David was accepted by Saul and was made his armorbearer.

1. God can use anyone, no matter their background, to fulfill His perfect plan.

2. God can use our situation to help others, no matter how difficult it may be.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1 Samuel 16:22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight.

Saul had seen something special in David and asked Jesse to send him to stand before him.

1. The importance of recognizing and seeking out God's favor in our lives.

2. God can use us for great things, even when we are not expecting it.

1. Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. John 15:16, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit fruit that will last and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."

1 Samuel 16:23 And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

The passage speaks of how David was able to soothe the evil spirit from Saul by playing the harp.

1. God can use music to calm and bring us peace in difficult times.

2. We can use our gifts and talents to bring joy and comfort to others.

1. Ephesians 5:19 - "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord"

2. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

1 Samuel 17 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 17:1-11 introduces the Philistine champion Goliath and the challenge he presents to Israel. In this chapter, the Philistines gather for battle against Israel, and Goliath a giant warrior emerges as their champion. He challenges any Israelite soldier to engage in single combat with him, with the outcome determining the victor of the entire battle. Goliath's imposing stature and taunts intimidate the Israelite army, causing them to be filled with fear.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 17:12-32, it recounts David's arrival at the battlefield and his response to Goliath's challenge. David, who is initially sent by his father Jesse to bring provisions for his brothers serving in Saul's army, witnesses Goliath's defiance of God and is filled with righteous anger. He offers himself as a challenger against Goliath despite being young and inexperienced in warfare.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 17 concludes with David defeating Goliath through God's strength. In verses such as 1 Samuel 17:33-58, it is mentioned that Saul initially doubts David's ability but eventually allows him to face Goliath. Armed only with a sling and stones, David confronts Goliath while proclaiming his trust in God's deliverance. With a single stone from his sling, David strikes down Goliath killing him instantly and subsequently cuts off his head using the giant s own sword.

In summary:

1 Samuel 17 presents:

Goliath s challenge to Israel;

David s response to face Goliath;

David defeating Goliath through God s strength.

Emphasis on:

Goliath s challenge to Israel;

David s response to face Goliath;

David defeating Goliath through God s strength.

The chapter focuses on Goliath's challenge to the Israelite army, David's response to face him, and David's victory over Goliath through God's strength. In 1 Samuel 17, the Philistines gather for battle against Israel, and Goliath a formidable giant emerges as their champion. He challenges any Israelite soldier to engage in single combat with him, instilling fear in the hearts of the Israelite army.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 17, David arrives at the battlefield and witnesses Goliath's defiance of God. Filled with righteous anger, he offers himself as a challenger despite his youth and lack of experience in warfare. David's courage stands in stark contrast to the fear displayed by Saul and his soldiers.

1 Samuel 17 concludes with David facing Goliath and emerging victorious through God's strength. Although initially doubted by Saul, he is allowed to confront Goliath armed only with a sling and stones. Trusting in God's deliverance, David strikes down Goliath with a single stone from his sling a decisive blow that leads to the giant's death and subsequently beheads him using his own sword. This remarkable event showcases both David's faith in God and God's power working through an unlikely hero.

1 Samuel 17:1 Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim.

The Philistines gathered their armies together for battle and camped between two towns in Judah.

1. The Power of Preparation: Standing Firm in the Face of Pressure

2. The Enemy is Ready: Are You?

1. Ephesians 6:13-17, Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9, Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.

1 Samuel 17:2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines.

The men of Israel, led by Saul, gathered together and prepared to face the Philistines in battle.

1. God will fight for us if we stand firm in faith.

2. We must be ready to take a stand for what is right.

1. Exodus 14:14 - "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

2. Ephesians 6:13 - "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."

1 Samuel 17:3 And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and there was a valley between them.

The Philistines and Israel faced each other on two opposing mountains with a valley between them.

1. The Power of a Testimony: Learning to Follow God in the Midst of Conflict

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity: Relying on God's Strength

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord.

1 Samuel 17:4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

A Philistine champion named Goliath, from Gath, stood at a height of six cubits and a span.

1. David and Goliath: A Story of Faith

2. Overcoming Fear in the Face of the Unknown

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 17:5 And he had an helmet of brass upon his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass.

Goliath was prepared for battle with a helmet of brass and a coat of mail weighing five thousand shekels of brass.

1. The Power of Preparation: Learning from Goliath

2. The Weight of Our Armor: Putting on Spiritual Strength

1. Ephesians 6:10-18

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9

1 Samuel 17:6 And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders.

David was equipped with armor to fight Goliath, which included greaves of brass and a target of brass.

1. Victory through Faith in God: The Story of David and Goliath

2. The Power of Preparation: How David Was Equipped to Defeat Goliath

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Put on the whole armor of God

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

1 Samuel 17:7 And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron: and one bearing a shield went before him.

Goliath was a giant warrior who was heavily armed with a spear and shield. The spear's head weighed 600 shekels of iron.

1. Strength & Armor in the Lord: Lessons from Goliath

2. The Power of God: David's Victory over Goliath

1. Ephesians 6:11-18 (Put on the whole armor of God)

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57 (Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ)

1 Samuel 17:8 And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.

A Philistine challenges the Israelite army to send a man to fight him in single combat.

1. The Power of Single Combat: Seeing God's Might through Man's Strength

2. The Power of Unity: Overcoming Challenges through Standing Together

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Putting on the whole armor of God

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - Standing firm in the Lord's strength

1 Samuel 17:9 If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.

The Philistines offer a challenge to the Israelites: if the Israelites' champion can defeat the Philistines' champion, then the Philistines will be the Israelites' servants; but if the Philistines' champion defeats the Israelites' champion, then the Israelites must be the Philistines' servants.

1. Don't be afraid to stand up for your faith.

2. We are stronger together than we are alone.

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

1 Samuel 17:10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

This passage describes the Philistine s challenge to the Israelites to fight him one-on-one.

1. God's Strength Is Perfected in Weakness

2. Faith Over Fear

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.)

2. Isaiah 41:10-13 (Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.)

1 Samuel 17:11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Saul and all of Israel were greatly afraid when they heard the Philistine's words.

1. "Fear of the Unknown"

2. "Overcoming Fear through Faith"

1. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 56:3-4 "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

1 Samuel 17:12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehemjudah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of Saul.

Jesse had eight sons, one of which was David. He was an Ephrathite from Bethlehemjudah and was an old man in Saul's time.

1. The Strength of Family: Jesse and His Eight Sons 2. God's Timing: David's Rise to Prominence.

1. 1 Samuel 16:11-13 - God's choice of David as King of Israel 2. Psalm 78:70-71 - God's faithfulness to the House of Jesse.

1 Samuel 17:13 And the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

The three oldest sons of Jesse joined Saul for battle: Eliab, Abinadab, and Shammah.

1. "The Strength of Family: The Brothers of David"

2. "Commitment to the Cause: The Loyalty of the Sons of Jesse"

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Proverbs 18:24 - "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Samuel 17:14 And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

David was the youngest of the four sons of Jesse who followed Saul.

1. God often uses the least likely to accomplish His purposes.

2. God's ways are not our ways.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27 - But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 17:15 But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

David left Saul to go back to Bethlehem to take care of his father's sheep.

1. God calls us to serve Him in every circumstance of our lives.

2. God is faithful to provide for us in times of need.

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Samuel 17:16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

The Philistine presented himself to the Israelites for forty days, both morning and evening.

1. The Power of Patience: Overcoming Difficulties through Diligence

2. Standing Firm in Faith: Refusing to Give Up in the Face of Adversity

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 - We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.

1 Samuel 17:17 And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren.

Jesse instructs his son David to take a measure of parched corn and ten loaves of bread to his brothers at the camp.

1. The Power of Provision: Jesus' Provision for Our Needs

2. A Father's Love: The Example of Jesse and David

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

1 Samuel 17:18 And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look how thy brethren fare, and take their pledge.

David was given ten cheeses to take to the Captain of the thousand to inquire after the welfare of his brothers and to accept their pledge.

1. Faith in God will lead to victory in the face of adversity.

2. God provides for all of our needs in unexpected ways.

1. Romans 8:31: "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 23:1: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

1 Samuel 17:19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

Saul and the Israelites were in the valley of Elah to fight against the Philistines.

1. Courage in the Face of Fear: Lessons from David and Goliath

2. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Adversity with the Lord s Help

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

1 Samuel 17:20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

David rose early in the morning, left his sheep with a keeper, and went to the battlefield to join the fight, shouting for battle.

1. We must be ready to act when God calls us into battle.

2. God can give us courage and strength to face any challenge.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

1 Samuel 17:21 For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

The armies of Israel and the Philistines were preparing to go to war.

1. We must be prepared to fight the battles of life with courage and faith.

2. God's strength will be enough to overcome any adversity we face.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 17:22 And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

David left his carriage with the caretaker and ran to join his brothers in the army.

1. Trust in God and He will provide the strength to face any challenge.

2. We are all one family and must come together in times of need.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

1 Samuel 17:23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.

David heard the words of Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, as he spoke to the Israelite armies.

1. We must confront the challenges that come our way with courage and faith.

2. God will provide us with the strength and resources to overcome our enemies.

1. 1 Samuel 17:23

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

1 Samuel 17:24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

The men of Israel were terrified when they saw the Philistine giant, Goliath.

1. We must not be afraid of giants in our lives.

2. God can help us overcome any fear and obstacle.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 1 John 4:18 - "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love."

1 Samuel 17:25 And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

The men of Israel declared that anyone who kills the man who has come to defy them, will be rewarded great riches, the king's daughter, and freedom for their family in Israel.

1. God always rewards those who serve Him faithfully.

2. God provides strength and protection to those who follow Him.

1. Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

1 Samuel 17:26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

David spoke to those around him and asked what reward should be given to the person who kills the Philistine and removes the reproach from Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: Overcoming the Unthinkable

2. The Importance of Defending God s Name

1. Hebrews 11:32-34 - And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Samuel 17:27 And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

The people of Israel responded to David's challenge of facing Goliath with the promise that if he killed Goliath, they would honor him.

1. The Power of Faith: How David Faced Goliath with Courage

2. The Strength of Community: How the People of Israel Supported David

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the full armor of God

2. Joshua 1:9 - Being strong and courageous

1 Samuel 17:28 And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

Eliab, David's eldest brother, became angry when he heard David speaking to the men and questioned why he had come down and why he had left the sheep in the wilderness. He accused David of pride and naughtiness of heart.

1. God's Love Overcomes Anger - 1 John 4:18

2. The Power of God's Forgiveness - Isaiah 43:25

1. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1 Samuel 17:29 And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

David questioned why he was being criticized for his actions, asking "Is there not a cause?".

1. True Courage Comes From Faith in God

2. Overcoming Opposition with Confidence in God

1. Romans 10:11 - For the Scripture says, Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

1 Samuel 17:30 And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

People responded to David in the same manner regardless of who he spoke to.

1. The Power of Repetition - How repetition can help us stand strong in our faith.

2. The Power of Unity - How working together as one can make us stronger.

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - "Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

1 Samuel 17:31 And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

David's faith and courage inspired the men of Israel to rally behind him against Goliath.

1. The power of faith and courage to inspire others.

2. The importance of standing up for what is right, even when it seems impossible.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Matthew 5:38-41 - You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

1 Samuel 17:32 And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

David encourages Saul to be brave and fight the Philistine.

1. Courage in the Face of Adversity

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

1 Samuel 17:33 And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

Saul discourages David from going up against the Philistine Goliath because of the great disparity in their ages and war experience.

1. The power of faith: How David's faith in God overcame insurmountable odds.

2. Overcoming fear: How courage and trust in God can help us conquer our fears.

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - The Armor of God.

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - Be brave and strong.

1 Samuel 17:34 And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

David recounts to Saul an experience of encountering a lion and a bear while tending his father's flock.

1. Be Courageous: An Exposition of David's Confrontation of a Lion and a Bear

2. God's Faithfulness: An Examination of David's Trust in the Lord While Confronting a Lion and a Bear

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

2. 1 John 4:4 - "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

1 Samuel 17:35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.

David fought and defeated Goliath with a single stone from his sling.

1. God equips us to face seemingly insurmountable challenges.

2. Our faith can be more powerful than any weapon.

1. Matthew 17:20 - "He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

1 Samuel 17:36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.

David confidently declares to King Saul that he will defeat Goliath, even though the Philistine giant has defied the armies of the living God.

1. David's Bold Faith: Standing Strong in the Face of Adversity

2. Developing Courage and Conviction: Overcoming Fear and Doubt

1. 1 John 4:4 - "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

1 Samuel 17:37 David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

David was confident that the Lord would deliver him from the Philistine and Saul encouraged him to go and fight with the Lord's help.

1. God provides strength and encouragement in times of difficulty.

2. Trust in the Lord's power to overcome obstacles.

1. Romans 15:4 - For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

1 Samuel 17:38 And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail.

Saul outfitted David with armor, including a brass helmet and a coat of mail.

1. The Armor of God: How We Rely on God's Protection in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Faith: How David Faced Goliath With Confidence in God

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armour of God

2. Isaiah 11:5 - Righteousness shall be the belt of his loins, and faithfulness the belt of his waist

1 Samuel 17:39 And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

David, being a young man, was unable to wear Saul's armor and weaponry as he had not yet been trained to use it. He therefore returned it to Saul.

1. God equips each of us for the task He has for us.

2. We must be faithful and willing to take on the challenges that God puts before us.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Matthew 4:4 But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

1 Samuel 17:40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

David took five stones from a brook and put them in his shepherd's bag. He also had a sling in his hand and approached the Philistine.

1. God equips us with the tools we need to face our battles.

2. We must find courage in times of trial and have faith in the Lord's provision.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

1 Samuel 17:41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him.

David faced off against the Philistine in battle with a shield bearer standing in front of him.

1. The courage of David in the face of a seemingly insurmountable challenge

2. The importance of having a support system in difficult times

1. Joshua 1:9 Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

1 Samuel 17:42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

The Philistine saw David and disdained him because of his youth and appearance.

1. God uses the weak and unlikely to accomplish his will.

2. We must not judge by appearances, but with God's eyes.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27-28 - "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

1 Samuel 17:43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

The Philistine mockingly asked David why he was approaching him with a staff, then cursed him by his gods.

1. We should never be intimidated by our obstacles, no matter how powerful they may seem.

2. We must not lose heart when we are mocked for believing in God.

1. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

2. Hebrews 10:35-36 - Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what is promised.

1 Samuel 17:44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

The Philistine challenged David to come to him and promised that his flesh would be given to the birds and animals.

1. The power of faith in the face of fear

2. Overcoming obstacles with courage

1. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1 Samuel 17:45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

David, the future king of Israel, courageously confronts Goliath, the Philistine champion, and declares that he comes in the name of the LORD of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: How David's Faith in the Lord Enabled Him to Slay Goliath

2. Standing Firm in Our Faith: A Study of David's Courage in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2. Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

1 Samuel 17:46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

David states that God will deliver the Philistine Goliath into his hand and he will smite him and take his head, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

1. The Power of Faith in God

2. The Strength of God in Difficult Situations

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 17:47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hands.

The Lord will provide victory in battle, not through swords and spears, but through His power.

1. "The Lord Our Victory" - A about God's power to provide victory in battle.

2. "The Lord Our Help" - A about how God is our source of help in times of need.

1. Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

1 Samuel 17:48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came, and drew nigh to meet David, that David hastened, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

David ran to meet the Philistine army in battle.

1. Overcoming Fear with Faith

2. Stepping out in Courage

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

1 Samuel 17:49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

David defeated the Philistine by slinging a stone at him which sunk into his forehead, causing him to fall face first to the ground.

1. God's strength comes in many forms, and sometimes even in the most unlikely of places.

2. Victory is found in trusting in the Lord and his power, no matter the circumstance.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

1 Samuel 17:50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

David defeats Goliath with only a sling and a stone.

1. The power of faith and courage: how David conquered Goliath with no sword.

2. The faithfulness of God: how God blessed David with victory against Goliath.

1. Psalm 20:7: Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57: But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Samuel 17:51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

David defeated the Philistine champion by cutting off his head with his sword. When the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

1. Courage in the Face of Adversity: The Story of David and Goliath

2. The Power of Faith: How David Overcame the Giant

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

1 Samuel 17:52 And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron.

The people of Israel and Judah rose up and shouted in pursuit of the Philistines until they reached the gates of Ekron. The Philistines were wounded and fell along the way from Shaaraim to Gath and Ekron.

1. The Power of Faith: How the People of Israel and Judah Overcame the Philistines

2. The Strength of Unity: How Working Together Led to Victory

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

1 Samuel 17:53 And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents.

The Israelites defeated the Philistines in battle and looted their tents.

1. God is our provider of victory and provision.

2. Faithful obedience brings God's blessing.

1. 2 Chronicles 20:20-22 - Believe in the Lord your God and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.

2. Joshua 6:16-20 - The Lord gave the people of Israel victory over Jericho by marching around the city with the Ark of the Covenant.

1 Samuel 17:54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

David killed the Philistine and brought his head to Jerusalem, but kept his armor in his tent.

1. Victory in Christ: Overcoming Challenges in Life

2. Defending Our Faith: Standing Up for God in Times of Adversity

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57 - Victory in Christ Through His Death and Resurrection

1 Samuel 17:55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, whose son is this youth? And Abner said, As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell.

Saul questions Abner about the identity of David, the young man going to fight the Philistine.

1. Even when we do not know the identity of someone, we can still recognize their courage and strength.

2. We are all capable of great things if we have faith and courage.

1. John 8:12- "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

1 Samuel 17:56 And the king said, Enquire thou whose son the stripling is.

King Saul inquires about the identity of the young man who has come to challenge the Philistine champion.

1. "A Stripling's Courage: Reflections on 1 Samuel 17:56"

2. "A Young Man's Faith: Learning from 1 Samuel 17:56"

1. Matthew 17:20 ("He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you. )

2. Isaiah 40:31 ("but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.")

1 Samuel 17:57 And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.

David defeats the Philistine Goliath and returns with the head of the Philistine in his hand, where he is met by Abner and brought to Saul.

1. What does David's victory over Goliath teach us about faith?

2. How can we apply David's faith in God to our lives today?

1. 1 Corinthians 15:10 - But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

1 Samuel 17:58 And Saul said to him, Whose son art thou, thou young man? And David answered, I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

Saul asked David who his father was and David replied that he was the son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, his servant.

1. Overcoming Fear Through Faith: The Story of David and Goliath

2. Choosing Courage Over Cowardice: A Lesson from David

1. 1 John 4:18: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear."

2. Isaiah 41:10: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 18 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 18:1-9 introduces the close friendship between David and Jonathan, Saul's son. In this chapter, David's victories in battle gain him favor and admiration among the people of Israel. Jonathan, recognizing David's valor, forms a deep bond with him and makes a covenant of friendship. However, Saul becomes increasingly jealous of David's popularity and success.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 18:10-19, it recounts Saul's growing animosity towards David. As Saul observes David's achievements and popularity, he becomes consumed by jealousy and fear that David may usurp his throne. This leads to a troubling spirit from God tormenting Saul. In an attempt to remove the perceived threat posed by David, Saul hurls a spear at him twice but fails to harm him.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 18 concludes with Saul's attempts to manipulate circumstances against David. In verses such as 1 Samuel 18:20-30, it is mentioned that Saul devises a plan to have David marry his daughter Michal in hopes that she will become a snare for him. However, when the time comes for Michal to be given to David as his wife, she loves him genuinely and warns him of her father s schemes. This further infuriates Saul who sees this as another sign of increasing favor towards David.

In summary:

1 Samuel 18 presents:

The close friendship between David and Jonathan;

Saul's growing animosity towards David;

Saul's attempts to manipulate circumstances against David.

Emphasis on:

The close friendship between David and Jonathan;

Saul's growing animosity towards Davi;

Saul's attempts to manipulate circumstances against Davi.

The chapter focuses on the deep friendship between David and Jonathan, Saul's increasing animosity towards David, and Saul's attempts to manipulate circumstances against him. In 1 Samuel 18, David's victories in battle lead to his growing popularity among the people of Israel. Jonathan recognizes David's valor and forms a covenant of friendship with him. However, Saul becomes jealous of David's success.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 18, Saul's jealousy intensifies as he observes David's achievements and popularity. He grows fearful that David may threaten his kingship. This jealousy consumes Saul to the point where he is tormented by a troubling spirit from God. In an attempt to harm or eliminate David, Saul hurls a spear at him twice but fails to harm him.

1 Samuel 18 concludes with Saul resorting to manipulative tactics against David. He plans for David to marry his daughter Michal in hopes that she will become a snare for him. However, Michal genuinely loves David and warns him of her father s schemes, further infuriating Saul who sees this as another sign of increasing favor towards David. This chapter highlights the complex dynamics between loyalty and envy within relationships while showcasing both Jonathan's unwavering friendship towards David and Saul s growing hostility towards him.

1 Samuel 18:1 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

Jonathan and David formed a strong bond and Jonathan loved David deeply.

1. The Power of Soul-Deep Connections

2. The Strength of Family Love

1. Philippians 2:1-4 - "So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind."

2. Romans 12:9-10 - "Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

1 Samuel 18:2 And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house.

Saul took David and did not let him go home to his father's house.

1. The Power of Commitment: How David's Unwavering Loyalty to Saul Led to Great Success

2. The Faithfulness of God: How Saul's Faithfulness to David Was Rewarded

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2. Galatians 6:9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

1 Samuel 18:3 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

Jonathan and David form a covenant of friendship due to their strong bond of love.

1. The Bond of Friendship: How Our Connections Strengthen Us

2. The Power of Love: The True Foundation of Relationships

1. Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."

2. John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends."

1 Samuel 18:4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

Jonathan gave David his robe, sword, bow and belt as a sign of friendship and loyalty.

1. The Value of Friendship: Jonathan and David's Loyalty

2. The Power of Giving: Kindness Through Sacrificial Gifts

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Samuel 18:5 And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely: and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

David went wherever Saul sent him and acted wisely, causing Saul to put him in charge of the men of war. He was accepted by both the people and Saul's servants.

1. Trust in the Lord and lean not on your own understanding; He will guide you to success and acceptance.

2. Follow God's commands and be wise in all your ways; He will provide you with opportunities for blessing.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2. 1 Peter 3:15 "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

1 Samuel 18:6 And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.

When David returned from defeating the Philistine, the women of Israel came out of all cities to greet him with tabrets, joy, and musical instruments.

1. The Power of Praise: How Celebrating the Victories of Others Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. Rejoicing Together: The Joy of United Celebration

1. Psalm 47:1 - "Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy."

2. 1 Chronicles 16:23-24 - "Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples."

1 Samuel 18:7 And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

Saul and David's victory in battle is celebrated by the women of Israel.

1. The Power of Faith: Saul and David's story of faith and victory

2. The Power of a Name: How Saul and David's names were celebrated by the people of Israel

1. 1 Chronicles 16:8-12 - Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name; make known His deeds among the peoples

2. Psalm 9:1-2 - I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds

1 Samuel 18:8 And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom?

Saul was angered after learning that David had been praised for his heroic deeds over him, and he became jealous, questioning why David had been given so much more than him.

1. Jealousy Is a Sin: Recognizing and Overcoming Envy

2. Learning to Appreciate and Celebrate the Success of Others

1. Proverbs 14:30 - "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

1 Samuel 18:9 And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.

Saul became jealous of David and began to watch him from then on.

1. We should be on guard against the temptation of jealousy and envy.

2. God's favor can be a blessing and a source of temptation.

1. James 3:16 - For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

2. Psalm 25:16 - Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

1 Samuel 18:10 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand.

The next day, Saul was filled with an evil spirit from God and began prophesying in his house. David played his music as usual, and Saul had a javelin in his hand.

1. The Power of Music: How it Can Overcome Evil

2. Saul's Warning: The Danger of Pride

1. Psalm 150:6 - Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

1 Samuel 18:11 And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

Saul attempted to kill David twice by throwing a javelin at him, but David managed to dodge it both times.

1. God's Protection: How God Can Keep You Safe from Any Attack

2. The Power of Faith: How Believing in God Can Help You Overcome Any Obstacle

1. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord.

1 Samuel 18:12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul.

Saul became fearful of David because the Lord was with him and had departed from Saul.

1. The Power of the Lord: How God's Presence Can Transform our Lives

2. The Fear of the Lord: How Knowing God Can Change our Attitudes

1. Isaiah 8:13 - "Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."

2. Psalm 34:9 - "Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing."

1 Samuel 18:13 Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

Saul appoints David to lead a thousand men, making him a captain in the army.

1. God opens doors for us when we are faithful.

2. God prepares us for the future with the gifts He has given us.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 18:14 And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the LORD was with him.

David was wise in his ways and the Lord was with him.

1. "Wisdom is following the Lord"

2. "The Lord's Presence is a Blessing"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

1 Samuel 18:15 Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

Saul was impressed by David's wise behavior and became fearful of him.

1. God's wisdom will make you stand out from the crowd and even intimidate your enemies.

2. Be thankful for the wisdom God gives you and use it to glorify Him.

1. Proverbs 2:6-7 For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity.

2. Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

1 Samuel 18:16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

All of Israel and Judah loved David because he was a strong leader.

1. The Power of Leadership: How David Won the Hearts of Israel and Judah

2. Loving David: Why Israel and Judah Welcomed Him

1. Acts 9:31- So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

2. Psalm 18:2- The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

1 Samuel 18:17 And Saul said to David, Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight the LORD's battles. For Saul said, Let not mine hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.

Saul offered his daughter Merab to David if he would fight the LORD's battles for him, so that Saul's hand would not be upon David.

1. The Courage of David: A Model for Our Times

2. The Power of Faith: A Lesson from David

1. Matthew 10:38 ("And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.")

2. Joshua 1:9 ("Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.")

1 Samuel 18:18 And David said unto Saul, Who am I? and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son in law to the king?

David questions why he would be chosen by Saul to be his son-in-law.

1. How to Recognize God's Call in Your Life

2. Faith, Humility, and Obedience in Times of Uncertainty

1. Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Philippians 2:3-8 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death even death on a cross!

1 Samuel 18:19 But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to wife.

Merab, Saul's daughter, was originally intended to be betrothed to David, but was instead given to Adriel the Meholathite.

1. The importance of trusting God's plan over our own.

2. God's timing is always perfect.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

1 Samuel 18:20 And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

Michal, the daughter of Saul, loved David, and Saul was pleased by it.

1. Love that Pleases God: How our love for one another can bring joy to the Lord.

2. The Blessing of Love: How God can use our love for one another to bring about blessings.

1. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

1 Samuel 18:21 And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him. Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son in law in the one of the twain.

Saul promises to give his daughter to David as a wife, hoping it will be a snare to him and draw the anger of the Philistines.

1. The Power of Covenant and Love in God's Plan

2. The Strength of Human Relationships and Its Limits

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9- Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor.

1 Samuel 18:22 And Saul commanded his servants, saying, Commune with David secretly, and say, Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee: now therefore be the king's son in law.

Saul commanded his servants to tell David that the king was pleased with him and all his servants loved him, and therefore should become the king's son-in-law.

1. The Power of Love: How Love Can Change Lives

2. Serving Others With Excellence: The Power of Commitment

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus s commandment to love God and love others

2. Ephesians 5:25-27 - Paul s instructions to husbands to love their wives as Christ loves the church

1 Samuel 18:23 And Saul's servants spake those words in the ears of David. And David said, Seemeth it to you a light thing to be a king's son in law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?

David is asked to become the king's son in law and he responds by questioning if it would be an easy thing to do, considering his current financial and social status.

1. God's grace and provision can be found in unlikely places.

2. Our confidence in God should outweigh any fear of our social status.

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 18:24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.

The servants of Saul reported to him that David had spoken in this manner.

1. God's faithfulness in times of challenge

2. God's provision in times of need

1. 1 Samuel 18:24

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, "But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

1 Samuel 18:25 And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

Saul demanded that David bring 100 Philistine foreskins as a dowry in order to marry his daughter, Michal, in an attempt to get him killed by the Philistines.

1. God's Plans are Greater than Our Circumstances - Romans 8:28

2. Faith in the Midst of Adversity - Hebrews 11:1-2

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Samuel 18:26 And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son in law: and the days were not expired.

David was pleased to be King Saul's son-in-law and the days for the arrangement to be finalized were not yet expired.

1. The Joy of Serving a King: A Look at 1 Samuel 18:26

2. How to Make the Most of Your Time: Learning from David in 1 Samuel 18:26

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.

2. Romans 12:11 - Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

1 Samuel 18:27 Wherefore David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full tale to the king, that he might be the king's son in law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife.

Saul gave David his daughter Michal in marriage after David killed 200 Philistines and brought their foreskins to prove his victory.

1. A Story of Courageous Faith: Examining the story of David and Saul in 1 Samuel 18

2. The Significance of Marriage: Exploring the Covenant of Marriage in 1 Samuel 18

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Ephesians 5:25-33 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church for we are members of his body.

1 Samuel 18:28 And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

Saul recognizes that David is favored by the Lord and that his daughter, Michal, loves him.

1. God's favor is greater than any earthly love.

2. When God is with us, He will accomplish great things.

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 33:18-22 - But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you.

1 Samuel 18:29 And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

Saul was increasingly fearful of David and regarded him as an enemy.

1. Fear can cause us to act out of hatred and resentment towards our friends and family.

2. We must strive to choose love over fear in order to prevent unnecessary conflict.

1. Proverbs 14:16 - One who is wise is cautious and turns from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.

2. 1 John 4:18 - There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

1 Samuel 18:30 Then the princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass, after they went forth, that David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by.

The princes of the Philistines went forth and David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, causing his name to be highly regarded.

1. God empowers us to do great things and to be a light in the world.

2. When we are faithful to God, our actions and reputation will be highly regarded.

1. Philippians 2:15 - "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world."

2. Proverbs 10:7 - "The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot."

1 Samuel 19 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 19:1-7 introduces Saul's continued pursuit of David and Jonathan's intervention. In this chapter, Saul discusses his plan to kill David with his son Jonathan and other servants. However, Jonathan, who remains loyal to David, persuades his father not to harm him by reminding Saul of David's loyalty and the benefits he brings to the kingdom. As a result, Saul relents temporarily but later resumes his pursuit of David.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 19:8-17, it recounts Saul's attempts to kill David and Michal's assistance in his escape. Saul becomes increasingly consumed by jealousy and fear of David's rising popularity. He throws a spear at him while he is playing music but misses. Realizing that her husband is in danger, Michal warns David about her father s plans and helps him escape through a window.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 19 concludes with David seeking refuge with Samuel and encountering prophetic experiences. In verses such as 1 Samuel 19:18-24, it is mentioned that after escaping from Saul's house, David goes to Ramah where Samuel resides. When Saul sends messengers to capture him there, they are overcome by the Spirit of God and start prophesying instead. This happens three times until eventually even Saul himself comes to Ramah but also falls under the influence of the Spirit.

In summary:

1 Samuel 19 presents:

Saul's continued pursuit of Davi;

Jonathan's intervention on behalf of Davi;

David seeking refuge with Samue;

Emphasis on:

Saul's continued pursuit of Davi;

Jonathan's intervention on behalf of Davi;

David seeking refuge with Samue;

The chapter focuses on Saul's relentless pursuit of David, Jonathan's intervention to protect him, and David seeking refuge with Samuel. In 1 Samuel 19, Saul discusses his plan to kill David with Jonathan and others. However, Jonathan convinces Saul not to harm David by reminding him of David's loyalty and the benefits he brings to the kingdom. Despite this temporary respite, Saul resumes his pursuit of David.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 19, Saul becomes increasingly consumed by jealousy and fear towards David. He attempts to kill him by throwing a spear at him while he is playing music but fails to hit his target. Recognizing the danger faced by her husband, Michal warns David about her father's plans and assists him in escaping through a window.

1 Samuel 19 concludes with David seeking refuge with Samuel in Ramah. When Saul sends messengers to capture him there, they are overcome by the Spirit of God and start prophesying instead. This happens three times until even Saul himself comes to Ramah but also falls under the influence of the Spirit. This chapter showcases both Jonathan's loyalty towards David amidst his father's hostility and God's protection over David as he seeks sanctuary with Samuel.

1 Samuel 19:1 And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.

Saul commanded Jonathan and his servants to kill David.

1. When we are consumed by envy and jealousy, it can lead us to do terrible things.

2. We must guard against our own sinful desires and trust in God's plan for our lives.

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

2. Matthew 5:43-45 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

1 Samuel 19:2 But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself:

Jonathan, Saul's son, warned David that Saul was trying to kill him, and instructed him to hide until morning.

1. The importance of loyalty in relationships.

2. Learning to trust those who are looking out for your best interests.

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Samuel 19:3 And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.

Saul sends men to capture David, so David flees and goes to his father's field to speak with him about Saul.

1. God is always with us, even in difficult times.

2. We can find strength in our relationships with family and friends.

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Proverbs 18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Samuel 19:4 And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good:

Jonathan spoke positively of David to Saul, his father, and defended David by pointing out that he had not sinned against Saul and had done good works.

1. "Good Works Speak Louder than Words"

2. "The Power of Positive Thinking"

1. Galatians 6:9 - "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

2. James 2:18 - "Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works."

1 Samuel 19:5 For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?

The Lord worked a great salvation for Israel when David slew the Philistine, and Saul should not sin against innocent blood by slaying David without cause.

1. The Lord's Great Salvation and His Mercy on Israel

2. The Power of Innocence in the Face of Evil

1. Psalm 9:7-8 - "The LORD shall be known when he executeth judgments: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

2. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

1 Samuel 19:6 And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain.

Saul listened to Jonathan and promised that he would not kill David.

1. The Power of Friendship: How Jonathan's words protected David.

2. God's Promise of Protection: When we trust in the Lord, He will keep us safe.

1. Proverbs 18:24, "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 19:7 And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.

Jonathan brought David to Saul's presence, as had been done in the past.

1. The Importance of Tradition in Our Lives

2. Loyalty and Friendship in Difficult Times

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Ephesians 6:24 - Grace be with all of those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

1 Samuel 19:8 And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.

David fought with the Philistines and defeated them in a great battle.

1. The Power of Faith: How David's Faith in God Led to Victory

2. Overcoming Adversity: How David's Determination Led to Triumph

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 31:24 - Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

1 Samuel 19:9 And the evil spirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.

The LORD sent an evil spirit to overtake Saul while David played music.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty Amidst Our Struggles

2. The Power of Music in Worship

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Chronicles 16:23-27 - Sing to the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.

1 Samuel 19:10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin, but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

Saul attempted to kill David by throwing a javelin at him, but David fled and escaped the danger.

1. God will protect us from the dangers of life if we remain faithful to him.

2. We must always trust in God's plan and guidance even when we are in danger.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 19:11 Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain.

Passage Saul sent messengers to David's house to kill him and Michal warned him that he would be killed unless he saved himself.

1. Our Choices Have Consequences: Learning from the Story of David and Saul

2. When Your Life is in Danger: Trusting in God's Protection

1. Psalm 91:14-15 - "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him."

2. Proverbs 22:3 - "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished."

1 Samuel 19:12 So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped.

Michal helped David escape by letting him down through a window.

1. Trusting in God's protection in times of danger

2. The power of faith-fueled courage

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

1 Samuel 19:13 And Michal took an image, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth.

Michal takes an image and places it in a bed, with a pillow of goats' hair and a cloth to cover it.

1. Understanding the Power of Symbols: How We Represent Our Faith

2. The Significance of Michal's Actions: How Our Choices Reflect Our Beliefs

1. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

1 Samuel 19:14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick.

Saul sent messengers to take David, but his wife, Michal, told them he was sick.

1. God can use the most unlikely people to accomplish His purposes.

2. We should always be ready to answer God's call even when it seems impossible.

1. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 19:15 And Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.

Saul sent messengers to capture David so that he could kill him.

1. Understand the consequences of jealousy and how it can lead to destructive behavior.

2. Recognize the importance of not seeking revenge or retribution, but instead allowing God to handle the situation.

1. Romans 12:17-19 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Matthew 5:43-44 You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

1 Samuel 19:16 And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster.

A messenger arrives, and discovers a carved image in the bed with a pillow of goats' hair for a bolster.

1: We must be careful to make sure that our homes are free of idols and images that detract from our worship of God.

2: We can learn from the example of Samuel to be obedient and faithful to God even in difficult circumstances.

1: Exodus 20:4-6 - You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

2: 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

1 Samuel 19:17 And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?

Saul accused Michal of helping David escape, and Michal defended her actions by saying that David asked her to let him go and she did not want to kill him.

1. Trusting God's plan when it is difficult to understand.

2. The power of mercy and kindness in difficult situations.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

1 Samuel 19:18 So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.

David fled from Saul and told Samuel all that Saul had done. They then went and lived in Naioth.

1. The Power of Escaping Temptation

2. Knowing When to Flee from Danger

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

1 Samuel 19:19 And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.

Saul was informed that David was at Naioth in Ramah.

1. Focusing on What Matters Most: The Story of Saul and David

2. Following God's Path: Learning from the Life of David

1. Psalm 18:1-3 - "I love you, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 19:20 And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

Saul sent messengers to capture David, but when they arrived they were overcome by the Spirit of God and ended up prophesying along with the prophets.

1. God's power is greater than our own, and when we surrender and accept it, it can do amazing things.

2. Don't be afraid to let God take control and make you into something greater than you could ever be alone.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 19:21 And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also.

Saul sent messengers to find out what David was doing, and the messengers all prophesied the same thing.

1. We can learn from Saul's example of looking for the truth through multiple sources.

2. God's truth will remain the same no matter who we ask.

1. Proverbs 18:17 - The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

1 Samuel 19:22 Then went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that is in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where are Samuel and David? And one said, Behold, they be at Naioth in Ramah.

David and Samuel had gone to Naioth in Ramah and Saul had gone looking for them.

1: God is in control even when it seems like chaos is reigning.

2: God will always provide for us and guide us in the right direction, even if it is not the one we would have chosen.

1: Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 23:4, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

1 Samuel 19:23 And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.

Saul sent men to capture David, but when they arrived at Naioth in Ramah, the Spirit of God came upon David and he prophesied until he reached Naioth.

1. God's Spirit can empower us to overcome any obstacles we face.

2. When we have the Spirit of God, we can be fearless and bold in our faith.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 10:19-20 - "But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

1 Samuel 19:24 And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?

Saul stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel, and lay naked for an entire day and night, leading people to ask if Saul was also a prophet.

1. "A Change of Clothes: How Saul's Actions Reveal His Transformation"

2. "The Journey of Saul: From King to Prophet"

1. Jonah 3:4-6 - Jonah proclaimed God's message in Nineveh after being commanded to do so

2. Matthew 3:4-6 - John the Baptist preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins

1 Samuel 20 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 20:1-10 introduces the covenant between Jonathan and David. In this chapter, David seeks Jonathan's help in understanding Saul's intentions towards him. They devise a plan for David to hide during the new moon feast while Jonathan observes Saul's reaction. If Saul shows no hostility, it would indicate that David is safe. They make a covenant of friendship and loyalty to each other and agree on a signal to communicate.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 20:11-23, it recounts the new moon feast and Saul's reaction towards David's absence. During the feast, when Saul notices David's absence, he questions Jonathan about it. Jonathan initially tries to downplay the situation by stating that David received permission to visit his family in Bethlehem for an annual sacrifice. However, when Saul becomes angry and accuses Jonathan of siding with David against him, Jonathan realizes that his father indeed wants to harm David.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 20 concludes with Jonathan warning David about Saul's intentions and their farewell. In verses such as 1 Samuel 20:24-42, it is mentioned that after confirming his father s hostile intentions towards David, Jonathan goes out into the field where he had arranged to meet with him secretly. He shoots arrows beyond a stone marker as a signal for David regarding their plan of escape. The two friends bid farewell tearfully but promise each other loyalty forever.

In summary:

1 Samuel 20 presents:

The covenant between Jonathan and Davi;

Saul s reaction towards Davi;

Jonathan warning Davi about Sau;

Emphasis on:

The covenant between Jonathan and Davi;

Saul s reaction towards Davi;

Jonathan warning Davi about Sau;

The chapter focuses on the covenant between Jonathan and David, Saul's reaction towards David, and Jonathan warning David about Saul's intentions. In 1 Samuel 20, David seeks Jonathan's assistance in understanding Saul's attitude towards him. They devise a plan for David to hide during the new moon feast while Jonathan observes Saul's reaction. They make a covenant of friendship and loyalty to each other.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 20, during the new moon feast, Saul notices David's absence and questions Jonathan about it. Initially trying to downplay the situation, Jonathan eventually realizes that his father indeed wants to harm David when Saul becomes angry and accuses him of siding with David against him.

1 Samuel 20 concludes with Jonathan warning David about his father's intentions and their emotional farewell. After confirming that Saul intends harm towards David, Jonathan meets with him secretly in the field. He shoots arrows beyond a stone marker as a signal for their plan of escape. The two friends bid each other tearful farewells but promise lifelong loyalty to one another. This chapter highlights the deep bond between Jonathan and David as they navigate through dangerous circumstances while demonstrating their unwavering commitment to each other amidst adversity.

1 Samuel 20:1 And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done? what is mine iniquity? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life?

David flees from Naioth in Ramah and comes to Jonathan asking what he has done wrong and why his father is seeking his life.

1. The Power of Trust: Examining the Relationship between Jonathan and David

2. Fleeing from Trouble: What Can We Learn from David's Flight from Naioth

1. Psalm 54:3-4 - "For strangers are risen up against me, and oppressors seek after my soul: they have not set God before them. Selah. Behold, God is mine helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul."

2. Proverbs 18:10 - "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

1 Samuel 20:2 And he said unto him, God forbid; thou shalt not die: behold, my father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will shew it me: and why should my father hide this thing from me? it is not so.

David and Jonathan make a covenant and Jonathan promises to let David know of any news his father, King Saul, plans to do against him.

1. God's Promises: Trusting in God's Faithfulness

2. Making and Keeping Covenants: The Power of Mutual Commitment

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 20:3 And David sware moreover, and said, Thy father certainly knoweth that I have found grace in thine eyes; and he saith, Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved: but truly as the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death.

David makes a promise to Jonathan that he will keep his relationship with Jonathan a secret from his father, swearing with God as his witness.

1. "The Strength of a Promise"

2. "The Power of Loyalty"

1. 2 Corinthians 1:21 - For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

2. Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

1 Samuel 20:4 Then said Jonathan unto David, Whatsoever thy soul desireth, I will even do it for thee.

Jonathan promises to do whatever David desires.

1. Jonathan s Unconditional Love and Loyalty

2. The Power of Friendship

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Samuel 20:5 And David said unto Jonathan, Behold, to morrow is the new moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field unto the third day at even.

David tells Jonathan that he must leave the next day to hide himself in the field until the third day at evening.

1. God's plans may lead us to places of uncertainty, but His faithfulness remains constant.

2. When God calls us to a task, His grace provides us with the strength to complete it.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

1 Samuel 20:6 If thy father at all miss me, then say, David earnestly asked leave of me that he might run to Bethlehem his city: for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.

David asked Saul for permission to go to Bethlehem for a yearly family sacrifice.

1. The Power of Family: Celebrating the Significance of the Family Sacrifice

2. Obedience and Respect: Why We Should Follow God's Rules and Respect Authority

1. Colossians 3:18-21 - Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God.

1 Samuel 20:7 If he say thus, It is well; thy servant shall have peace: but if he be very wroth, then be sure that evil is determined by him.

Jonathan warns David that if Saul is very angry with him, then evil is determined against him.

1. God is in Control: Trusting God in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

1 Samuel 20:8 Therefore thou shalt deal kindly with thy servant; for thou hast brought thy servant into a covenant of the LORD with thee: notwithstanding, if there be in me iniquity, slay me thyself; for why shouldest thou bring me to thy father?

Jonathan, Saul's son, pleads with David to treat him kindly, even if he discovers any iniquity in him. He offers to be killed if any iniquity is found in him.

1. The Power of Covenant: How Our Promises to Others Can Impact Our Lives

2. The Sacrifice of Selflessness: Giving Up Our Own Lives for the Sake of Others

1. Matthew 5:36-37 - "Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay."

1 Samuel 20:9 And Jonathan said, Far be it from thee: for if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee?

Jonathan pledges his loyalty to David by vowing to never reveal any evil plans his father may have against him.

1. Loyalty in Times of Trouble: How to Remain Faithful When Faced with Difficult Decisions

2. The Power of Covenant Love: How to Foster an Unbreakable Bond with Those We Care For

1. Matthew 5:44 - "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"

2. Romans 12:10 - "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

1 Samuel 20:10 Then said David to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what if thy father answer thee roughly?

Jonathan's friendship with David is unconditional and he will help David even if his father responds harshly.

1: True friendship is unconditional, no matter the circumstances.

2: We must always be willing to help our friends, even when it is difficult.

1: John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

2: Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

1 Samuel 20:11 And Jonathan said unto David, Come, and let us go out into the field. And they went out both of them into the field.

Jonathan and David went out into the field together.

1. God calls us to be in community with others.

2. Be brave and take steps to pursue friendship.

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Samuel 20:12 And Jonathan said unto David, O LORD God of Israel, when I have sounded my father about to morrow any time, or the third day, and, behold, if there be good toward David, and I then send not unto thee, and shew it thee;

Jonathan vows to God that he will tell David if his father has anything good to say about him the next day or the day after.

1. God expects us to keep our promises, no matter how hard it may be.

2. The importance of loyalty in relationships.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 "When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it.

2. Romans 12:10 "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

1 Samuel 20:13 The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father to do thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace: and the LORD be with thee, as he hath been with my father.

Jonathan's loyalty to his friend David is demonstrated in his promise to alert him of any danger, even if it means disobeying his father.

1: A faithful friend is worth more than gold. Proverbs 18:24

2: God will be with us even in difficult times. Isaiah 41:10

1: Ruth 1:16-17 - And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

2: 2 Corinthians 5:21 - For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

1 Samuel 20:14 And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not:

Jonathan and David make a covenant, in which Jonathan promises to show David the kindness of the Lord until his death.

1. The Importance of Covenant Relationships

2. The Power of God's Kindness

1. Romans 15:5-7 - May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. John 15:12-14 - This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

1 Samuel 20:15 But also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth.

Jonathan makes a promise to his father David that his kindness to David's house will be everlasting, even if all the enemies of David are destroyed.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises, even when the odds are against us.

2. The importance of showing kindness and loyalty to our family and friends.

1. Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

2. Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

1 Samuel 20:16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, Let the LORD even require it at the hand of David's enemies.

Jonathan and David make a covenant to help each other against their enemies, trusting in God to help them.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

2. The Promises of a Covenant

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 18:24 - "One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

1 Samuel 20:17 And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

Jonathan loved David deeply and asked him to swear an oath.

1. Love is a strong bond that can help us to form deep relationships with others.

2. God calls us to love others as we love ourselves.

1. John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

2. Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Samuel 20:18 Then Jonathan said to David, To morrow is the new moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty.

Jonathan reminds David that the next day is the new moon, and he will be missed if he does not attend.

1. The importance of being present in the community of faith.

2. How can we foster relationships of love and support like Jonathan and David?

1. Proverbs 27:17, Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

2. Hebrews 10:25, And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.

1 Samuel 20:19 And when thou hast stayed three days, then thou shalt go down quickly, and come to the place where thou didst hide thyself when the business was in hand, and shalt remain by the stone Ezel.

Jonathan tells David to hide for three days near the stone Ezel, then return to the hiding place where he was when Saul was looking for him.

1. God can provide a safe haven for us during times of trouble.

2. God is always with us, even in our darkest hours.

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

1 Samuel 20:20 And I will shoot three arrows on the side thereof, as though I shot at a mark.

Jonathan instructs David to shoot three arrows as a signal to tell him where to come and meet him.

1. "The Power of Symbols in Faith"

2. "God's Faithful Covenant with His People"

1. Jeremiah 31:35-36 - "Thus says the Lord, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar-- the Lord of hosts is his name: 'If this fixed order departs from before me, declares the Lord, then shall the offspring of Israel cease from being a nation before me forever.'"

2. Matthew 28:16-20 - "Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

1 Samuel 20:21 And, behold, I will send a lad, saying, Go, find out the arrows. If I expressly say unto the lad, Behold, the arrows are on this side of thee, take them; then come thou: for there is peace to thee, and no hurt; as the LORD liveth.

Jonathan tells David that he will send a lad to find the arrows, and if the lad finds them and tells David that they are on his side, he can come to Jonathan in safety.

1. God is a God of peace and will protect us in times of difficulty

2. We must remember to take God's protection in times of danger

1. Psalm 46:11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

2. Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

1 Samuel 20:22 But if I say thus unto the young man, Behold, the arrows are beyond thee; go thy way: for the LORD hath sent thee away.

The Lord sent Jonathan away, instructing him to tell David that the arrows were beyond him.

1. Obey God s commands even when it doesn t make sense

2. Trust God s plan and purpose for our lives

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

1 Samuel 20:23 And as touching the matter which thou and I have spoken of, behold, the LORD be between thee and me for ever.

Jonathan and David make a covenant with each other before the Lord, agreeing that the Lord should be between them for eternity.

1. The Power of Covenant Relationships

2. The Faithfulness of God in Covenant Relationships

1. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1 Samuel 20:24 So David hid himself in the field: and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to eat meat.

David hid himself in a field when the new moon came, and the king sat down to eat.

1. God's protection is seen in the life of David.

2. How can we hide ourselves when we are in need of protection?

1. Psalm 27:5 - For in the day of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

2. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

1 Samuel 20:25 And the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, even upon a seat by the wall: and Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul's side, and David's place was empty.

Passage Saul was sitting on his throne with Abner beside him, but David's place was empty.

1. Facing the Fear of the Unknown: How to Deal with the Unexpected

2. The Need for Faithfulness: Staying Loyal to God in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

1 Samuel 20:26 Nevertheless Saul spake not any thing that day: for he thought, Something hath befallen him, he is not clean; surely he is not clean.

Saul did not say anything to Jonathan on that day because he thought that something had happened to him and that he was not ceremonially clean.

1. God's love and mercy can be found in the most unlikely places.

2. We are all capable of being cleansed, no matter our past.

1. Isaiah 1:18 Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

1 Samuel 20:27 And it came to pass on the morrow, which was the second day of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said unto Jonathan his son, Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to meat, neither yesterday, nor to day?

On the second day of the month, Saul noticed that David was not present for meals and asked his son Jonathan why he was not there.

1. God desires for us to have a relationship with Him, just as Saul desired David's presence.

2. We should bring our concerns and struggles to God, just as Saul asked Jonathan why David was not present.

1. Psalm 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

1 Samuel 20:28 And Jonathan answered Saul, David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem:

Jonathan tells Saul that David asked permission to go to Bethlehem.

1. How to be a Good Friend: The Example of Jonathan and David

2. God's Sovereignty in the Midst of Human Choices

1. 1 Samuel 20:28

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 20:29 And he said, Let me go, I pray thee; for our family hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me to be there: and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren. Therefore he cometh not unto the king's table.

Jonathan and David have a deep friendship, and Jonathan has asked David to come to a family sacrifice in the city. However, he is not allowed to come to the king's table.

1. The Power of Friendship: Celebrating Jonathan and David's Friendship

2. The Importance of Family: How Jonathan Prioritized His Family

1. Proverbs 18:24 - "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

1 Samuel 20:30 Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness?

Saul is angry with Jonathan for favoring David, and he insults him by calling him the son of a perverse rebellious woman.

1. God looks upon the heart, not outward appearances.

2. Love for God and others should take precedence over familial ties.

1. 1 Samuel 16:7 - "But the Lord said to Samuel, Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

2. Matthew 10:37 - Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

1 Samuel 20:31 For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the ground, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die.

Saul threatens to kill David because he fears that as long as David is alive, his own kingdom will not be established.

1. The Danger of Jealousy: The Story of Saul and David

2. The Consequence of Pride: The Kingdom of Saul

1. James 3:16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

2. Proverbs 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Samuel 20:32 And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him, Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done?

Jonathan protests Saul's intention to kill David, asking why he should be killed as he has done nothing wrong.

1. No life is beyond redemption.

2. Mercy, not wrath, is the path of righteousness.

1. Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2. John 8:11 Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.

1 Samuel 20:33 And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David.

Saul, out of jealousy for David, attempts to kill him with a javelin but Jonathan interferes, realizing Saul's intentions.

1. "God's Providence in the Face of Betrayal"

2. "The Power of Obedience to God's Will"

1. Matthew 10:28 - And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

2. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

1 Samuel 20:34 So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the second day of the month: for he was grieved for David, because his father had done him shame.

Jonathan was furious and refused to eat in response to his father's mistreatment of David.

1. The Power of Righteous Anger: How to Respond to Injustice

2. The Power of Love: How to Respond to Injustice with Compassion

1. Colossians 3:12-13 - "Put on then, as God s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

1 Samuel 20:35 And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him.

Jonathan and David went out to the field accompanied by a young boy.

1. A young boy's faithfulness to Jonathan and David

2. The importance of companionship in times of need

1. Proverbs 27:17 - "Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

2. John 15:12-14 - "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends."

1 Samuel 20:36 And he said unto his lad, Run, find out now the arrows which I shoot. And as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

Jonathan and his lad were shooting arrows and Jonathan told the lad to go find the arrows that he had shot.

1. God is with us, even when we don't understand what is going on.

2. Following God's commands can lead to unexpected outcomes.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. 1 John 2:17 - And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 Samuel 20:37 And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, Is not the arrow beyond thee?

Jonathan and a lad were looking for an arrow Jonathan had shot. Jonathan asked the lad if the arrow was beyond him.

1. How Can We Point Others in the Right Direction?

2. The Power of Asking Questions

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

2. Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

1 Samuel 20:38 And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, haste, stay not. And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master.

Jonathan's boy was sent away with arrows, and Jonathan shouted for him to hurry back.

1. God calls us to do difficult tasks, and we must respond quickly and prayerfully.

2. God often uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

1. Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

2. Psalm 119:60 - I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

1 Samuel 20:39 But the lad knew not any thing: only Jonathan and David knew the matter.

Jonathan and David knew something that the lad was unaware of.

1. We must be careful to guard our secrets and not share with those who may not be able to handle the truth.

2. Even when we feel close with someone, we must be mindful of protecting sensitive information.

1. Psalm 25:14: "The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant."

2. Proverbs 11:13: "A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter."

1 Samuel 20:40 And Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad, and said unto him, Go, carry them to the city.

Jonathan gave his weapons to his servant and instructed him to take them to the city.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following Instructions Even When We Don't Understand Them

2. The Reality of Sacrifice: Understanding the Cost of Following God's Will

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. Luke 16:10 - Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

1 Samuel 20:41 And as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of a place toward the south, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded.

David and Jonathan demonstrate their deep love and loyalty to one another through an emotional farewell.

1. The Power of True Friendship: Examining the Relationship between David and Jonathan.

2. The Significance of Loyalty: Lessons from the Farewell of David and Jonathan.

1. 1 John 4:7-12 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

1 Samuel 20:42 And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

Jonathan and David make a covenant with the Lord and David departs.

1. Keeping God in the Covenant: The Story of Jonathan and David

2. The Power of a Promise: The Importance of Keeping Covenants

1. Romans 15:5-7 - May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

1 Samuel 21 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 21:1-6 recounts David's visit to Ahimelech the priest and his request for provisions. In this chapter, David, fearing for his life after Saul's hostile intentions, goes to Nob and seeks assistance from Ahimelech. David lies to the priest about being on a secret mission from the king and requests bread for himself and his men. Since there is no ordinary bread available, Ahimelech offers them consecrated bread meant only for priests but makes an exception due to their urgent need.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 21:7-9, it describes David's encounter with Goliath's sword. As David departs from Nob, he goes to Gath the city of the Philistines hoping to find refuge there. However, when he is recognized as the slayer of their champion Goliath, he becomes fearful for his life once again. In order to escape harm, David pretends to be insane before Achish the king of Gath who dismisses him thinking that he poses no threat.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 21 concludes with David seeking refuge in a cave at Adullam and being joined by distressed individuals who become his followers. In verses such as 1 Samuel 21:10-15, it is mentioned that after leaving Gath, David finds shelter in a cave at Adullam. Soon after, people who are in distress or indebted join him there about four hundred men and they become known as "David's mighty men." Despite his own troubles and uncertainties, David assumes leadership over these individuals who rally around him.

In summary:

1 Samuel 21 presents:

David seeking assistance from Ahimelec;

David's encounter with Goliath's sword;

David seeking refuge in a cave at Adullam and gathering followers.

Emphasis on:

David seeking assistance from Ahimelec;

David's encounter with Goliath's sword;

David seeking refuge in a cave at Adullam and gathering followers.

The chapter focuses on David seeking assistance, his encounter with Goliath's sword, and his subsequent refuge in a cave at Adullam. In 1 Samuel 21, David, fearing for his life, visits Ahimelech the priest in Nob. He lies about being on a secret mission from the king and requests provisions for himself and his men. Ahimelech offers them consecrated bread due to their urgent need.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 21, as David departs from Nob, he goes to Gath but becomes fearful when recognized as the slayer of their champion Goliath. To escape harm, he pretends to be insane before Achish the king of Gath who dismisses him thinking that he poses no threat.

1 Samuel 21 concludes with David finding refuge in a cave at Adullam. Distressed individuals join him there about four hundred men who become known as "David's mighty men." Despite facing personal troubles and uncertainties, David assumes leadership over these individuals who gather around him. This chapter showcases both the resourcefulness of David as he seeks help during challenging times and the beginning of his journey towards building a loyal following.

1 Samuel 21:1 Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why art thou alone, and no man with thee?

David visited Ahimelech the priest in Nob and was asked why he was alone.

1. The importance of companionship in our faith journey

2. Learning to rely on God in times of loneliness

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

1 Samuel 21:2 And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed my servants to such and such a place.

David asked Ahimelech the priest to keep a secret mission that the king had assigned to him.

1. The importance of keeping secrets in service of God.

2. The importance of being obedient to authority.

1. Proverbs 11:13 - A gossip reveals secrets, but a trustworthy person keeps a confidence.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

1 Samuel 21:3 Now therefore what is under thine hand? give me five loaves of bread in mine hand, or what there is present.

David is asking Ahimelech the priest for five loaves of bread to sustain him on his journey.

1. The Power of Provision: How God Meets Our Needs.

2. The Unfailing Faithfulness of God: Even in Difficult Times.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus reminds us not to worry and that our heavenly Father will provide for us.

2. Philippians 4:19 - Paul reminds us that God will meet all of our needs according to His riches in glory.

1 Samuel 21:4 And the priest answered David, and said, There is no common bread under mine hand, but there is hallowed bread; if the young men have kept themselves at least from women.

The priest informed David that there was no ordinary bread available, but there was consecrated bread, but only if the young men had not been with any women.

1. The importance of living a holy and sanctified life.

2. The power of consecrated bread.

1. Hebrews 12:14 - Pursue holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

2. Exodus 12:17 - The Israelites were to eat the Passover with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

1 Samuel 21:5 And David answered the priest, and said unto him, Of a truth women have been kept from us about these three days, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy, and the bread is in a manner common, yea, though it were sanctified this day in the vessel.

David explains to the priest that he and his men have been without any female companionship for the last three days and that the bread they are eating is only common bread, even though it has been set apart for the day.

1. God's grace and provision, even in the midst of hard times.

2. How the faithfulness of God can be seen in the most unlikely of places.

1. Isaiah 25:6-8 - On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine the best of meats and the finest of wines.

7 On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations;

8 he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth.

2. Matthew 4:4 - Jesus answered, It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

1 Samuel 21:6 So the priest gave him hallowed bread: for there was no bread there but the shewbread, that was taken from before the LORD, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.

The priest gave David the sacred bread of the tabernacle, as there was no other bread available.

1) The Bread of Life: Why Jesus is the Only True Source of Spiritual Nourishment

2) The Priest's Generous Gift: What We Can Learn from David's Story

1) John 6:35 - "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

2) Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

1 Samuel 21:7 Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before the LORD; and his name was Doeg, an Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that belonged to Saul.

Doeg, an Edomite, was a chief of Saul's herdmen that had been detained before the LORD on a certain day.

1. The Faithfulness of God - How God is always there to provide us with the protection and guidance we need.

2. The Power of Patience - How patience and faith can help us endure difficult times.

1. Psalm 118:8 - It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

1 Samuel 21:8 And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.

David arrives at Ahimelech's house and inquires if there is any weaponry he can borrow for his urgent mission from the king.

1. The Power of Preparation: Why We Should Always Be Ready

2. Trust in God's Provision: Relying on the Lord Even When We Feel Unprepared

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

2. Proverbs 27:1 - "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring."

1 Samuel 21:9 And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take it: for there is no other save that here. And David said, There is none like that; give it me.

The priest tells David that he can take the sword of Goliath, which was the only one like it, and David agrees to take it.

1) "The Power of Faith: How David's Trust in God Enabled Him to Take Goliath's Sword"

2) "The Cost of Victory: Understanding the Significance of Goliath's Sword in David's Life"

1) Matthew 17:20 "He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

2) 1 Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Samuel 21:10 And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.

David flees from Saul out of fear and finds refuge in Achish the king of Gath.

1. God provides refuge and protection in times of fear and danger.

2. God is faithful and will never leave us even when we are facing persecution.

1. Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 21:11 And the servants of Achish said unto him, Is not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

Achish's servants recognized David as the king of the land. They celebrated his victory by singing about Saul having slain his thousands and David his ten thousands.

1. The Power of Praise: Celebrating God's Victories in our Lives

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Learning from David's Example

1. 1 Chronicles 16:8-9 - Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

2. Psalm 136:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.

1 Samuel 21:12 And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath.

David was afraid of King Achish of Gath and remembered what had happened.

1. God can use our fears to help us to remember important lessons and grow closer to Him.

2. When we are afraid of something, we can turn to God for strength and guidance.

1. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

2. Psalm 34:4 - "I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears."

1 Samuel 21:13 And he changed his behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard.

David feigned madness in order to protect himself from Saul and his men by appearing to be mentally unstable. He did this by scrabbling on the doors of the gate and letting his spittle fall down his beard.

1. The Wisdom of Feigning Madness: How David Used his Wit to Protect Himself

2. When Life Gets Tough: The Power of Feigning Madness as a Tool for Self-Preservation

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Matthew 10:16 - I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

1 Samuel 21:14 Then said Achish unto his servants, Lo, ye see the man is mad: wherefore then have ye brought him to me?

Achish noticed that David was mad and asked his servants why they brought him.

1. God's people can still be used by God, even in their trials and struggles.

2. God's people should rely on His help and strength during times of difficulty.

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

1 Samuel 21:15 Have I need of mad men, that ye have brought this fellow to play the mad man in my presence? shall this fellow come into my house?

David seeks refuge in the Lord's house, and the priest questions why he would need a madman in the Lord's presence.

1. The Strength of David: The Power of Faith in Times of Trouble

2. God's House: A Sanctuary for the Faithful

1. Psalm 34:17 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 "Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple."

1 Samuel 22 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 22:1-5 describes David's refuge in the cave of Adullam and the gathering of distressed individuals around him. In this chapter, David, fearing for his life, seeks refuge in the cave of Adullam. Word spreads about his presence there, and people who are in distress or indebted join him about four hundred men. David becomes their leader, and they form a loyal following.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 22:6-10, it recounts Saul's anger towards Ahimelech and the priests at Nob. Saul learns that Ahimelech had assisted David and confronts him about it. Ahimelech defends himself by explaining that he was unaware of any wrongdoing on David's part. However, Saul accuses Ahimelech of conspiring against him and orders his execution along with the other priests.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 22 concludes with Doeg carrying out Saul's command to kill the priests at Nob. In verses such as 1 Samuel 22:17-23, it is mentioned that when none of Saul's soldiers are willing to execute the priests, Doeg an Edomite servant carries out the brutal task himself. He kills eighty-five priests along with their families and destroys Nob the city where they resided.

In summary:

1 Samuel 22 presents:

David's refuge in the cave of Adullam;

Saul's anger towards Ahimelec;

Doeg carrying out Saul's command to kill the priest;

Emphasis on:

David's refuge in the cave of Adullam;

Saul's anger towards Ahimelec;

Doeg carrying out Saul's command to kill the priest;

The chapter focuses on David's refuge in the cave of Adullam, Saul's anger towards Ahimelech, and the tragic consequences that follow. In 1 Samuel 22, David seeks shelter in the cave of Adullam due to his fear for his life. Distressed individuals join him there, forming a loyal following of about four hundred men.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 22, Saul learns about Ahimelech's assistance to David and confronts him. Despite Ahimelech's defense of being unaware of any wrongdoing on David's part, Saul accuses him of conspiring against him and orders his execution along with the other priests.

1 Samuel 22 concludes with Doeg carrying out Saul's command to kill the priests at Nob. When none of Saul's soldiers are willing to execute the priests, Doeg a servant from Edom takes it upon himself to carry out this brutal task. He kills eighty-five priests along with their families and destroys Nob the city where they resided. This chapter portrays both David seeking safety amidst adversity and the tragic consequences that result from Saul's jealousy and paranoia.

1 Samuel 22:1 David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him.

David escapes to the Cave of Adullam and is soon joined by his family.

1. In times of hardship, family is a source of strength and comfort.

2. We can find hope and refuge in God, even when faced with difficult circumstances.

1. Psalm 57:1 "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in You my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge until destruction passes by."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

1 Samuel 22:2 And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

Four hundred men gathered around David in distress, debt, and discontent, and he became their leader.

1) Facing Distress: Finding Strength in Community

2) Embracing Discontentment: Seeking Opportunities for Change

1) Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2) Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

1 Samuel 22:3 And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said unto the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you, till I know what God will do for me.

David sought refuge in Moab and asked the king to take care of his parents until he knew what God had in store for him.

1. Trusting in God in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Power of Prayer

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

1 Samuel 22:4 And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the hold.

David fled from Saul and found refuge in the land of Moab, where the King of Moab allowed him and his followers to stay.

1. Finding Strength and Comfort in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Hospitality

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:2 - "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

1 Samuel 22:5 And the prophet Gad said unto David, Abide not in the hold; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth.

The prophet Gad told David to leave the hold and go to Judah, so David left and went to the forest of Hareth.

1. God's Word is the Roadmap for our Lives

2. How to Follow God's Direction

1. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. Matthew 7:7-8 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

1 Samuel 22:6 When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that were with him, (now Saul abode in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him;)

When Saul heard that David was found, he was in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah with his spear in hand, and his servants around him.

1. The Power of Knowing Where You Stand

2. The Strength in Surrounding Yourself with the Right People

1. Proverbs 13:20 - "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

1 Samuel 22:7 Then Saul said unto his servants that stood about him, Hear now, ye Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, and make you all captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds;

Saul questions his servants about David, asking if they think he will give them fields and vineyards and make them captains.

1. God's favor does not guarantee earthly success or power.

2. We must be careful not to judge another's character before we know them.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Samuel 22:8 That all of you have conspired against me, and there is none that sheweth me that my son hath made a league with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you that is sorry for me, or sheweth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

The speaker accuses those present of conspiring against him and not showing any sympathy or informing him that his son had made an alliance with Jesse's son, or that his son had turned his servant against him to plot against him.

1. Trust in the Lord and Lean Not on Our Own Understanding - Proverbs 3:5-7

2. The Danger of Unforgiveness - Matthew 6:14-15

1. Romans 12:14-17 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2. Hebrews 12:15 - See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled.

1 Samuel 22:9 Then answered Doeg the Edomite, which was set over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

Doeg the Edomite reported to Saul that he saw David going to Ahimelech in Nob.

1. The importance of truthfulness in our speech

2. The power of loyalty and forgiveness

1. Psalm 15:1-2 - O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart.

2. Luke 6:27-36 - But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

1 Samuel 22:10 And he enquired of the LORD for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

Saul seeks God's help for David and provides him with the sword of Goliath.

1. The power of God's provision in times of need.

2. The strength of faith in difficult times.

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

1 Samuel 22:11 Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests that were in Nob: and they came all of them to the king.

King Saul calls Ahimelech the priest and all his family to come to him.

1. The importance of family and how it can be a source of strength in times of difficulty.

2. The importance of honoring God's appointed leaders, even when it may seem inconvenient.

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. 1 Peter 5:5 - In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

1 Samuel 22:12 And Saul said, Hear now, thou son of Ahitub. And he answered, Here I am, my lord.

Saul speaks to Ahitub's son, and the son responds that he is present.

1. We should always be ready to answer when called upon.

2. We should be willing to serve God when He calls.

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Psalm 40:8 - I delight to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart.

1 Samuel 22:13 And Saul said unto him, Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast enquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

Saul accuses David of conspiring against him by providing him with bread and a sword and asking God to help him rise against him.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Jealousy

2. The Power of God's Provision

1. Proverbs 14:30 A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot.

2. Romans 12:17-21 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Samuel 22:14 Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, And who is so faithful among all thy servants as David, which is the king's son in law, and goeth at thy bidding, and is honourable in thine house?

Ahimelech praised David's faithfulness and loyalty to the king.

1) Loyalty and Faithfulness Rewarded; 2) Loyalty and Obedience to Authority.

1) Deuteronomy 28:1-2 And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God. 2) Proverbs 3:3 Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

1 Samuel 22:15 Did I then begin to enquire of God for him? be it far from me: let not the king impute any thing unto his servant, nor to all the house of my father: for thy servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.

This passage speaks to the innocence and honesty of David's servant, who was falsely accused by the king.

1. God's protection of the innocent and honest.

2. The importance of integrity in the face of falsehood.

1. Psalm 103:10 - "He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities."

2. Ephesians 4:25 - "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another."

1 Samuel 22:16 And the king said, Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou, and all thy father's house.

King Saul orders Ahimelech and his family to be put to death.

1) The Danger of Pride: Lessons from King Saul

2) The Power of Mercy: How to Forgive Like Jesus

1) Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2) Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

1 Samuel 22:17 And the king said unto the footmen that stood about him, Turn, and slay the priests of the LORD: because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not shew it to me. But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the LORD.

King Saul orders his servants to kill the priests of the Lord, but they refuse to obey him.

1. Obedience to God's Word Above All Else

2. Refusing to Compromise Faith and Morals

1. Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus's temptation in the desert

2. Romans 12:1-2, living a life of sacrifice and reverence for God

1 Samuel 22:18 And the king said to Doeg, Turn thou, and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod.

King Saul commanded Doeg the Edomite to kill the priests, and Doeg complied, killing 85 of them.

1. The consequences of bad decisions and how we can learn from them

2. The power of authority and when we should obey it

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

1 Samuel 22:19 And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

Saul attacked the city of Nob, killing men, women, children, and animals.

1. The Scourge of Sinful Violence: How To Avoid Its Consequences

2. The Impact of Sin On Society: Understanding Its Effects

1. Matthew 5:7, Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

2. Romans 12:19, Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Samuel 22:20 And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David.

One of Ahimelech's sons, Abiathar, escaped and joined David.

1. The Lord will provide a way of escape in times of trouble.

2. God will show us a path of safety and refuge when we call on Him.

1. Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation."

2. Isaiah 25:4 "You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat."

1 Samuel 22:21 And Abiathar shewed David that Saul had slain the LORD's priests.

Abiathar informed David that Saul had killed the Lord's priests.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Rejecting His Authority

2. Obedience and Faithfulness to God: A Path to Blessing

1. Psalm 101:2-8 - "I will behave wisely in a perfect way. When will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me. A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness. Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, Him I will destroy; The one who has a haughty look and a proud heart, Him I will not endure. My eyes shall be on the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me; He who walks in a perfect way, He shall serve me. He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence."

2. James 4:7-10 - "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

1 Samuel 22:22 And David said unto Abiathar, I knew it that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have occasioned the death of all the persons of thy father's house.

David acknowledges his guilt for the death of Abiathar's family.

1. God still uses those who have made mistakes in His service.

2. Even in our darkest moments, God is with us.

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 22:23 Abide thou with me, fear not: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou shalt be in safeguard.

God provides protection and strength for those who rely on Him.

1: God is our Refuge and Strength - Psalm 46:1

2: The Lord is a Fortress for the Oppressed - Psalm 9:9

1: Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

2: Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

1 Samuel 23 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 23:1-6 describes David's rescue of the people of Keilah from the Philistines. In this chapter, David learns that the Philistines are attacking the city of Keilah and stealing their grain. Despite being on the run from Saul, David seeks guidance from God through Abiathar the priest and decides to go to Keilah to save its inhabitants. With God's assurance of victory, David and his men engage in battle against the Philistines, successfully rescuing the people of Keilah.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 23:7-13, it recounts Saul's pursuit of David and his plan to capture him in Keilah. When Saul hears about David's presence in Keilah, he sees it as an opportunity to trap him within a walled city. Saul consults his advisors who inform him that David is indeed hiding there. However, before Saul can carry out his plan, David becomes aware of it through divine intervention and flees from Keilah.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 23 concludes with Jonathan strengthening David's faith and their reaffirmation of friendship. In verses such as 1 Samuel 23:15-18, it is mentioned that while hiding in Ziph a wilderness area Jonathan visits David there. Jonathan encourages him by reminding him that he will one day become king over Israel while Jonathan himself will be second to him. They reaffirm their friendship and make a covenant before parting ways.

In summary:

1 Samuel 23 presents:

David's rescue of the people of Keila;

Saul's pursuit of Davi;

Jonathan strengthening Davi;

Emphasis on:

David's rescue of the people of Keila;

Saul's pursuit of Davi;

Jonathan strengthening Davi;

The chapter focuses on David's heroic act of rescuing the people of Keilah, Saul's relentless pursuit of David, and Jonathan strengthening David's faith. In 1 Samuel 23, David learns about the Philistine attack on Keilah and seeks God's guidance through Abiathar. With God's assurance, he leads his men to save the city from the Philistines.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 23, Saul becomes aware of David's presence in Keilah and sees it as an opportunity to capture him. He plans to trap David within the walled city but is thwarted when David receives divine intervention and flees before Saul can execute his plan.

1 Samuel 23 concludes with Jonathan visiting David in Ziph and providing him with encouragement. Jonathan strengthens David's faith by reminding him that he will one day become king over Israel while acknowledging his own loyalty as second-in-command. They reaffirm their friendship and make a covenant before parting ways. This chapter showcases both David's bravery in protecting others and the unwavering support he receives from Jonathan during times of adversity.

1 Samuel 23:1 Then they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors.

The Philistines are attacking Keilah and stealing their grain.

1. God's Protection: Learning to Trust in the Lord's Provision

2. When the Enemy Comes: Learning to Rely on God's Strength

1. Psalm 91:2-3, "I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"

2. Isaiah 54:17, "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that rises against you in judgment you shall condemn."

1 Samuel 23:2 Therefore David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.

David asked the Lord if he should fight the Philistines to save Keilah and the Lord said yes.

1. The Lord will provide direction when we seek it.

2. We should always be willing to help those in need.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

1 Samuel 23:3 And David's men said unto him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?

David's men were afraid to attack the Philistine army in Keilah, so they asked David what they should do.

1. Fear Not: Overcoming Anxiety in the Face of Adversity

2. Standing Together: The Strength of Unity in Times of Peril

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

1 Samuel 23:4 Then David enquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

David asked God for advice, and God told him to go to Keilah, promising that He would give him victory over the Philistines.

1. God Answers Our Prayers and Rewards Faithful Obedience

2. God Equips Us with the Strength to Face Challenges

1. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 23:5 So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

David and his men go to Keilah and fight in defense of the town, defeating the Philistines and rescuing the inhabitants.

1. The Lord Will Protect His People

2. Courage in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. 1 Chronicles 11:14 - These were the chiefs of the mighty men whom David had, who strengthened themselves with him in his kingdom, and with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel.

1 Samuel 23:6 And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, that he came down with an ephod in his hand.

Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David in Keilah, bringing an ephod with him.

1. The Power of Obedience - 1 Samuel 23:6

2. The Importance of Faithful Friends - 1 Samuel 23:6

1. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

1 Samuel 23:7 And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars.

Saul hears that David is in Keilah and believes God has delivered him into his hands because Keilah is a fortified city.

1. God is sovereign and in control of our lives and circumstances.

2. The Lord's protection is available to us in times of danger and distress.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

2. Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God; in Him will I trust.

1 Samuel 23:8 And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

Saul gathered an army to attack David and his men in the town of Keilah.

1. God calls us to confront evil and stand up for what is right.

2. God's people must be on guard and ready to fight for justice.

1. Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1 Samuel 23:9 And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod.

David had suspicions that Saul was plotting against him, so he asked Abiathar the priest to bring the ephod.

1. The Power of Suspicion in Our Lives

2. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 56:3-4 "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

1 Samuel 23:10 Then said David, O LORD God of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.

David prays to the Lord for help when he hears that Saul is coming to Keilah to destroy the city.

1. God will always protect us from our enemies.

2. We must always trust in the Lord in times of trouble.

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

1 Samuel 23:11 Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O LORD God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant. And the LORD said, He will come down.

David asked the LORD if Saul would come down to Keilah and the LORD confirmed that he would.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times

2. Seeking God's Guidance and Direction

1. 1 Samuel 23:11

2. Psalm 56:3-4 "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

1 Samuel 23:12 Then said David, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the LORD said, They will deliver thee up.

David asked the Lord if the people of Keilah would deliver him and his men into the hands of Saul, and the Lord said they would.

1. Trials often come, but God is always with us.

2. We must trust in the Lord even when faced with difficult circumstances.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 23:13 Then David and his men, which were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbare to go forth.

David and his men, numbering 600, escaped from Keilah when they heard of Saul's approach.

1. Don't be afraid to flee when you sense danger.

2. God can give you direction in times of fear and uncertainty.

1. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

1 Samuel 23:14 And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.

David stayed in the wilderness and in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph, where Saul searched for him every day, but God did not let him be found by Saul.

1. God provides protection for those in need.

2. God is our defender and protector in times of trouble.

1. Psalm 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

1 Samuel 23:15 And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life: and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood.

David found himself in a dire situation as Saul was out to take his life.

1. We must trust God in times of danger and fear.

2. God will provide protection and guidance when we are in need.

1. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

1 Samuel 23:16 And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in God.

Jonathan, Saul's son, went to David in the wilderness to encourage him in God.

1. The Power of Encouragement: How Jonathan Strengthened David's Faith in God

2. The Importance of Friendship: How Jonathan Supported David in His Time of Need

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

1 Samuel 23:17 And he said unto him, Fear not: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.

David and Jonathan make a covenant that Jonathan will protect David from Saul and that David will become the king of Israel.

1. The Power of Covenant: Examining the Loyalty of Jonathan and David

2. Learning from the Relationship of Jonathan and David: A Study in Faithfulness

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

1 Samuel 23:18 And they two made a covenant before the LORD: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

David and Jonathan made a covenant before the Lord, and then David stayed in the woods while Jonathan went home.

1. A Covenant of Friendship: How David and Jonathan's Relationship Can Teach Us About Loving Others

2. The Power of Covenant: Why Making a Promise to God Will Transform Your Life

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

1 Samuel 23:19 Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?

The Ziphites came to Saul and reported that David was hiding in the wood of Hachilah, which was south of Jeshimon.

1. God's protection in times of trouble

2. The importance of courage and faith when facing adversity

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Hebrews 11:32-40 - "And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets 33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. 36 Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated 38 of whom the world was not worthy wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth."

1 Samuel 23:20 Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king's hand.

David and his men asked King Achish to allow them to pursue and capture the fugitive who was hiding in the land of the Philistines.

1. The Power of Teamwork: Working Together to Achieve a Common Goal

2. The Power of Faith: Believing in Yourself and Your Abilities

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

1 Samuel 23:21 And Saul said, Blessed be ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me.

Saul thanked the men for showing him compassion.

1. Compassion is a virtue that God and the world looks favorably upon.

2. Showing compassion to those in need can help bring glory to God.

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

2. Matthew 25:40 - Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

1 Samuel 23:22 Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who hath seen him there: for it is told me that he dealeth very subtilly.

The Lord instructs Saul to search for David and find out where he is hiding and who has seen him there.

1. Trusting in the Lord during times of trial and distress.

2. The importance of seeking God's guidance and wisdom in all matters.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1 Samuel 23:23 See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

Passage God tells Saul to find out where David is hiding and then return with the information so that Saul can search for him in all of Judah.

1. The importance of perseverance in difficult times.

2. God's faithfulness in providing guidance.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Isaiah 45:2-3 - "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name."

1 Samuel 23:24 And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

David and his men fled to the wilderness of Maon, located in the south of Jeshimon, to avoid Saul's pursuit.

1. The Trials of Trust: How We Can Rely on God During Persecution

2. God's Protection: How He Guides Us Through Difficult Circumstances

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

1 Samuel 23:25 Saul also and his men went to seek him. And they told David: wherefore he came down into a rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

Saul and his men searched for David, and once they located him in the wilderness of Maon, Saul pursued him.

1. God is always with us, even in times of danger.

2. We must trust in God and His ability to protect us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler."

1 Samuel 23:26 And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

Saul and his men pursued David and his men around a mountain, but David and his men were able to escape.

1. The importance of trusting in God for protection and safety.

2. Learning when to flee from danger.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

2. Proverbs 22:3 - The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.

1 Samuel 23:27 But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land.

A messenger told Saul that the Philistines had invaded the land, prompting him to act quickly.

1. God often sends us warning signals of danger, and so we must be alert and ready to act.

2. In times of distress, we must always look to God for guidance and direction.

1. Matthew 24:44 - "Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

1 Samuel 23:28 Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Selahammahlekoth.

Saul stopped chasing after David and went against the Philistines, and because of this, the place was called Selahammahlekoth.

1. God's faithfulness in protecting us from our enemies.

2. How God can use our circumstances for His glory.

1. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Samuel 23:29 And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strong holds at Engedi.

David moved from Hebron to Engedi, where he lived in strong holds.

1) God's faithfulness in difficult times: How God provided a refuge to David in Engedi when he was fleeing from Saul.

2) The power of prayer: How David sought God's guidance and protection during his time of flight.

1) Psalm 91:9-10 - Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge

2) Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 24 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 24:1-7 describes David sparing Saul's life in the cave of En Gedi. In this chapter, Saul pursues David with three thousand chosen men. While Saul takes a break to relieve himself in a cave, coincidentally, David and his men are hiding deeper inside the same cave. David's men urge him to seize the opportunity to kill Saul and end their troubles, but instead, David secretly cuts off a corner of Saul's robe without harming him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 24:8-15, it recounts David confronting Saul outside the cave. After leaving the cave unnoticed, David reveals himself to Saul and shows him the piece of robe he had cut off as evidence that he could have killed him but chose not to. He explains that he will not harm God's anointed king and trusts that God will deal with Saul according to His justice.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 24 concludes with an emotional exchange between David and Saul. In verses such as 1 Samuel 24:16-22, it is mentioned that upon hearing David's words and seeing his mercy towards him, Saul acknowledges his wrongdoing and admits that David will indeed become king over Israel. They part ways peacefully with mutual blessings exchanged.

In summary:

1 Samuel 24 presents:

David sparing Sau;

David confronting Sau;

An emotional exchange between Davi;

Emphasis on:

David sparing Sau;

David confronting Sau;

An emotional exchange between Davi;

The chapter focuses on David sparing Saul's life in the cave of En Gedi, their subsequent confrontation outside the cave, and an emotional exchange between them. In 1 Samuel 24, while being pursued by Saul with a large force, coincidences lead David and his men to hide in the same cave where Saul happens to take a break. David refrains from killing Saul when given the opportunity and instead cuts off a corner of his robe.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 24, after leaving the cave, David confronts Saul and shows him the piece of robe as evidence that he could have taken his life but chose not to. He emphasizes his loyalty to God's anointed king and trusts that God will deal with Saul justly.

1 Samuel 24 concludes with an emotional exchange between David and Saul. Upon hearing David's words and witnessing his mercy, Saul acknowledges his wrongdoing and recognizes that David will become king over Israel. They part ways peacefully with blessings exchanged. This chapter highlights both David's integrity in sparing Saul's life despite being pursued and Saul's temporary recognition of God's chosen path for David.

1 Samuel 24:1 And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.

Saul returns from chasing the Philistines and is told that David is in the wilderness of Engedi.

1. God's Timing: Trusting in God's Timing Even When We Don't Understand

2. Finding Peace in the Wilderness: Overcoming Adversity Through Faith

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.

1 Samuel 24:2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.

Saul took three thousand men to hunt David and his men.

1. The power of faithfulness and loyalty.

2. The importance of having courage to stand up for what is right.

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. Romans 12:9-21 - Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

1 Samuel 24:3 And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

Saul visits a cave with his men, where David and his men were hiding.

1. God provides a place of refuge when we are in need.

2. The importance of being still and listening to God.

1. Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God; in him will I trust.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

1 Samuel 24:4 And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily.

The men of David encouraged him to take advantage of the opportunity to fight his enemy Saul and David rose to take a piece of Saul's robe.

1. God will provide the right opportunities for us to fight our spiritual battles.

2. We should use wisdom and courage when presented with a divine opportunity.

1. Romans 12:12-13 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

1 Samuel 24:5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

David felt guilty for cutting off Saul's skirt.

1: The importance of not taking revenge and doing what is right even when it is difficult.

2: Forgiveness and allowing God to take revenge instead of us.

1: Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Luke 6:37 - Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

1 Samuel 24:6 And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.

David, despite being urged by his men to kill Saul, refused to do so, citing that Saul is the anointed of the LORD.

1. The importance of reverence to God and His anointed.

2. The power of godly decisions, even in difficult times.

1. Psalm 105:15 - "Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

1 Samuel 24:7 So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.

David refused to allow his servants to attack Saul, so Saul left the cave and continued on his journey.

1. A Heart of Forgiveness: Learning to Love Our Enemies

2. God's Mercy and Compassion: Letting Go of Grudges

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Samuel 24:8 David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.

David emerges from the cave after Saul and calls out to him, bowing down to him in humility.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from David's Example

2. The Blessing of Obedience: David's Respect for Saul

1. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Samuel 24:9 And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?

David challenges Saul's interpretation of what others are saying about him, asking why Saul would believe those who accuse him of seeking Saul's harm.

1. The Danger of Rumors and Gossip: How to Respond when False Accusations are Made

2. Taking Responsibility for Our Own Reactions to Difficult Situations

1. Proverbs 18:17 - "The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

1 Samuel 24:10 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed.

David spares King Saul s life when he has the chance to kill him in a cave.

1. God calls us to show mercy to our enemies.

2. We must do the will of God, not our own.

1. Luke 6:27-36 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.

2. Matthew 5:38-48 - Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

1 Samuel 24:11 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it.

David spares King Saul's life, claiming that he has done nothing wrong and yet Saul is still trying to take his life.

1. God's mercy and grace in David's heart towards Saul despite Saul's wrongdoings

2. David's faithfulness and obedience to God despite the persecution he faced from Saul

1. Psalm 11:5 The Lord trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

2. Matthew 5:44-45 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

1 Samuel 24:12 The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

David refuses to take revenge against Saul and leaves the judgement to God.

1. "God's Justice: The Power of Forgiveness"

2. "The Blessing of Contentment: Relying on God's Provision"

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."

1 Samuel 24:13 As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

David, although wronged by King Saul, refuses to take revenge and instead trusts in God to punish the wicked.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Let Go of Resentment

2. Doing Right in the Face of Wrong: Living by Faith

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 - "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

1 Samuel 24:14 After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.

The king of Israel is pursuing after something insignificant.

1. Pursuing after the Small Things in Our Lives.

2. The Futility of Seeking After Insignificance.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Proverbs 27:20 - Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

1 Samuel 24:15 The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.

David humbly asked God to be the judge between him and Saul and to deliver him out of Saul's hand.

1. The importance of relying on God when facing difficult situations.

2. God's loving and just nature as our judge.

1. Psalm 37:5-6 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

2. Isaiah 33:22 - For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king; he will save us.

1 Samuel 24:16 And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.

David spoke to Saul, who then identified him and wept.

1. We can learn from the story of David and Saul to forgive and reconcile with our enemies.

2. We can be inspired by David's courage to speak truth to power.

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

1 Samuel 24:17 And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.

David and Saul recognize that although Saul has treated David badly, David was still more righteous than Saul.

1. God looks at the heart and evaluates us based on our motives and actions, not our outward appearance.

2. We can still forgive and be gracious to those who have wronged us, even if they don't deserve it.

1. Romans 12:19-21 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

1 Samuel 24:18 And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not.

David shows mercy to Saul by refusing to take advantage of an opportunity to kill him, even though the Lord had delivered Saul into David's hands.

1. The Power of Mercy: Learning from David's Example

2. How to Respond to an Enemy with Compassion

1. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."

2. Romans 12:17-21 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Samuel 24:19 For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day.

David behaved with kindness and mercy towards Saul, despite Saul trying to kill him.

1. Mercy triumphs over judgement

2. The power of forgiveness

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Samuel 24:20 And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand.

David recognizes Saul's right to be king, and acknowledges the establishment of the kingdom of Israel.

1. The Humility of David: A Lesson in Submission and Respect

2. God's Sovereignty: The Unshaking Foundation of the Kingdom of Israel

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17

1 Samuel 24:21 Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.

David asks Saul to swear by the Lord that he will not cut off David's descendants and name from his father's house.

1. How God's Promises Provide a Secure Future

2. Faithful Living: Protecting Our Legacy

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

1 Samuel 24:22 And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.

David swore an oath to Saul, then Saul returned home while David and his men went to the stronghold.

1. God's faithfulness in times of adversity.

2. The power of a covenant.

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2. Hebrews 6:16-18 - People swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.

1 Samuel 25 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 25:1-13 introduces the story of Nabal, Abigail, and David. In this chapter, Samuel dies, and David moves to the wilderness of Paran. While there, he encounters a wealthy man named Nabal who possesses large flocks and herds. David sends messengers to request provisions from Nabal as a gesture of goodwill since his men had protected Nabal's shepherds in the wilderness. However, Nabal responds rudely and refuses to provide any assistance.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 25:14-35, it recounts Abigail's intervention and her wise actions. When one of Nabal's servants informs Abigail Nabal's intelligent wife about his disrespectful response to David's request, she immediately takes action. Without informing her husband about the encounter with David, Abigail gathers an abundant supply of food and gifts for him and his men.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 25 concludes with the death of Nabal and David marrying Abigail. In verses such as 1 Samuel 25:36-44, it is mentioned that when Abigail meets David along the way with her provisions, she humbly apologizes for her husband's behavior and expresses her belief in God's protection over David's life. Impressed by her wisdom and virtue, David praises God for sending Abigail to prevent him from taking revenge on Nabal.

In summary:

1 Samuel 25 presents:

The encounter between David and Nab;

Abigail's intervention;

The death of Nab;

Emphasis on:

The encounter between Daviand Nab;

Abigail's intervention;

The death of Nab;

The chapter focuses on the encounter between David and Nabal, Abigail's intervention to prevent conflict, and the subsequent death of Nabal. In 1 Samuel 25, David seeks provisions from Nabal as a gesture of goodwill, but Nabal rudely refuses to help. This leads to Abigail taking matters into her own hands and preparing a generous supply of food and gifts for David.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 25, Abigail intercepts David along the way and humbly apologizes for her husband's behavior. She expresses her faith in God's protection over David's life and advises him against seeking revenge on Nabal. Impressed by Abigail's wisdom and virtue, David praises God for sending her to prevent him from acting impulsively.

1 Samuel 25 concludes with the death of Nabal, which occurs shortly after Abigail returns home. When Abigail informs Nabal about her interaction with David, he becomes paralyzed with fear upon realizing the danger he had put himself in by disrespecting David. Shortly afterward, God strikes Nabal dead. Following this event, David takes Abigail as his wife. This chapter showcases both the consequences of arrogance and the wisdom displayed by Abigail in averting a potential conflict between David and Nabal.

1 Samuel 25:1 And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.

After Samuel died, all the Israelites gathered to mourn and buried him in his house at Ramah. Then, David went down to the wilderness of Paran.

1. The Importance of Mourning and Remembering Our Loved Ones

2. God's Plan for Us: Moving Forward Through Difficult Times

1. John 14:1-4 - "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going."

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

1 Samuel 25:2 And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.

A wealthy man named Maon owned a large flock of sheep and goats in Carmel and was in the process of shearing them.

1. The Blessings of God's Generosity

2. The Responsibility of Stewardship

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

1 Samuel 25:3 Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and she was a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb.

Nabal and Abigail were a married couple, Abigail being a woman of good understanding and beauty, while Nabal was churlish and evil in his doings.

1. The Beauty and Power of a Virtuous Woman

2. The Danger of Evil and Churlish Behavior

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 - The excellent wife

2. 1 Peter 3:1-6 - The power of a gentle and quiet spirit

1 Samuel 25:4 And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep.

David heard in the wilderness that Nabal had recently sheared his sheep.

1. "The Power of Hearing and Acting on God's Word"

2. "Choosing Obedience to God Over Popularity"

1. Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. James 1:22-25 "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

1 Samuel 25:5 And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

David sends ten men to Nabal in Carmel to greet him in his name.

1. Knowing our place in God's kingdom: A Study of David and Nabal in 1 Samuel 25:5

2. 'Greeting in His Name': The Significance of David's Message in 1 Samuel 25:5

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

1 Samuel 25:6 And thus shall ye say to him that liveth in prosperity, Peace be both to thee, and peace be to thine house, and peace be unto all that thou hast.

David sends a message to Nabal asking for help and kindness, and wishing peace and prosperity to Nabal and his household.

1. The Power of Kindness: How a Small Act of Compassion Can Make a Big Difference

2. The Blessing of Peace: Enjoying the Abundance of God s Blessing

1. Romans 12:17-18 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

2. Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

1 Samuel 25:7 And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.

David speaks to Nabal and tells him that his shepherds were not hurt and nothing was missing while they were in Carmel.

1. God watches over us in all circumstances.

2. We should show kindness and respect to those around us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 22: 36-40 - " Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law? And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. "

1 Samuel 25:8 Ask thy young men, and they will shew thee. Wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes: for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David.

David's servants asked Nabal for provisions as a kindness for the good day that they had come upon.

1. Never forget to be thankful for the goodness that God has bestowed upon you.

2. The power of a kind gesture can be far-reaching.

1. Colossians 3:15-17 - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, and singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

2. Romans 12:9-13 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

1 Samuel 25:9 And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased.

David's messengers spoke to Nabal in David's name and then stopped talking.

1. Remember to be respectful of authority, even when it is hard.

2. Speak truth in love, even when it is uncomfortable.

1. Matthew 7:12, "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

2. Proverbs 15:1, "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

1 Samuel 25:10 And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master.

Nabal refused to recognize David's authority.

1. Recognizing God-given authority is essential for living a faithful life.

2. Respect for leaders is essential to build a prosperous society.

1. Exodus 20:12 - "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

1 Samuel 25:11 Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men, whom I know not whence they be?

David's men are asking Nabal to provide them with food and supplies, but Nabal refuses to give them anything, citing that he does not know who they are.

1. God's providence: We must trust in Him to provide for our needs.

2. Hospitality: We should always show kindness to strangers.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - God will provide for all of our needs.

2. Luke 10:25-37 - The parable of the Good Samaritan, showing the importance of hospitality.

1 Samuel 25:12 So David's young men turned their way, and went again, and came and told him all those sayings.

David's young men returned and informed him of what had transpired.

1. We should always be sure to inform those in authority of the facts.

2. We can trust that God will work through all things.

1. Proverbs 24:6 - "For by wise guidance you can wage your war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 25:13 And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff.

David commanded his men to arm themselves with swords and then set off with four hundred men while two hundred stayed behind to tend the supplies.

1. "Be Prepared: The Importance of Preparation in Times of Crisis"

2. "The Power of Obedience: Following Orders in Difficult Situations"

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be Alert and of Sober Mind

1 Samuel 25:14 But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them.

Abigail was informed of David's messengers being insulted by her husband, Nabal.

1. Rejecting God's Messengers brings Consequences

2. Don't be Foolish like Nabal

1. Proverbs 13:13 - Whoever despises the word brings destruction on himself, but he who reveres the commandment will be rewarded.

2. Matthew 10:40-42 - Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.

1 Samuel 25:15 But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields:

The men were very kind and generous to the people when they were in the fields.

1. Showing Kindness to Others: 1 Samuel 25:15

2. The Generosity of God: 1 Samuel 25:15

1. Matthew 5:44-45 "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2. Romans 12:17-20 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Samuel 25:16 They were a wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.

David's men were protected from danger while they were taking care of the sheep.

1. Protection and Provision: God's Love in Action

2. Trustworthy Companionship: Relying on God's People

1. Psalm 91:4, "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge."

2. Proverbs 18:24, "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

1 Samuel 25:17 Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he is such a son of Belial, that a man cannot speak to him.

Evil has been determined against the master and his household, and he is so wicked that no one can speak to him.

1. The Danger of Wickedness - How the choices we make today can lead to negative consequences in the future.

2. The Power of Speech - The importance of using our words wisely.

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 - "These six things the Lord hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren."

2. Proverbs 10:19 - "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise."

1 Samuel 25:18 Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses.

Abigail prepared and loaded two hundred loaves, two bottles of wine, five sheep, five measures of parched corn, an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs onto the asses.

1. Abigail's Generosity: Exploring the Meaning of Selfless Sacrifice

2. Abigail's Faithfulness: An Example of Obedience and Trust

1. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Samuel 25:19 And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.

Abigail instructed her servants to go ahead of her without informing her husband, Nabal.

1. Marriage is a blessing and should be treated as such - Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Communication in marriage is key - Proverbs 15:1

1. Proverbs 31:11 - The heart of her husband does safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

1 Samuel 25:20 And it was so, as she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert of the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.

A woman riding on an ass finds David and his men coming down a hill towards her.

1. The Provision of God: How He Provides for Us in Unexpected Ways

2. Unexpected Encounters: How God Uses Unexpected Meetings to Fulfill His Plans

1. Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 25:21 Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this fellow hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that pertained unto him: and he hath requited me evil for good.

David reflects on how he has helped Nabal, but instead of receiving kindness, he has received evil.

1. Kindness is not always reciprocated, but that does not mean it is not worth giving.

2. We should not let unkindness prevent us from being kind.

1. Proverbs 19:22 - What is desired in a man is kindness, and a poor man is better than a liar.

2. Luke 6:35 - But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High.

1 Samuel 25:22 So and more also do God unto the enemies of David, if I leave of all that pertain to him by the morning light any that pisseth against the wall.

This passage illustrates David's strong commitment to protecting those in his inner circle, even in the face of great opposition.

1. The power of loyalty: How to stand up for those we care about.

2. Defending the weak: Overcoming opposition to protect the vulnerable.

1. Genesis 15:1 - "After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward."

2. Romans 12:20 - "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

1 Samuel 25:23 And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground,

Abigail saw David and immediately got off her ass and bowed before him.

1. Life Lessons from Abigail: Humility and Respect for Others

2. God's Timing: The Power of a Humble Response

1. 1 Peter 5:5 - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

2. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

1 Samuel 25:24 And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, upon me let this iniquity be: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid.

Abigail begged David to forgive her and her family for their wrongdoings.

1. Forgiving Others: Why We Must Not Hold Grudges

2. The Power of Humility: Abigail's Example

1. Matthew 6:14-15 "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

2. James 4:10-11 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. Do not speak evil against each other, brothers and sisters."

1 Samuel 25:25 Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, even Nabal: for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send.

David sends men to Nabal to ask for provisions, but Nabal refuses and insults David.

1. It is important to be humble and generous, even in the face of adversity.

2. We should not allow anger or pride to blind us to the needs of others.

1. Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires."

1 Samuel 25:26 Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, seeing the LORD hath withholden thee from coming to shed blood, and from avenging thyself with thine own hand, now let thine enemies, and they that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal.

David spares Nabal and urges him to forgive his enemies, trusting in the Lord to exact justice.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Using the story of David and Nabal to explore the power of forgiveness in our lives.

2. The Lord's Justice - Exploring how we can trust in the Lord to exact justice in our lives, and how we can leave it to Him to do so.

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Samuel 25:27 And now this blessing which thine handmaid hath brought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord.

A blessing is given to the young men who follow Lord David.

1. The Power of Generosity - How Giving Our Blessings to Others Can Lead to Abundant Joy.

2. Faithful Followers - The Blessings of Living a Life of Loyalty and Obedience.

1. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives water will get water.

2. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Samuel 25:28 I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee all thy days.

Abigail asked David to forgive her for her transgression, as the Lord will make sure that he succeeds in his battles.

1. God is with us in our battles, and will make sure that we are victorious.

2. Forgiveness is a sign of strength and humility.

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. Matthew 18:21-35 - The parable of the unmerciful servant.

1 Samuel 25:29 Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling.

A man is trying to pursue and take away the life of someone, but the Lord will protect the person and will cast away the enemy.

1. Our lives are in the hands of the Lord, and nothing can take it away.

2. God will protect us and throw our enemies away.

1. Psalm 56:4 - In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Samuel 25:30 And it shall come to pass, when the LORD shall have done to my lord according to all the good that he hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel;

The LORD will fulfill his promise and make David ruler over Israel.

1. God's promises are sure.

2. God will fulfill his promises.

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him [are] yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

1 Samuel 25:31 That this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood causeless, or that my lord hath avenged himself: but when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.

Nabal's wife Abigail pleads with David that he not be grieved or offended by her husband's unjust actions, and requests that he remember her kindness when God has blessed him.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Let Go of Offenses

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Abigail's Example of Faithful Service

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2. Proverbs 31:10-12 - An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

1 Samuel 25:32 And David said to Abigail, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me:

Passage David blesses the Lord God of Israel for sending Abigail to meet him.

1. The Lord's Timing: The Perfect Gift of Abigail

2. The Lord Provides: Appreciating Abigail's Blessing

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Psalm 37:5 "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:"

1 Samuel 25:33 And blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.

David was thankful for Abigail's advice in preventing him from seeking revenge with his own hands.

1. "The Power of Advice: Seeking Guidance Before Acting"

2. "The Blessing of Restraint: Learning to Forbear from Retaliation"

1. Proverbs 13:10 "Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom."

2. James 1:19-20 "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

1 Samuel 25:34 For in very deed, as the LORD God of Israel liveth, which hath kept me back from hurting thee, except thou hadst hasted and come to meet me, surely there had not been left unto Nabal by the morning light any that pisseth against the wall.

David was saved from hurting Nabal due to his quick response to David's invitation.

1. The importance of promptness in decision-making.

2. God's protection in the midst of danger.

1. Proverbs 19:2 - "Desire without knowledge is not good, and whoever makes haste with his feet misses his way."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

1 Samuel 25:35 So David received of her hand that which she had brought him, and said unto her, Go up in peace to thine house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have accepted thy person.

David accepted the gifts from Abigail and told her to go home in peace, since he had listened to her and accepted her.

1. God will listen to our prayers and use them to shape our lives.

2. God provides us with peace in difficult times.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 25:36 And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light.

Abigail arrived at Nabal's house and found him in the midst of a drunken feast, so she waited until morning to speak with him.

1. The Dangers of Excessive Drinking

2. The Power of Patience

1. Proverbs 20:1 - Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

2. Proverbs 16:32 - He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

1 Samuel 25:37 But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone.

Nabal's heart died within him after his wife told him what had happened and he became immovable.

1. The Danger of Hardened Hearts

2. The Power of a Spouse's Words

1. Proverbs 28:14 - Blessed is the one who fears the LORD always, but whoever hardens their heart will fall into calamity.

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

1 Samuel 25:38 And it came to pass about ten days after, that the LORD smote Nabal, that he died.

After offending David, Nabal was struck down and died by the Lord's hand ten days later.

1. God is Just: The Consequences of Offending Him.

2. The Mercy of God: How He Gives Us Time to Repent.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

1 Samuel 25:39 And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed be the LORD, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil: for the LORD hath returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head. And David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to him to wife.

After hearing of Nabal's death, David praised the Lord for his justice and asked Abigail to marry him.

1. God's justice is perfect and will be done.

2. God can bring good out of any situation.

1. Romans 12:19- Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 16:7- When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

1 Samuel 25:40 And when the servants of David were come to Abigail to Carmel, they spake unto her, saying, David sent us unto thee, to take thee to him to wife.

David's servants had been sent to Abigail in Carmel to ask for her hand in marriage.

1. The Strength of David: A Look into the Courage and Dedication of a Great King

2. Abigail: A Woman Who Demonstrates Selflessness and Obedience

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Proverbs 31:10-12 - An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

1 Samuel 25:41 And she arose, and bowed herself on her face to the earth, and said, Behold, let thine handmaid be a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.

Abigail humbly bows before David and offers to be a servant to wash the feet of his servants.

1. Humility: The Greatest Virtue

2. Serving Others out of Love

1. Philippians 2:5-8

2. James 4:10

1 Samuel 25:42 And Abigail hasted, and arose, and rode upon an ass, with five damsels of hers that went after her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

Abigail quickly rose to the occasion, mounted an ass, and followed the messengers of David to become his wife.

1. The Obedience of Abigail - A Lesson in Faithful Service

2. Abigail - A Model of Quick Response to God's Call

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 - An example of a virtuous woman

2. Ruth 1:16-17 - An example of loyalty to God's will

1 Samuel 25:43 David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and they were also both of them his wives.

David married Ahinoam of Jezreel and she became one of his wives.

1. The importance of commitment in marriage.

2. Learning to honor others in marriage.

1. Ephesians 5:21-33 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-4 Each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband.

1 Samuel 25:44 But Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Phalti the son of Laish, which was of Gallim.

Saul gave away his daughter Michal to Phalti of Gallim, despite her being married to David.

1. God's Plan Is Higher Than Human Plans - 1 Samuel 25:44

2. There Is Always a Greater Plan - 1 Samuel 25:44

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.

1 Samuel 26 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 26:1-12 describes David sparing Saul's life for the second time. In this chapter, Saul continues to pursue David with three thousand chosen men. One night, Saul camps in the wilderness of Ziph while David and his men are nearby. Under cover of darkness, David and his nephew Abishai sneak into Saul's camp and find him sleeping with his spear stuck in the ground beside him. Abishai suggests killing Saul, but David refuses, stating that it is not their place to harm God's anointed king.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 26:13-20, it recounts David confronting Saul from a safe distance. After taking Saul's spear and water jug as proof of their proximity to him, David calls out to Abner the commander of Saul's army who had failed to protect the king. He questions why they continue to pursue him when he has shown mercy towards them multiple times.

Paragraph 3: 1 Samuel 26 concludes with a dialogue between David and Saul expressing remorse and reconciliation. In verses such as 1 Samuel 26:21-25, it is mentioned that upon hearing David's words from a distance, Saul acknowledges his wrongdoing once again and admits that he has sinned against him. He blesses David and acknowledges that he will become king over Israel while asking for assurance that his descendants will be spared when that time comes.

In summary:

1 Samuel 26 presents:

David sparing Sau;

David confronting Sau;

A dialogue between Daviand Sau;

Emphasis on:

David sparing Sau;

David confronting Sau;

A dialogue between Daviand Sau;

The chapter focuses on David sparing Saul's life for the second time, their subsequent confrontation in the wilderness, and a dialogue expressing remorse and reconciliation. In 1 Samuel 26, Saul continues his pursuit of David with a large force. Under the cover of darkness, David and Abishai enter Saul's camp while he sleeps. Despite the opportunity to kill him, David chooses to spare Saul's life, recognizing him as God's anointed king.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 26, after taking Saul's spear and water jug as evidence of their proximity to him, David confronts Saul from a safe distance. He questions why they persist in pursuing him when he has shown mercy towards them multiple times.

1 Samuel 26 concludes with a dialogue between David and Saul expressing remorse and reconciliation. Upon hearing David's words from afar, Saul acknowledges his wrongdoing once again and admits that he has sinned against David. He blesses David and recognizes that he will become king over Israel while seeking assurance that his descendants will be spared when that time comes. This chapter showcases both David's unwavering commitment to sparing Saul's life despite being pursued and moments of reflection and repentance from Saul himself.

1 Samuel 26:1 And the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon?

The Ziphites informed Saul that David was hiding in the hills of Hachilah near Jeshimon.

1. Don't give up hope even when facing difficult challenges.

2. God will help us find refuge in times of need.

1. Psalm 27:5 - For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

1 Samuel 26:2 Then Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

Saul gathered three thousand men to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

1. The Power of Persistent Pursuit: Reflections from 1 Samuel 26:2

2. A Leader s Courage: 1 Samuel 26:2

1. Matthew 7:7-8, Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

2. Proverbs 21:5, The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

1 Samuel 26:3 And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

Saul followed David into the wilderness, where David was camping on the hill of Hachilah which was by the way of Jeshimon.

1. God puts us in difficult situations to test our faith and trust in Him.

2. Even when we are in the wilderness, God will be with us.

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

1 Samuel 26:4 David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed.

David sent out spies to verify that Saul had indeed arrived.

1. We must always double-check the facts before making decisions.

2. Be wise and cautious in all that you do.

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps.

2. Proverbs 19:5 - A false witness will not go unpunished, and whoever pours out lies will not go free.

1 Samuel 26:5 And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host: and Saul lay in the trench, and the people pitched round about him.

David went to the place where Saul was camping and saw Saul lying in a trench, surrounded by his soldiers.

1. God's Plan: Lessons from the Story of David and Saul

2. Following God's Will, Not Our Own: A Study of 1 Samuel 26

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way;

1 Samuel 26:6 Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with thee.

David asked Ahimelech the Hittite and Abishai the son of Zeruiah, who was Joab's brother, if anyone would accompany him to Saul's camp. Abishai agreed to go with him.

1. We should always be willing to go with those who need our help.

2. Serving God involves helping others in need.

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. Galatians 6:2 - Carry each other s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

1 Samuel 26:7 So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster: but Abner and the people lay round about him.

David and Abishai went to Saul in the night and found him sleeping with his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster, surrounded by his people under the leadership of Abner.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness to God in the Face of Temptation

2. The Strength of Our Support Systems

1. Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

2. Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

1 Samuel 26:8 Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time.

Abishai encourages David to take advantage of an opportunity to defeat his enemy.

1. It is important to recognize and take advantage of God-given opportunities.

2. Even in moments of temptation, God desires us to make the right choice.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13, "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

2. James 4:17, "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

1 Samuel 26:9 And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD's anointed, and be guiltless?

David refuses to harm Saul, even though Saul is attempting to take his life, because Saul is anointed by God.

1. Remember that no one is above God's anointing, even when in conflict with one another.

2. How our actions reflect our faith in God's power to protect those He has chosen.

1. Psalm 105:15 saying, Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm.

2. Romans 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Samuel 26:10 David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish.

David affirms his faith in God and His ability to bring justice as he expresses confidence that either Saul will be smitten, his day will come to die, or he will descend into battle and perish.

1. "God's Justice: The Trustworthy Assurance of David"

2. "The Faith of David: An Example of Resilience and Trust"

1. Ephesians 6:13 - "Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."

2. Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

1 Samuel 26:11 The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed: but, I pray thee, take thou now the spear that is at his bolster, and the cruse of water, and let us go.

David refuses to attack Saul, even though Saul is trying to kill him, and instead asks Saul for his spear and water jug.

1. The importance of showing mercy and forgiveness even to our enemies.

2. The power of faith and obedience over selfish desires.

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord. On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Samuel 26:12 So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither awaked: for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them.

David took Saul s spear and water jug while everyone was asleep due to a deep sleep from the Lord.

1. God's presence can be felt even in the most unexpected places.

2. God's protection will cover us even when we feel vulnerable.

1. Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

1 Samuel 26:13 Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of an hill afar off; a great space being between them:

David went to the top of a hill far away from Saul, creating a great distance between them.

1. God wants us to keep a respectful distance from those who are not in alignment with His will.

2. We can find strength in standing firm in our beliefs while showing respect and kindness to those who oppose us.

1. Luke 6:31 - "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

1 Samuel 26:14 And David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Answerest thou not, Abner? Then Abner answered and said, Who art thou that criest to the king?

David calls out to Abner and questions why he is not responding.

1. The Power of Our Words

2. The Need for Patience

1. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

2. James 5:7-8 Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

1 Samuel 26:15 And David said to Abner, Art not thou a valiant man? and who is like to thee in Israel? wherefore then hast thou not kept thy lord the king? for there came one of the people in to destroy the king thy lord.

David questions Abner's loyalty to King Saul by asking why he did not protect him from being threatened by one of the people.

1: We must always remain loyal to our leaders and protect them from danger.

2: Even in difficult times we must remain faithful to those we are called to serve.

1: Proverbs 24:21- My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not join with those who do rebel.

2: Romans 13:1- Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

1 Samuel 26:16 This thing is not good that thou hast done. As the LORD liveth, ye are worthy to die, because ye have not kept your master, the LORD's anointed. And now see where the king's spear is, and the cruse of water that was at his bolster.

Saul confronts David for having spared his life when he had the opportunity to kill him.

1. God is in Control of Our Lives

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. 1 Peter 2:21-25 - "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly."

1 Samuel 26:17 And Saul knew David's voice, and said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And David said, It is my voice, my lord, O king.

Saul recognizes David's voice and David acknowledges Saul as king.

1. The Power of Recognition: Learning to acknowledge and respect each other.

2. The Importance of Identity: Discovering who we are in God's eyes.

1. Proverbs 18:24: A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:10: Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

1 Samuel 26:18 And he said, Wherefore doth my lord thus pursue after his servant? for what have I done? or what evil is in mine hand?

David questions why Saul is pursuing him when he has done nothing wrong.

1. We must always trust in God's justice and righteousness, even when it seems like we are being unjustly persecuted.

2. God is always looking out for us and will never let us be wrongfully accused.

1. Psalm 37:1-3 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

2. Romans 8:31-33 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

1 Samuel 26:19 Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods.

David acknowledges that Saul may have been stirred up by the Lord, but if it was the work of mere men then they should be cursed for driving David out of the inheritance of the Lord.

1. God will defend His own: Psalm 118:6

2. Blessings of inheritance: Ephesians 1:11-14

1. Psalm 118:6 The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

2. Ephesians 1:11-14 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

1 Samuel 26:20 Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD: for the king of Israel is come out to seek a flea, as when one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains.

Saul, the King of Israel, has come out to seek a flea like he would hunt a partridge in the mountains.

1. The Importance of Righteousness before the Lord: A Lesson from Saul

2. The Futility of Seeking the Insignificant: A Reflection from Saul

1. Psalm 139:7-12 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

2. Proverbs 15:3 - The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

1 Samuel 26:21 Then said Saul, I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do thee harm, because my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.

Saul realizes his wrongdoing and acknowledges that David's life is precious in his eyes. He admits his foolishness and expresses regret for his errors.

1. Recognizing our Wrongdoing and Seeking Forgiveness

2. The Power of Self-Reflection

1. Proverbs 28:13 - He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

2. Psalm 51:3 - For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

1 Samuel 26:22 And David answered and said, Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it.

David challenges Saul to send a young man to retrieve the king's spear which is in David's possession.

1. The Strength of Faith: Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Righteousness: Learning to Follow God's Path Amidst Temptation

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Samuel 26:23 The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the LORD delivered thee into my hand to day, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed.

David refused to harm Saul, despite being given the opportunity to do so, because he recognized Saul as the Lord's anointed.

1. The importance of righteousness and faithfulness.

2. The power of mercy.

1. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

2. Romans 12:17-19 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Samuel 26:24 And, behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of the LORD, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation.

David expresses his deep desire to be protected from harm by the Lord, showing his faith in Him.

1. God is our protector in times of trouble.

2. Have faith in the Lord, for He will provide.

1. Psalm 121:7-8 - The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 26:25 Then Saul said to David, Blessed be thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

Saul blessed David and told him he would be successful, after which David continued on his journey and Saul returned home.

1. God always blesses His faithful servants with success.

2. The power of God's blessing enables us to prevail over any situation.

1. Psalm 37:3-6 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

2. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

1 Samuel 27 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 27:1-4 describes David's decision to seek refuge with the Philistines. In this chapter, David, feeling threatened by Saul's continued pursuit, decides to escape to the land of the Philistines for safety. He goes to Achish, the king of Gath, and requests permission to settle in one of the cities under his rule. Achish grants David Ziklag as his dwelling place.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 27:5-12, it recounts David's actions while living among the Philistines. During his time in Ziklag, David deceives Achish by making him believe that he is raiding Israelite territories when he is actually attacking other enemies of Israel and leaving no survivors behind as witnesses.

Paragraph 3: In verse such as 1 Samuel 27:11-12, it is mentioned that whenever Achish asks about David's raids, David provides false reports indicating that he has been attacking Israelite towns and villages instead of other enemies. As a result, Achish comes to trust and rely on David more and more.

In summary:

1 Samuel 27 presents:

David seeking refuge with the Philistine;

David's actions while living among the Philistine;

David deceiving Achis;

Emphasis on:

David seeking refuge with the Philistine;

David's actions while living among the Philistine;

David deceiving Achis;

The chapter focuses on David seeking refuge with the Philistines for safety from Saul's pursuit, his actions while living among them, and his deception towards King Achish. In 1 Samuel 27, David decides to escape to the land of the Philistines and requests permission from King Achish to settle in one of their cities. Achish grants him Ziklag as his dwelling place.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 27, while residing in Ziklag, David deceives Achish by making him believe that he is raiding Israelite territories when he is actually attacking other enemies of Israel and leaving no survivors behind as witnesses. Whenever Achish inquires about David's raids, David provides false reports indicating that he has been attacking Israelite towns and villages instead of other enemies. As a result, Achish comes to trust and rely on David more and more.

This chapter portrays both David's decision to seek refuge with the Philistines for his safety and his actions of deception while living among them. It highlights the complexities of his situation as he navigates between loyalty to God's chosen people and ensuring his own survival amidst the ongoing conflict with Saul.

1 Samuel 27:1 And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand.

David realizes that his only chance of survival is to flee to the land of the Philistines, where Saul will not be able to find him.

1. The Strength of Faith in Difficult Situations

2. The Importance of Taking Action in Times of Need

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 27:2 And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men that were with him unto Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath.

David went to the Philistine king Achish alongside 600 men.

1. We can learn from David's example of faith even in difficult situations.

2. No matter how challenging circumstances may be, God can help us persevere.

1. Romans 8:31: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 18:2: "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

1 Samuel 27:3 And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife.

David and his men live in Gath, where he is accompanied by his two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail.

1. Finding Strength in Family: A Study of 1 Samuel 27:3

2. Trusting in the Lord's Provision: A Study of 1 Samuel 27:3

1. Ruth 1:16-17: Ruth's commitment to her mother-in-law Naomi and their journey together

2. Proverbs 18:24: A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Samuel 27:4 And it was told Saul that David was fled to Gath: and he sought no more again for him.

Saul gave up his pursuit of David when he heard that he had fled to Gath.

1. The importance of perseverance in the face of difficulties.

2. How even the strongest of people can be tempted to give up.

1. Romans 5:3-4: "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted."

1 Samuel 27:5 And David said unto Achish, If I have now found grace in thine eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there: for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee?

David asked Achish if he could find a place to live in a town in the country instead of living in the royal city with him.

1. Finding Grace in Unexpected Places

2. Living a Life of Faithfulness and Integrity

1. Romans 5:17 - "For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!"

2. Psalm 18:25 - "With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless."

1 Samuel 27:6 Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: wherefore Ziklag pertaineth unto the kings of Judah unto this day.

Achish gave Ziklag to David as a gift, and it has remained a part of the Kingdom of Judah ever since.

1. God provides for those who are faithful to Him.

2. God rewards obedience with blessings.

1. 1 Samuel 27:6

2. Psalm 37:3-5, Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.

1 Samuel 27:7 And the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months.

David lived in the land of the Philistines for a period of one year and four months.

1. God's plans are bigger than our own: the story of David and the Philistines.

2. Enduring trials: how David's time in the Philistine country can teach us to trust God in times of difficulty.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

1 Samuel 27:8 And David and his men went up, and invaded the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites: for those nations were of old the inhabitants of the land, as thou goest to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt.

David and his men invaded the Geshurites, Gezrites, and Amalekites, who had inhabited the land from Shur to Egypt.

1. God's faithfulness leads us to victory.

2. Our confidence is in the Lord's power and strength.

1. Romans 8:37 - Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

1 Samuel 27:9 And David smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel, and returned, and came to Achish.

David attacked a land, killing everyone and then took all their possessions before returning to Achish.

1. The importance of justice and mercy in our lives.

2. The consequences of taking what does not belong to us.

1. Matthew 7:12 - Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

2. James 2:13 - For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

1 Samuel 27:10 And Achish said, Whither have ye made a road to day? And David said, Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites, and against the south of the Kenites.

David answered Achish's question about where he had gone on a raid with a specific location of Judah, Jerahmeelites, and Kenites.

1. We should be mindful of where we go and why we go there.

2. Our actions can have consequences, even if we don't realize it.

1. Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

1 Samuel 27:11 And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring tidings to Gath, saying, Lest they should tell on us, saying, So did David, and so will be his manner all the while he dwelleth in the country of the Philistines.

David, while living in the country of the Philistines, killed all of the men and women he encountered, so that no one could tell Gath of his presence.

1. God can redeem even the worst of circumstances.

2. We can trust God even when we feel helpless.

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

1 Samuel 27:12 And Achish believed David, saying, He hath made his people Israel utterly to abhor him; therefore he shall be my servant for ever.

Achish trusted David and believed that he had made his people Israel detest him, so he made David his servant forever.

1. The Faithfulness of God's Servant - 1 Samuel 27:12

2. The Power of Obedience - 1 Samuel 27:12

1. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

1 Samuel 28 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 28:1-6 describes Saul's desperation and his visit to the medium of En-dor. In this chapter, the Philistines gather their forces to wage war against Israel. Faced with imminent battle and feeling abandoned by God, Saul seeks guidance but receives no response through dreams or prophets. In a desperate act, he disguises himself and visits a medium in En-dor, asking her to summon the spirit of the deceased prophet Samuel.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 28:7-15, it recounts Saul's encounter with the spirit of Samuel. The medium successfully summons Samuel's spirit, which surprises and frightens her. Saul speaks to Samuel and expresses his distress over the impending battle against the Philistines. The spirit of Samuel informs him that because he did not obey God's commands in previous situations, God has turned away from him and will allow his kingdom to be given to David.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 1 Samuel 28:16-25, it is mentioned that upon hearing this revelation from the spirit of Samuel, Saul collapses on the ground out of fear and exhaustion. The medium cares for him and prepares a meal for him before he departs. Despite receiving this dire prophecy about his downfall, Saul remains determined to face the Philistines in battle.

In summary:

1 Samuel 28 presents:

Saul's desperation;

Saul's visit to a mediul;

Saul's encounter with Samue;

Emphasis on:

Saul's desperation;

Saul's visit to a mediul;

Saul's encounter with Samue;

The chapter focuses on Saul's desperation as he faces an imminent battle against the Philistines, his decision to visit a medium for guidance, and his encounter with the spirit of Samuel. In 1 Samuel 28, Saul, feeling abandoned by God and receiving no response through traditional means of seeking guidance, disguises himself and visits a medium in En-dor.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 28, the medium successfully summons the spirit of Samuel, who delivers a message to Saul. The spirit informs him that due to his disobedience to God's commands in the past, God has turned away from him and will allow his kingdom to be given to David.

Upon hearing this prophecy about his downfall from the spirit of Samuel, Saul collapses on the ground out of fear and exhaustion. The medium cares for him and prepares a meal before he departs. Despite receiving this dire revelation, Saul remains determined to face the Philistines in battle. This chapter portrays Saul's desperation leading him to seek supernatural guidance and highlights the consequences of his disobedience towards God's commands.

1 Samuel 28:1 And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said unto David, Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me to battle, thou and thy men.

In the time of 1 Samuel, the Philistines gathered their armies to fight against Israel. Achish told David that he and his men would be joining the battle.

1. The importance of trusting in God during difficult times.

2. The power of faithfulness even in the face of danger.

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God..."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 28:2 And David said to Achish, Surely thou shalt know what thy servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make thee keeper of mine head for ever.

David asked Achish what he could do and Achish offered him a permanent position as his head guard.

1. The Power of Asking - We can never know what God has in store for us if we don't take the first step and ask.

2. Faithful Service - David's willingness to serve Achish faithfully was rewarded with a permanent position.

1. James 4:2 - You do not have because you do not ask God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Samuel 28:3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land.

Samuel, a prophet in Israel, had died and was buried in his hometown, Ramah. Saul, the king of Israel, had banished all those who practiced witchcraft and other occult practices from the land.

1. God gives us wise leaders and faithful prophets to help us stay true to his Word.

2. We must be careful to not turn away from God and put our trust in the occult.

1. 1 Samuel 28:3 - And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land.

2. Deuteronomy 18:9-12 - "When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord."

1 Samuel 28:4 And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa.

The Philistines gathered in Shunem while Saul gathered all of Israel in Gilboa.

1. The Power of Unity: Using the example of Saul and the Philistines, we can learn the importance of working together.

2. The Strength of Faith: Even when faced with seemingly insurmountable odds, Saul's faith in God allowed him to lead the people of Israel to victory.

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

1 Samuel 28:5 And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

Saul was afraid and trembling when he saw the Philistine army.

1. We can learn from Saul's example to turn to God in moments of fear and uncertainty.

2. Even in times of great danger, we can find strength and courage in the Lord.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 28:6 And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

Saul asked the Lord for guidance, but the Lord did not give him an answer through dreams, Urim, or prophets.

1) God's Silence: What It Means and How to Respond

2) Faith in the Midst of Uncertainty

1) Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

2) Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

1 Samuel 28:7 Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.

Saul seeks out a woman with a familiar spirit in order to enquire of her. His servants inform him that there is such a woman at Endor.

1. The Danger of Seeking Guidance from Unbiblical Sources

2. The Necessity of Seeking Guidance from God Alone

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 - "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord"

2. Isaiah 8:19 - "And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead?"

1 Samuel 28:8 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.

Saul disguises himself and visits a woman with two men to ask her to use a familiar spirit to bring someone up from the dead.

1. Don't Let Yourself Be Tempted by the Supernatural

2. Don't Be Led Astray by False Gods

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 - "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD"

2. Isaiah 8:19-20 - "And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

1 Samuel 28:9 And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

A woman confronts Saul for attempting to have her killed for the practice of witchcraft, which he had previously outlawed.

1. The dangers of hypocrisy in following God's laws.

2. Our need to be humble and honest in our faith.

1. James 2:10-11 - For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

2. Psalm 62:2-3 - He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

1 Samuel 28:10 And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

Saul swore to the woman by the Lord that no punishment would happen to her for her actions.

1.God is always faithful to fulfill His promises.

2.The Lord is gracious and merciful, even in difficult times.

1.2 Cor 1:20 For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

2.Psalm 86:5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

1 Samuel 28:11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.

A woman asked Saul whom she should bring up from the dead and Saul requested Samuel.

1. The Importance of Faith: Saul's faith in Samuel's power to answer his questions even in death.

2. The Search for Answers: Seeking guidance from those who have passed on.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

1 Samuel 28:12 And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.

A woman confronts Saul after seeing the ghost of Samuel, accusing him of deceiving her.

1. "God's Judgement: Saul's Deception"

2. "The Power of Faith: The Woman's Voice"

1. Ephesians 5:15-17 "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

2. Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

1 Samuel 28:13 And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.

Saul visits a medium to inquire about the future, and the medium tells him she saw gods ascending from the earth.

1. "The Power of Fear: How Saul's Fear Led Him Astray"

2. "The Danger of Seeking Answers in the Wrong Places"

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8 Thus says the Lord: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

1 Samuel 28:14 And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

Saul consults a medium to contact the prophet Samuel from the afterlife, and upon recognizing him, Saul bows in reverence.

1. We should have humility and reverence when approaching those with greater spiritual wisdom than ourselves.

2. We should seek advice from wise sources in times of need and distress.

1. James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Proverbs 24:6 - For by wise guidance you can wage your war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory.

1 Samuel 28:15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

Saul was distressed because the Philistines were making war against him and God was no longer answering him through prophets or dreams, so he called Samuel to make known to him what he should do.

1. Discerning God's Will in Distressing Times

2. Finding Hope and Comfort in Troubled Times

1. John 14:18-20 - I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 28:16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?

Passage Samuel questions Saul why he is seeking his help when God has already departed from him and has become his enemy.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God: A Study of Saul and His Fate

2. The Impact of Our Choices: Understanding the Power of the Decisions We Make

1. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

2. Proverbs 16:25 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

1 Samuel 28:17 And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David:

The Lord has fulfilled his promise to Saul by taking the kingdom away from him and giving it to David.

1. God's Promises are Always Fulfilled

2. How to Respond to Unfavorable Circumstances

1. Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. James 1:2-4, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

1 Samuel 28:18 Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day.

The LORD punished Saul for not executing his wrath upon Amalek.

1. Obeying God brings blessings, disobeying brings consequences.

2. We must always be mindful of God's commands and seek to obey Him.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessing for obedience and curse of disobedience.

2. Romans 6:12-14 - Dead to sin and alive to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Samuel 28:19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

Saul seeks a witch's help to get a message from Samuel, but instead is told that he and his sons will die in battle against the Philistines the next day.

1. The importance of seeking God's wisdom in times of distress.

2. Remaining faithful to God despite the consequences.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

1 Samuel 28:20 Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night.

Saul fell to the ground in fear after hearing the words of Samuel, having gone without food for an entire day and night.

1. The Power of Fear: How It Can Overcome Us

2. The Strength of Faith: How It Can Comfort Us

1. Psalm 118:6 "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

1 Samuel 28:21 And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, Behold, thine handmaid hath obeyed thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me.

A woman comes to Saul and sees that he is in distress. She then tells him that she has put her life in her hands and followed his instructions.

1. The Power and Strength of Obedience

2. The Importance of Taking Risks for God

1. Ephesians 6:5-6 - "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart."

2. Hebrews 11:23-25 - "By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin."

1 Samuel 28:22 Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thine handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way.

Saul seeks guidance from a woman to help him make a decision and she suggests he eat a morsel of bread to gain strength.

1. How Saul was empowered to make wise decisions by seeking help and trusting God.

2. How we can gain strength from making wise decisions with God's help.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

1 Samuel 28:23 But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed.

Despite initially refusing, Saul was eventually persuaded by his servants and the woman to eat.

1. Obeying those in authority is important, even if we don't understand why.

2. We should be mindful of how our actions can influence others.

1. Romans 13:1-2 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Samuel 28:24 And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she hasted, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened bread thereof:

Passage A woman quickly killed and prepared a fat calf to make unleavened bread.

1. The Quickness of Obedience: How even small actions of obedience can have a huge impact

2. The Power of Preparation: How having the right ingredients at the right time can make all the difference

1. Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

2. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

1 Samuel 28:25 And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

Saul and his servants ate the food prepared by a woman and then left in the night.

1. God can use anyone to do His will, no matter their background or occupation.

2. We must be willing to serve others even in moments of distress.

1. Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

2. Romans 12:13 "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

1 Samuel 29 can be summarized in three paragraphs as follows, with indicated verses:

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 29:1-5 describes David's dismissal from the Philistine army. In this chapter, the Philistines gather their forces to fight against Israel, and David and his men are among them. However, when the Philistine commanders see David and his men marching with them, they express concern about his loyalty and potential betrayal during the battle. As a result, they demand that Achish the king of Gath send David back to Ziklag.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 29:6-9, it recounts Achish's reluctant agreement to dismiss David. Although Achish had trusted David and viewed him favorably, he ultimately gives in to the concerns raised by his commanders. He acknowledges that David has been blameless in his eyes but decides that it is best for him to return home.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 1 Samuel 29:10-11, it is mentioned that early the next morning, David and his men leave the Philistine camp and return to Ziklag while the Philistines prepare for battle against Israel. Despite being dismissed from fighting alongside the Philistines, there is no indication of any immediate conflict or confrontation between David's men and their former allies.

In summary:

1 Samuel 29 presents:

David's dismissal from the Philistine arm;

Achish's reluctanagreement;

David's return to Zikla;

Emphasis on:

David's dismissal from the Philistine arm;

Achish's reluctanagreement;

David's return to Zikla;

The chapter focuses on David being dismissed from fighting alongside the Philistines, Achish reluctantly agreeing to let him go, and David returning to Ziklag. In 1 Samuel 29, the Philistines gather their forces for battle against Israel, and David and his men join them. However, the Philistine commanders express concern about David's loyalty and demand that Achish send him back to Ziklag.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 29, Achish reluctantly agrees to dismiss David despite viewing him favorably. He acknowledges David's blamelessness but decides it is best for him to return home. The next morning, David and his men leave the Philistine camp and make their way back to Ziklag while the Philistines prepare for battle against Israel.

This chapter highlights the delicate situation David finds himself in as he is dismissed from fighting alongside the Philistines due to concerns about his loyalty. It also showcases Achish's reluctant agreement and recognition of David's innocence in his eyes. The chapter concludes with David returning safely to Ziklag without any immediate conflict or confrontation with their former allies.

1 Samuel 29:1 Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek: and the Israelites pitched by a fountain which is in Jezreel.

The Philistines and Israelites gathered together near a fountain in Jezreel.

1. Understanding the importance of gathering together as a community.

2. The power of coming together to seek and follow God's will.

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

2. Hebrews 10:25 - "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

1 Samuel 29:2 And the lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands: but David and his men passed on in the rereward with Achish.

David and his men traveled with Achish, while the Philistine lords traveled in large groups.

1. God's plan for us is often different than the plans of those around us.

2. God's care and protection can be seen in unexpected places.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

1 Samuel 29:3 Then said the princes of the Philistines, What do these Hebrews here? And Achish said unto the princes of the Philistines, Is not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, which hath been with me these days, or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he fell unto me unto this day?

The Philistine princes asked why David, Saul's servant, was present with Achish. Achish said that he had found no fault in David since he had come to him.

1. The Unshakeable Faithfulness of God

2. The Blessings of a Godly Character

1. Psalm 15:1-5

2. 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

1 Samuel 29:4 And the princes of the Philistines were wroth with him; and the princes of the Philistines said unto him, Make this fellow return, that he may go again to his place which thou hast appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be an adversary to us: for wherewith should he reconcile himself unto his master? should it not be with the heads of these men?

The Philistine princes were angry with David and asked him to return to his own place instead of joining the battle, lest he become an adversary to them.

1. Do not become your own enemy by choosing the wrong path.

2. Remain true to your commitments and rely on God s strength to overcome all adversaries.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Samuel 29:5 Is not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, Saul slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

The people of Israel sang a song in dance praising David for slaying ten thousand while Saul only killed his thousands.

1. God rewards those who are faithful to Him and seek His will.

2. We can take comfort in knowing that God is in control of all things.

1. Psalm 37:7-8 - Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret it leads only to evil.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

1 Samuel 29:6 Then Achish called David, and said unto him, Surely, as the LORD liveth, thou hast been upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the host is good in my sight: for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless the lords favour thee not.

Achish praised David for his loyalty and faithfulness, but the other lords did not favor him.

1. The importance of remaining faithful and loyal even when it is not reciprocated.

2. God's faithfulness is greater than man's favor.

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

1 Samuel 29:7 Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that thou displease not the lords of the Philistines.

The Philistine lords instruct David to return home peacefully so as not to displease them.

1. Follow the guidance of God, even if it means making hard choices.

2. Obey those in authority, even when it is difficult.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 29:8 And David said unto Achish, But what have I done? and what hast thou found in thy servant so long as I have been with thee unto this day, that I may not go fight against the enemies of my lord the king?

David asked Achish why he wasn't allowed to fight against the king's enemies.

1. David's Faithful Submission: An Example of Obedience in Difficult Times

2. Being Justified: Serving God With a Good Conscience

1. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Submission to authority and living a righteous life

2. 1 Timothy 1:5 - Serving God with a pure conscience and in faithfulness

1 Samuel 29:9 And Achish answered and said to David, I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of God: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle.

Achish recognized that David was good in his sight, despite the fact that the Philistine princes did not want him to join them in the battle.

1. God's plans are higher than our own - 1 Samuel 29:9

2. Be strong in the face of opposition - 1 Samuel 29:9

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1 Samuel 29:10 Wherefore now rise up early in the morning with thy master's servants that are come with thee: and as soon as ye be up early in the morning, and have light, depart.

The passage encourages rising early in the morning to make the most of one's day.

1: Start the day with joy and gratitude, trusting in God to guide the way.

2: Make the most of each day by rising early and staying focused on the Lord's will.

1: Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2: Proverbs 6:9-10 - How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest.

1 Samuel 29:11 So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

David and his men left in the morning to return to the land of the Philistines, who had gone up to Jezreel.

1. Living for God despite difficult circumstances

2. The importance of obedience to God's commands

Cross-

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 30:1-10 describes the Amalekite raid on Ziklag and the distress it causes David and his men. In this chapter, while David and his men are away from Ziklag, the Amalekites attack their city, burning it down and taking captive all the women, children, and possessions. When David and his men return to Ziklag, they find it devastated. Overwhelmed with grief and anger, David's own men turn against him and consider stoning him.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 30:11-20, it recounts David's pursuit of the Amalekites to recover what was taken. Seeking guidance from God through Abiathar the priest, David receives assurance that he will successfully overtake the raiders. With a force of four hundred men, he pursues them until they reach a brook called Besor.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 1 Samuel 30:21-31, it is mentioned that after overtaking the Amalekites in battle, David recovers everything that was taken from Ziklag along with additional spoils. He liberates all captives both Israelite and non-Israelite and shares the spoils equally among his troops. Upon returning to Ziklag, David sends gifts to various cities of Judah as an expression of gratitude for their support during his time as a fugitive.

In summary:

1 Samuel 30 presents:

The Amalekite raid on Zikla;

David's pursuit of the Amalekit;

David's recovery of what was take;

Emphasis on:

The Amalekite raid on Zikla;

David's pursuit of the Amalekit;

David's recovery of what was take;

The chapter focuses on the devastating Amalekite raid on Ziklag, David's pursuit of the raiders to recover what was taken, and his successful retrieval of the captives and spoils. In 1 Samuel 30, while David and his men are away, the Amalekites attack Ziklag, burning it down and taking captive all its inhabitants. Upon their return, David and his men find their city destroyed and their loved ones gone.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 30, seeking guidance from God through Abiathar the priest, David receives assurance that he will successfully overtake the Amalekite raiders. With a force of four hundred men, he pursues them until they reach a brook called Besor.

After overtaking the Amalekites in battle, David recovers everything that was taken from Ziklag along with additional spoils. He liberates all captives both Israelite and non-Israelite and shares the spoils equally among his troops. Grateful for God's deliverance and support from various cities of Judah during his time as a fugitive, David sends gifts to express his gratitude upon returning to Ziklag. This chapter showcases both David's determination to recover what was lost and his generous leadership in sharing the spoils with all who fought alongside him.

1 Samuel 30:1 And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

The Amalekites invaded Ziklag and burned it with fire on the third day of David and his men's arrival.

1. God's faithfulness in times of trial

2. The power of resilience in the face of adversity

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

1 Samuel 30:2 And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way.

The Amalekites attacked a city, taking all of the women captives without killing anyone.

1. God's protection and provision in times of trouble.

2. The power of faith and obedience to God's commands.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Samuel 30:3 So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.

David and his men were shocked to find their city had been burned and their families taken captive.

1. God is always with us in the midst of our suffering.

2. God can use our pain and suffering to bring about good things.

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

1 Samuel 30:4 Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

After suffering a great loss, David and his people wept until they had no more tears left.

1. Comfort in Loss - Finding strength in hard times

2. Overcoming Grief - Moving forward with hope

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 30:5 And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

David's two wives were taken captive, Ahinoam from Jezreel and Abigail, the wife of Nabal from Carmel.

1. The Faithfulness of David in the Face of Adversity

2. God's Sovereignty in the Lives of His People

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

2. Matthew 10:29-31 - Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

1 Samuel 30:6 And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

David was greatly distressed when the people spoke of stoning him, but he encouraged himself in the Lord.

1. God is our source of strength and courage in times of distress.

2. We must seek God's help and guidance in difficult times.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

1 Samuel 30:7 And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David.

David asked for the ephod from Abiathar the priest, and it was granted.

1. God is faithful in answering prayers and fulfilling our requests.

2. We must be humble in our requests and have faith that God will provide.

1. Matthew 7:7-8, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

2. James 4:3, "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

1 Samuel 30:8 And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

David asked God if he should pursue a troop of enemies, and God answered him to do so, assuring that he would overtake them and recover all.

1. God will always provide us the strength to pursue our goals, no matter how daunting they may seem.

2. When we seek God's guidance, He will answer and empower us to fulfill our purposes.

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2. Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

1 Samuel 30:9 So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed.

David and the six hundred men he was with traveled to the brook Besor, where the remaining soldiers were waiting.

1. God will always protect us, even when we feel like we are alone.

2. God provides strength and courage even in difficult times.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

1 Samuel 30:10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.

David and his men demonstrate unwavering dedication and commitment to their cause.

1: True dedication is seen in the moments of adversity.

2: Let us be inspired by David and his men s example of loyalty and commitment.

1: Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

2: James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

1 Samuel 30:11 And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water;

David and his men found an Egyptian in the field, and gave him food and drink.

1. The Power of Compassion: How Our Actions Can Change a Life

2. Showing God's Love Through Kindness and Generosity

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

1 Samuel 30:12 And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights.

David and his men found an Egyptian servant who had been without food or water for three days and nights. They gave him a piece of cake and two clusters of raisins and when he ate them, his spirit returned.

1. The Power of God's Provision: How God Provides for Our Every Need

2. The Strength of Endurance: How God Strengthens Us Through Difficult Times

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Samuel 30:13 And David said unto him, To whom belongest thou? and whence art thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days agone I fell sick.

David encountered a young man from Egypt who had been left behind by his Amalekite master because he had fallen ill three days prior.

1. God's faithfulness in times of despair

2. The power of perseverance in the face of difficulty

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 30:14 We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

David and his men raided the Cherethites and destroyed Ziklag.

1. Faith in God will get you through any difficulty, no matter how dire the situation.

2. Joy in the Lord is your strength.

1. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 28:7 "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

1 Samuel 30:15 And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this company.

David made a covenant with a man in order to bring him down to the company.

1. The importance of keeping a covenant.

2. Taking risks in order to achieve a greater good.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

2. Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Samuel 30:16 And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

David and his men defeated the Philistines and took a great deal of spoils from them, which they celebrated by eating, drinking, and dancing.

1. Rejoice in the Lord for His Victories

2. Celebrate with Moderation

1. Psalm 118:24, This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:15, Then I commended enjoyment, for a man has nothing better under the sun than to eat, drink, and be merry.

1 Samuel 30:17 And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.

David defeated the Amalekites from twilight until the evening of the next day, with only four hundred young men escaping on camels.

1. God's faithfulness in the face of adversity (1 Corinthians 10:13).

2. The importance of perseverance in difficult times (James 1:2-4).

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

1 Samuel 30:18 And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives.

David successfully recovered what had been taken by the Amalekites and also rescued his two wives.

1. The Power of Restoration: How God Can Restore All That Has Been Lost

2. The Strength of Love: How Love Can Overcome All Obstacles

1. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

1 Samuel 30:19 And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: David recovered all.

David and his men were victorious in a battle and recovered all of their possessions.

1. God will provide and protect us in times of distress.

2. We can trust in God and He will restore what was lost.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.

1 Samuel 30:20 And David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drave before those other cattle, and said, This is David's spoil.

David took all the animals he and his men had captured from the Amalekites and declared them his spoil.

1. God s Blessings in Unexpected Places

2. The Rewards of Perseverance

1. Matthew 5:45 So that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2. James 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

1 Samuel 30:21 And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that were with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.

Two hundred men were too weak to follow David, so they stayed behind at the brook Besor. When David and his people approached, he greeted them.

1. The Power of Greeting Others: A Study of 1 Samuel 30:21

2. The Strength of Fellowship: A Reflection on 1 Samuel 30:21

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

1 Samuel 30:22 Then answered all the wicked men and men of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them ought of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead them away, and depart.

Wicked men and men of Belial refused to share the spoils of war with those who did not fight alongside them, but instead allowed them to take their families and leave.

1. God's grace is greater than our selfishness.

2. We reap the rewards of treating others with kindness and respect.

1. Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

2. Galatians 6:7 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

1 Samuel 30:23 Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.

David refused to allow his men to take from the spoils of battle that had been given to them by the LORD.

1. "The Lord's Blessed Protection"

2. "Our Obedience to the Lord's Will"

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

1 Samuel 30:24 For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.

This passage emphasizes the importance of sharing equally with those who take part in battle as well as those who remain behind.

1. "Equal Share: The Importance of Fairness and Responsibility"

2. "The Rewards of Loyalty: A Lesson from 1 Samuel 30:24"

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2. Galatians 6:7 - "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows."

1 Samuel 30:25 And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.

David established a statute and ordinance for Israel, which is still in effect today.

1: God's laws are still in effect today and we should strive to live up to them.

2: We should take example from the life of David and follow God's laws.

1: Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

2: Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Samuel 30:26 And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying, Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD;

David sent the spoils of war from the enemies of the LORD to the elders of Judah as a present.

1. The Power of Generosity: Giving to Others Through What We Have Been Given

2. The Blessing of Obedience: The Rewards of Following God's Will

1. Ephesians 4:28 - "Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need."

2. 1 John 3:17 - "But if anyone has the world s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God s love abide in him?"

1 Samuel 30:27 To them which were in Bethel, and to them which were in south Ramoth, and to them which were in Jattir,

David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken.

David was able to reclaim everything that the Amalekites had taken from Bethel, South Ramoth, and Jattir.

1. The Power of Faith: How David Recovered All That the Amalekites Had Taken

2. Fighting against Adversity: Overcoming Difficulties with the Help of God

1. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

1 Samuel 30:28 And to them which were in Aroer, and to them which were in Siphmoth, and to them which were in Eshtemoa,

David and his men rescued their families and property from the Amalekites.

1. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

2. God rewards those who are faithful to His will.

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2. Matthew 25:21 - His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.

1 Samuel 30:29 And to them which were in Rachal, and to them which were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them which were in the cities of the Kenites,

This passage speaks of three different groups of people living in three distinct cities in the ancient world.

1. The Wonders of Unity: Using 1 Samuel 30:29 as an example

2. Finding Strength Through Community: Reflections on 1 Samuel 30:29

1. Proverbs 27:17, Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

1 Samuel 30:30 And to them which were in Hormah, and to them which were in Chorashan, and to them which were in Athach,

David and his men rescued their families from the Amalekites.

1. God will provide for us in times of trial and struggle.

2. We are never alone in our struggles - God is there to support us.

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 30:31 And to them which were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt.

David and his men conquered several locations, including Hebron, where they had previously been.

1. How God can turn our former haunts into places of victory.

2. The importance of being resilient in the face of adversity.

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paragraph 1: 1 Samuel 31:1-4 describes the death of Saul and his sons in battle against the Philistines. In this chapter, the Philistines engage in a fierce battle against Israel. Despite their efforts, the Israelites are overwhelmed by the enemy forces, and Saul's sons Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua are killed. Saul himself is severely wounded by archers.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 1 Samuel 31:5-7, it recounts Saul's final moments and his request to be killed by his armor-bearer. When Saul realizes that he is mortally wounded and will soon be captured alive by the Philistines, he asks his armor-bearer to kill him with a sword. However, out of fear or hesitation, the armor-bearer refuses to carry out Saul's request.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 1 Samuel 31:8-13, it is mentioned that upon seeing that his armor-bearer would not comply with his plea for death, Saul takes matters into his own hands. He falls on his own sword and dies alongside his three sons on Mount Gilboa. The Philistines find their bodies and decapitate them as trophies of victory. They display their bodies on the wall of Beth-shan while hanging their armor in the temple of Ashtaroth.

In summary:

1 Samuel 31 presents:

The death of Sauand his son;

Saul's request to be kille;

The display of Sauand hiarmo;

Emphasis on:

The death of Sauand his son;

Saul's request to be kille;

The display of Sauand hiarmo;

The chapter focuses on the tragic death of Saul and his sons in battle against the Philistines, Saul's request to be killed, and the display of their bodies and armor. In 1 Samuel 31, the Israelites engage in a fierce battle with the Philistines. Despite their efforts, they are defeated, and Saul's sons Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua are killed. Saul himself is gravely wounded by archers.

Continuing in 1 Samuel 31, realizing that he will soon be captured alive by the Philistines, Saul requests his armor-bearer to kill him with a sword. However, when his armor-bearer refuses to carry out his plea for death out of fear or hesitation, Saul takes matters into his own hands. He falls on his own sword and dies alongside his three sons on Mount Gilboa.

The chapter concludes with the Philistines finding their bodies and decapitating them as trophies of victory. They display their bodies on the wall of Beth-shan while hanging their armor in the temple of Ashtaroth. This chapter marks a tragic end to Saul's reign as king of Israel and sets the stage for David's ascension to kingship.

1 Samuel 31:1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa.

The Philistines fought against Israel, resulting in many Israelites falling in Mount Gilboa.

1: We must remain strong in our faith, even when we face insurmountable odds.

2: We can learn from the mistakes of those who have gone before us.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

1 Samuel 31:2 And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, Saul's sons.

The Philistines killed Saul's three sons, Jonathan, Abinadab, and Melchishua.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Lessons from the Story of Saul and his Sons

2. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Tragedy with Trust in God

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 - For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

1 Samuel 31:3 And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers.

Saul was wounded by archers in a battle.

1. The importance of trust and faith in God even in the midst of difficult battles.

2. The power of unity and strength in numbers even when facing an opposing force.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 18:29 - "For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall."

1 Samuel 31:4 Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

Saul, in a desperate attempt to avoid further abuse from the uncircumcised, asks his armor bearer to kill him, but the armor bearer refuses out of fear. Saul then takes his own life with a sword.

1. The Power of Fear: How Fear Can Overcome Us and Lead Us Down a Dark Path

2. The Desperation of Saul: How Desperation Can Lead Us to Make Tragic Decisions

1. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

1 Samuel 31:5 And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

Saul and his armor-bearer died together in battle.

1. The Value of Loyalty and Friendship

2. Remembering Those Who Have Fallen

1. Proverbs 18:24 - "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2. Revelation 21:4 - "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

1 Samuel 31:6 So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together.

Saul and his three sons as well as his armor bearer and all his men died on the same day.

1. The importance of living life in the present and making the most of it.

2. The power of God s sovereignty and how it can affect our lives.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:11 - I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all.

1 Samuel 31:7 And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, and they that were on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

After Saul and his sons were killed in battle, the men of Israel fled and the Philistines took over the cities.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Overcoming Adversity in the Face of Defeat

2. The Impact of Living a Life of Faithfulness: Demonstrating Courage in Times of Difficulty

1. James 1:12 - "Blessed is the one who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

1 Samuel 31:8 And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

Saul and his three sons were found dead on Mount Gilboa after a battle with the Philistines.

1. "God's Will and the Human Heart: the Story of Saul and His Sons"

2. "The Sovereignty of God and Human Free Will: the Tragic Tale of Saul and His Sons"

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Samuel 31:9 And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people.

The Philistines killed Saul and cut off his head, then stripped his armour and sent it around to their idols and people to announce his death.

1. God is sovereign and He will bring justice to all who oppose Him.

2. We must remain faithful to God no matter what temptations come our way.

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Samuel 31:10 And they put his armour in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan.

The armor of Saul was placed in the house of Ashtaroth, and his body was fastened to the wall of Bethshan.

1) Finding Strength in Difficult Times: The Story of King Saul.

2) Uncovering the Power of Faith in the Life of Saul.

1) John 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

2) Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

1 Samuel 31:11 And when the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul;

The inhabitants of Jabeshgilead heard of the Philistines' defeat of Saul.

1. The Power of Compassion: Examining the Response to Saul's Defeat

2. Facing Adversity with Faith: Overcoming the Challenges of Life

1. Matthew 5:7, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

2. James 1:2-4, "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

1 Samuel 31:12 All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.

Saul and his sons were killed in battle and their bodies were taken to Jabesh to be burned.

1. The power of faith and courage in the face of tragedy

2. God's mercy and grace for those who trust Him

1. Romans 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Samuel 31:13 And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

The men of Jabesh buried Saul and his sons under a tree and fasted for seven days.

1. The Sacrifice of Saul: Understanding the True Meaning of Sacrifice.

2. The Power of Mourning: How to Find Hope in Times of Grief.

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 1:1-10 describes the arrival of an Amalekite messenger with news of Saul and Jonathan's deaths. In this chapter, following the battle between Israel and the Philistines where Saul and his sons were killed, an Amalekite man arrives at David's camp. He claims to have witnessed Saul's death and brings with him Saul's crown and armlet as proof. The Amalekite recounts a distorted version of events, claiming that he had mercy on the mortally wounded Saul at his request and delivered the final blow.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 1:11-16, it recounts David's response to the news of Saul's death. Upon hearing the Amalekite messenger's account, David mourns deeply for both Saul and Jonathan. He laments their deaths through a heartfelt lamentation known as "The Song of the Bow," honoring their bravery in battle. Despite any conflicts they may have had during their lifetimes, David expresses genuine sorrow over their loss.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 1:17-27, it is mentioned that David commands that "The Song of the Bow" be taught to all Israelites so they may remember the valorous deeds of Saul and Jonathan. He also instructs that it be written down in the Book of Jashar a lost book containing historical songs or records to preserve their memory for future generations. Through this song, David honors both men for their courage on behalf of Israel.

In summary:

2 Samuel 1 presents:

The arrival oAmalekitessenger;

David'response to Sadeath;

David'honoring Sauand Jonatha;

Emphasis on:

The arrival oAmalekitessenger;

David'response to Sadeath;

David'honoring Sauand Jonatha;

The chapter focuses on the arrival of an Amalekite messenger with news of Saul and Jonathan's deaths, David's response to this news, and his subsequent honoring of Saul and Jonathan. In 2 Samuel 1, an Amalekite man arrives at David's camp claiming to have witnessed Saul's death in battle against the Philistines. He brings Saul's crown and armlet as proof and recounts a distorted version of events where he claims to have delivered the final blow at Saul's request.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 1, upon hearing this account, David deeply mourns for both Saul and Jonathan. He expresses genuine sorrow over their deaths through a heartfelt lamentation known as "The Song of the Bow," which honors their bravery in battle. Despite any conflicts they may have had during their lifetimes, David recognizes their valorous deeds.

David commands that "The Song of the Bow" be taught to all Israelites so they may remember the courage displayed by Saul and Jonathan. He also instructs that it be written down in the Book of Jashar a lost book containing historical songs or records to preserve their memory for future generations. Through this song, David pays tribute to both men for their dedication and bravery on behalf of Israel.

2 Samuel 1:1 Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had abode two days in Ziklag;

After Saul's death, David returned from battle against the Amalekites and stayed in Ziklag for two days.

1. The Strength of David after Saul's Death - 2 Samuel 1:1

2. Overcoming Adversity - 2 Samuel 1:1

1. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint - Isaiah 40:31

2. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him - Psalm 28:7

2 Samuel 1:2 It came even to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul with his clothes rent, and earth upon his head: and so it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the earth, and did obeisance.

A man came out of Saul's camp on the third day with torn clothes and dirt on his head and bowed before David.

1. The Power of Humility - How humility can be our greatest strength.

2. Learning to be Content in Difficult Times - Finding peace and joy in the midst of turmoil.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Romans 12:12 - Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

2 Samuel 1:3 And David said unto him, From whence comest thou? And he said unto him, Out of the camp of Israel am I escaped.

A man from the camp of Israel tells David that he has escaped from the camp.

1. The Strength of God's People: How We Persevere in Difficult Times

2. Faithful Fidelity: The Importance of Staying True to Our Calling

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Hebrews 12:1-3 - Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

2 Samuel 1:4 And David said unto him, How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me. And he answered, That the people are fled from the battle, and many of the people also are fallen and dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also.

David asked a man what happened in the battle, and the man replied that many people had fled and died, including Saul and Jonathan.

1. The Power and Perils of War

2. The Faithfulness of Saul and Jonathan

1. Isaiah 2:4- "They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2. Romans 8:31- "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

2 Samuel 1:5 And David said unto the young man that told him, How knowest thou that Saul and Jonathan his son be dead?

David asked the young man how he knew that Saul and Jonathan had died.

1. The Power of Testimony: How We Share Our Knowledge of God's Will

2. The Importance of Asking Questions: Understanding God's Plans Through Inquiry

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2 Samuel 1:6 And the young man that told him said, As I happened by chance upon mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned upon his spear; and, lo, the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him.

A young man happened upon Saul as he was leaning on his spear on Mount Gilboa, with chariots and horsemen following closely behind him.

1. The Unfortunate Battle of Mount Gilboa: Learning from the Tragic End of Saul

2. Finding Strength in Times of Difficulty: Saul's Final Stand at Mount Gilboa

1. 1 Samuel 31:1-13 - The death of Saul and his sons on Mount Gilboa

2. Psalm 3:1-3 - David's prayer for help when he was pursued by Saul on Mount Gilboa

2 Samuel 1:7 And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called unto me. And I answered, Here am I.

A man, looking behind him, saw another man and called out to him. The other man answered, "Here am I."

1. God's Call: Responding to God's Invitation

2. Answered Prayers: God's Faithfulness in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me.

2. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

2 Samuel 1:8 And he said unto me, Who art thou? And I answered him, I am an Amalekite.

An Amalekite man was asked by David who he was and the man replied by saying he was an Amalekite.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: Lessons from David and the Amalekite

2. Relying on God's Strength in Times of Trouble

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. 1 Samuel 17:37 - David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

2 Samuel 1:9 He said unto me again, Stand, I pray thee, upon me, and slay me: for anguish is come upon me, because my life is yet whole in me.

A man asked another to slay him out of anguish because he still had life in him.

1. The Hope in Anguish - how we can still find hope even in our darkest moments.

2. Finding Strength in Suffering - how to find strength in a painful situation.

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

2 Samuel 1:10 So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen: and I took the crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord.

David kills Saul in order to take the crown and bracelet as a sign of loyalty to himself.

1. The power of loyalty and how it can help us in difficult times.

2. The consequences of not being loyal to our leaders and how it can lead to destruction.

1. 1 Corinthians 15:58: Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2. Proverbs 11:3: The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

2 Samuel 1:11 Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that were with him:

David and his men were grief-stricken when they heard of the death of Saul and Jonathan, and David expressed his sorrow by tearing his clothes.

1. The Power of Grief: David's Response to Loss

2. Mourning with Those Who Mourn: The Value of Empathy

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

2. Job 2:13 - They sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to Job, for they saw how great his suffering was.

2 Samuel 1:12 And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were fallen by the sword.

The people of Israel mourned, wept and fasted in response to the death of Saul and Jonathan.

1: We should mourn and grieve for those we have lost, as the people of Israel did for Saul and Jonathan.

2: We should honor those who have passed on and remember their legacies.

1: Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

2: 1 Thessalonians 4:13 - But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

2 Samuel 1:13 And David said unto the young man that told him, Whence art thou? And he answered, I am the son of a stranger, an Amalekite.

A young Amalekite man informs David of Saul and Jonathan's death.

1. The Power of Grief: Learning to Cope with Loss

2. The Sovereignty of God: His Plan in All Things

1. John 14:1-3 - Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2 Samuel 1:14 And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the LORD's anointed?

David rebukes the Amalekite for killing the Lord's anointed, King Saul.

1. God's Anointed: Honoring Those Who Serve the Lord

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God: A Warning to All

1. 1 Samuel 12:23-25 - "Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way: Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you. But if ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be consumed, both ye and your king."

2. Psalm 2:10-12 - "Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."

2 Samuel 1:15 And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died.

David instructed one of his young men to kill Saul's messenger in revenge for Saul's death.

1. God calls us to be humble and compassionate in all of our actions.

2. Despite our hurt and anger, vengeance is not ours to take.

1. Matthew 5:38-39 You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

2. Romans 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2 Samuel 1:16 And David said unto him, Thy blood be upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the LORD's anointed.

David said to the Amalekite who had killed Saul that the consequences of his actions would be upon his own head as he had admitted to killing the Lord's anointed.

1. The Consequences of Our Actions: An Exploration of 2 Samuel 1:16

2. The Burden of Guilt: How to Deal with the Weight of Our Choices

1. Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

2 Samuel 1:17 And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son:

David mourned for Saul and his son Jonathan who had died in battle.

1. Remembering the Fallen: Honoring Loyalty and Devotion

2. The Legacy of Love: A Memorial to Saul and Jonathan

1. 2 Samuel 1:17 - And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son:

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

2 Samuel 1:18 (Also he bade them teach the children of Judah the use of the bow: behold, it is written in the book of Jasher.)

David ordered his men to teach the children of Judah archery, which is recorded in the book of Jasher.

1. Aim High: The Importance of Setting Goals and Working Hard to Achieve Them

2. Archery as a Metaphor for Life: Lessons from David's Legacy

1. 2 Samuel 1:18

2. Romans 12:12 (Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;)

2 Samuel 1:19 The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen!

The beauty of Israel has been slain on the high places, and the mighty have fallen.

1. The Fall of the Mighty: God's Sovereignty and the Consequences of Sin

2. The Beauty of Israel: Remembering our Past and Honoring our Fallen

1. Isaiah 33:10-11 - Now will I rise, saith the LORD; now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself. Ye shall conceive chaff, ye shall bring forth stubble: your breath, as fire, shall devour you.

2. Psalm 34:18-19 - The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

2 Samuel 1:20 Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

David mourns the death of Saul and Jonathan and urges that the news of their deaths not be shared in Gath or Askelon, so that the Philistines do not celebrate.

1. The Power of Mournful Speech: Reflecting on David's lamentation of Saul and Jonathan

2. The Sacredness of Life: Learning from David's refusal to allow the Philistines to gloat over Saul and Jonathan's death

1. James 4:10-11 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. Do not speak evil of one another, brethren."

2. Psalm 22:24 - "For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from Him; but when He cried to Him, He heard."

2 Samuel 1:21 Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with oil.

In 2 Samuel 1:21, God calls for no rain or dew to fall upon the mountains of Gilboa as a sign of mourning for the death of Saul, who had been anointed with oil.

1. The Shield of Saul: What We Can Learn from His Story

2. Mourning the Loss of a Powerful Leader: God's Response in 2 Samuel 1:21

1. 1 Samuel 10:1 - "Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?"

2. Psalm 83:9 - "Do to them as unto the Midianites; as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the brook of Kison."

2 Samuel 1:22 From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty.

The bow of Jonathan and the sword of Saul were never used in vain, for they always brought success.

1. The Power of Faithful Commitment

2. The Strength of a Reliable Companion

1. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2 Samuel 1:23 Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

Saul and Jonathan were admired for their strength and speed, and in death were not divided.

1. The bond of friendship between Saul and Jonathan, and its strength in death.

2. The power of loyalty and trust between two people.

1. Proverbs 18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2 Samuel 1:24 Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel.

The daughters of Israel are called to weep for Saul, who had adorned them with splendid clothing and jewelry.

1. The Power of Grief: How to Cope with Loss

2. The Beauty of Giving: How Generosity Embellishes Our Lives

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

2. Psalm 45:13-14 - The king s daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.

2 Samuel 1:25 How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high places.

Jonathan, a mighty warrior, was killed in battle despite his strength and skill.

1. The Power of God's Will: How God's Plans Surpass Our Own.

2. The Strength of Humility: Serving God with Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity.

1. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2 Samuel 1:26 I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

David expresses his sorrow for the loss of his dear friend Jonathan, and remarks on the special bond they shared, which was greater than any romantic relationship.

1. "The Power of Friendship: A Study of Jonathan and David s Relationship"

2. "The Unconditional Love of Friendship: 2 Samuel 1:26"

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against him that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2 Samuel 1:27 How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

This passage from 2 Samuel 1:27 reflects on the death of a great warrior and laments the loss of such a figure.

1. Living Life to the Fullest: Reflections on the Mighty Fallen.

2. The Weapons of War: Lessons in Fighting for What Matters Most.

1. Isaiah 40:30-31: Even youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 4:14: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 2:1-7 describes David's anointing as king over Judah. In this chapter, following Saul's death, David seeks guidance from the Lord on where to go. The Lord instructs him to go up to Hebron, and there the men of Judah anoint him as their king. David expresses gratitude to the people of Jabesh-gilead for burying Saul and his sons.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 2:8-11, it recounts the conflict between Abner and Ish-bosheth against David. Meanwhile, Abner Saul's former commander makes Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, king over all Israel except for Judah. This sets the stage for a divided kingdom with Ish-bosheth ruling over Israel and David reigning in Hebron over Judah.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 2:12-32, it is mentioned that tension escalates between Abner and Joab the commander of David's army. They agree to settle their differences through a contest between twelve champions from each side. The outcome is disastrous as all twenty-four champions are killed in combat. A full-scale battle then ensues between Abner's forces and Joab's forces, resulting in heavy casualties.

In summary:

2 Samuel 2 presents:

David'anointing as kinover Juda;

The conflicbetween Abneand Ish-bosheagainst Davi;

The escalatioof tensioand battle betweeAbneand Joa;

Emphasis on:

David'anointing as kinover Juda;

The conflicbetween Abneand Ish-bosheagainst Davi;

The escalatioof tensioand battle betweeAbneand Joa;

The chapter focuses on David's anointing as king over Judah, the conflict between Abner and Ish-bosheth against David, and the escalating tension and battle between Abner and Joab. In 2 Samuel 2, following Saul's death, David seeks guidance from the Lord and is anointed as king over Judah by the men of that tribe in Hebron. He expresses gratitude to the people of Jabesh-gilead for their act of burying Saul.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 2, Abner an influential figure from Saul's reign supports Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, as king over Israel (excluding Judah). This leads to a divided kingdom with Ish-bosheth ruling over Israel while David reigns in Hebron over Judah.

Tension escalates between Abner and Joab David's commander as they engage in a contest between champions from each side. However, this contest ends tragically with all twenty-four champions being killed. Subsequently, a full-scale battle ensues between Abner's forces and Joab's forces resulting in heavy casualties. This chapter sets the stage for further conflicts and power struggles within the divided kingdom of Israel.

2 Samuel 2:1 And it came to pass after this, that David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah? And the LORD said unto him, Go up. And David said, Whither shall I go up? And he said, Unto Hebron.

After a period of time, David asked the Lord if he should go to a city in Judah and the Lord told him to go to Hebron.

1. The Lord's Guidance: Seeking and Listening to the Lord's voice.

2. Trusting in the Lord's Direction: How God guides us through life.

1. Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

2 Samuel 2:2 So David went up thither, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail Nabal's wife the Carmelite.

David went to Hebron with his two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail.

1. The importance of companionship: A reflection on 2 Samuel 2:2.

2. Finding strength in relationships: A study of 2 Samuel 2:2.

1. Proverbs 18:24: "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12: "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

2 Samuel 2:3 And his men that were with him did David bring up, every man with his household: and they dwelt in the cities of Hebron.

David and his men moved to the cities of Hebron and each man brought their families with them.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in His provision for David and his men.

2. God's love and protection is found in His provision of a place to dwell.

1. Psalm 121:3-4 "He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

2 Samuel 2:4 And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. And they told David, saying, That the men of Jabeshgilead were they that buried Saul.

The men of Judah anointed David as king of Judah and informed him that the men of Jabeshgilead had buried Saul.

1. The Power of Unity: How the Men of Judah United to Anoint David King

2. God's Plan: Realizing How God's Plan Can be Revealed through Obedience

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. 1 Samuel 16:1 - "And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?"

2 Samuel 2:5 And David sent messengers unto the men of Jabeshgilead, and said unto them, Blessed be ye of the LORD, that ye have shewed this kindness unto your lord, even unto Saul, and have buried him.

David sends a message of thanks to the men of Jabesh-Gilead for their kindness in burying Saul.

1. God s love is seen in the kindness of others.

2. We can show our gratitude to God through our kindness towards others.

1. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

2. Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

2 Samuel 2:6 And now the LORD shew kindness and truth unto you: and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing.

David expresses his gratitude to the men of Jabesh-gilead for their loyalty and kindness by promising to reward them.

1. The Kindness of God: Showing Gratitude in Difficult Times

2. Faithful and Loyal: Rewarded with God's Kindness

1. Romans 2:4 - Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

2. Psalm 13:5 - But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

2 Samuel 2:7 Therefore now let your hands be strengthened, and be ye valiant: for your master Saul is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them.

The people of Judah have anointed David as their king after Saul's death, and David is encouraged to be strong and brave in his new role.

1. "Conquer Your Fears: How to Overcome Challenges and Succeed"

2. "The Strength of a Leader: Being Brave and Bold in Times of Uncertainty"

1. 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 2:8 But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim;

Abner, the captain of Saul's army, took Ishbosheth, Saul's son, and brought him to Mahanaim.

1. The Power of Loyalty - Exploring the importance of loyalty in our faith, using Abner's loyalty to Saul and his legacy as an example.

2. Uniting in Difficult Times - Examining how Abner's actions united the nation of Israel even in the midst of turmoil and division.

1. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2 Samuel 2:9 And made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel.

David was made king over all of Israel, including Gilead, the Ashurites, Jezreel, Ephraim, and Benjamin.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding God's Hand of Authority Over the Nations

2. The Call of God: How David Was Called to be King of Israel

1. Exodus 15:18 - The Lord shall reign forever and ever

2. Psalm 2:6 - "Yet I have set my king on my holy hill of Zion"

2 Samuel 2:10 Ishbosheth Saul's son was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David.

Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, became king of Israel when he was 40 and reigned for 2 years. However, the house of Judah followed David instead.

1. The Power of Unification - How the House of Judah chose to unify behind David instead of Ishbosheth.

2. The Power of Legacy - How the Sons of Saul and David are still remembered today.

1. 1 Samuel 15:28 - And Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.

2. 2 Chronicles 11:17 - And Rehoboam loved Maacah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and concubines. For he took eighteen wives and sixty concubines, and fathered twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters.

2 Samuel 2:11 And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

David was king over the house of Judah for seven years and six months in Hebron.

1. A Faithful King: Lessons from David's Reign

2. Making the Most of Your Time: A Study of Responsibility

1. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2 Samuel 2:12 And Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ishbosheth the son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon.

Abner and the servants of Ishbosheth left Mahanaim to go to Gibeon.

1. The importance of loyalty and commitment to our leaders

2. The power of obedience in the face of the unknown

1. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2 Samuel 2:13 And Joab the son of Zeruiah, and the servants of David, went out, and met together by the pool of Gibeon: and they sat down, the one on the one side of the pool, and the other on the other side of the pool.

Joab and David's servants met at a pool in Gibeon and sat down opposite each other.

1. The Power of Reconciliation: How God Uses Conflict to Unite Us

2. The Blessing of Unity: What Can We Learn From David's Servants?

1. Romans 12:18 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

2. Philippians 2:2-3 - Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

2 Samuel 2:14 And Abner said to Joab, Let the young men now arise, and play before us. And Joab said, Let them arise.

15 Then there arose and went over by number twelve of Benjamin, which pertained to Isbosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David.

Abner and Joab agreed to have twelve men from Benjamin, loyal to Isbosheth, and twelve servants of David, play a game before them.

1. The Power of Compromise: Learning to Come Together Despite Differences

2. Overcoming Conflict Through Collaboration

1. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

2. James 4:1-2 - What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

2 Samuel 2:15 Then there arose and went over by number twelve of Benjamin, which pertained to Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David.

Twelve of Ishbosheth's men and twelve of David's servants faced each other in battle.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Brings Victory

2. The Danger of Division: The Consequences of Disunity

1. 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 - "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

2 Samuel 2:16 And they caught every one his fellow by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together: wherefore that place was called Helkathhazzurim, which is in Gibeon.

Two armies fought in a place called Helkathhazzurim and the warriors killed each other by thrusting their swords in their sides.

1. The Power of War: How Should We Respond?

2. The Consequences of Conflict: How Do We Move Forward?

1. Isaiah 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

2. Matthew 5:43-45 You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2 Samuel 2:17 And there was a very sore battle that day; and Abner was beaten, and the men of Israel, before the servants of David.

The men of Israel were defeated in a fierce battle against the servants of David, led by Abner.

1. God is our strength in times of difficulty.

2. Having faith in Him can turn the tide of any battle.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Samuel 2:18 And there were three sons of Zeruiah there, Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel: and Asahel was as light of foot as a wild roe.

Asahel, one of the three sons of Zeruiah, was known for his swiftness.

1. The Power of Speed: Leveraging Speed to Accomplish Your Goals

2. The Blessing of Swiftness: Appreciating the Gifts We Have

1. Proverbs 21:5 The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:11 I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all.

2 Samuel 2:19 And Asahel pursued after Abner; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner.

Asahel chased Abner without deviating from his path.

1. Perseverance in pursuit of spiritual goals.

2. The importance of focus and single-mindedness.

1. Proverbs 4:25-27 Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

2. Philippians 3:13-14 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

2 Samuel 2:20 Then Abner looked behind him, and said, Art thou Asahel? And he answered, I am.

Abner asked Asahel if he was Asahel, and Asahel confirmed that he was.

1. Our Identity in Christ: Knowing Who We Are in God's Eyes

2. The Power of Confirmation: Standing Firm in Who We Are

1. Romans 8:15-17 - For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father! The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

2. Psalm 139:13-14 - For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

2 Samuel 2:21 And Abner said to him, Turn thee aside to thy right hand or to thy left, and lay thee hold on one of the young men, and take thee his armour. But Asahel would not turn aside from following of him.

Asahel refused to turn away from Abner despite Abner's insistence that he take the armor of one of the young men.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Staying the Course Despite Obstacles

2. Embracing the Journey: How Faithful Pursuit of a Goal is Rewarding

1. Hebrews 10:39 - And we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

2 Samuel 2:22 And Abner said again to Asahel, Turn thee aside from following me: wherefore should I smite thee to the ground? how then should I hold up my face to Joab thy brother?

Abner tells Asahel to stop following him, as he does not want to fight with him and risk offending Joab, his brother.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Let Go and Move On

2. The Strength of Family: How to Honor Your Loved Ones

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

2 Samuel 2:23 Howbeit he refused to turn aside: wherefore Abner with the hinder end of the spear smote him under the fifth rib, that the spear came out behind him; and he fell down there, and died in the same place: and it came to pass, that as many as came to the place where Asahel fell down and died stood still.

Abner refused to turn aside, so he struck Asahel with the spear, killing him instantly. Many people who visited the place where Asahel had died stopped to pay their respects.

1. The Power of Respect: Learning to Respect the Memories of Those Who Have Passed

2. The Power of Conviction: Standing Firm in Your Beliefs No Matter the Consequences

1. Proverbs 14:32 - "The wicked is overthrown through his evildoing, but the righteous finds refuge in his death."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2 Samuel 2:24 Joab also and Abishai pursued after Abner: and the sun went down when they were come to the hill of Ammah, that lieth before Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon.

Joab and Abishai chased Abner until the sun set at the hill of Ammah near Giah in the wilderness of Gibeon.

1. The Power of Perseverance

2. The Journey of Faith

1. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 2:25 And the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner, and became one troop, and stood on the top of an hill.

The children of Benjamin gathered together and formed a troop, standing on top of a hill.

1. God uses even small numbers to accomplish great deeds.

2. Uniting together for a common purpose can lead to great accomplishments.

1. Acts 2:1-4 - When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

2. Psalm 133:1 - How good and pleasant it is when God s people live together in unity!

2 Samuel 2:26 Then Abner called to Joab, and said, Shall the sword devour for ever? knowest thou not that it will be bitterness in the latter end? how long shall it be then, ere thou bid the people return from following their brethren?

Abner challenges Joab to end the pursuit of his army and bring the people back to their own side.

1. Do Not Let Bitterness Last Forever - 2 Samuel 2:26

2. The Pursuit of Peace - 2 Samuel 2:26

1. Romans 12:18 - "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

2. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."

2 Samuel 2:27 And Joab said, As God liveth, unless thou hadst spoken, surely then in the morning the people had gone up every one from following his brother.

Joab declared that if not for a command, the people would have separated and gone their own ways in the morning.

1. An Act of Obedience Can Lead to Unity

2. God's Word Brings People Together

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love; give p to one another in honor.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2 Samuel 2:28 So Joab blew a trumpet, and all the people stood still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more.

Joab blew a trumpet and the people stopped pursuing and fighting Israel.

1. God will provide protection and strength when we are in need.

2. When we trust in God, we can be sure of our victory.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2 Samuel 2:29 And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain, and passed over Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim.

Abner and his men travelled all night, crossing the Jordan and travelling through Bithron before arriving at Mahanaim.

1. The Importance of Perseverance - Abner and his men showed perseverance in their journey, despite the difficult and tiring conditions, and arrived at their destination.

2. The Power of Teamwork - Abner and his men worked together to accomplish their journey, showing the power of teamwork in achieving goals.

1. Hebrews 12:1 - "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many."

2 Samuel 2:30 And Joab returned from following Abner: and when he had gathered all the people together, there lacked of David's servants nineteen men and Asahel.

Joab returned after following Abner and discovered that nineteen of David's servants, including Asahel, were missing.

1. The Power of Unity: The Importance of Putting Others First

2. Faith in Difficult Times: Learning to Persevere in the Midst of Adversity

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

2. Romans 5:3-5 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

2 Samuel 2:31 But the servants of David had smitten of Benjamin, and of Abner's men, so that three hundred and threescore men died.

The servants of David killed three hundred and sixty men from Benjamin and Abner's forces.

1. The Cost of War - Reflection on 2 Samuel 2:31

2. The Consequences of Conflict - Examining the Consequences of Conflict in 2 Samuel 2:31

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

2 Samuel 2:32 And they took up Asahel, and buried him in the sepulchre of his father, which was in Bethlehem. And Joab and his men went all night, and they came to Hebron at break of day.

Asahel was killed in battle and was buried in his father's sepulchre in Bethlehem. Joab and his men then traveled all night and arrived in Hebron at daybreak.

1. The Power of a Father's Legacy: Lessons Learned from Asahel and His Father

2. The Significance of Burial: Understanding the Customs and Traditions of Asahel's Funeral

1. John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:2-4 - A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 3:1-11 describes the growing conflict between the house of Saul and the house of David. In this chapter, a lengthy war ensues between the forces of David and those loyal to Saul's son, Ish-bosheth. During this time, David's power and influence continue to increase while Ish-bosheth becomes weaker. Abner, the commander of Ish-bosheth's army, grows dissatisfied with his king and decides to defect to David's side.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 3:12-21, it recounts Abner's negotiations with David for a political alliance. Abner approaches David with an offer to bring all Israel under his rule by uniting the kingdom under one king. David agrees but sets a condition that his first wife, Michal the daughter of Saul be returned to him as part of the agreement.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 3:22-39, it is mentioned that Joab David's commander becomes suspicious and angry at Abner for defecting from Ish-bosheth. He sees Abner as a potential threat to his position and takes matters into his own hands by deceitfully inviting Abner back under false pretenses. Joab then kills Abner in revenge for his brother Asahel's death during their previous conflict.

In summary:

2 Samuel 3 presents:

The growing conflicbetween Sauand Davi;

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Emphasis on:

The growing conflicbetween Sauand Davi;

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Joab'killing oAbneand its consequences;

The chapter focuses on the growing conflict between the house of Saul and the house of David, Abner's defection to David's side, and Joab's killing of Abner and its consequences. In 2 Samuel 3, a prolonged war ensues between David's forces and those loyal to Ish-bosheth, Saul's son. As time passes, David gains more power while Ish-bosheth weakens. Dissatisfied with his king, Abner the commander of Ish-bosheth's army decides to defect to David.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 3, Abner approaches David with an offer to unite all Israel under his rule by bringing the kingdom together under one king. David agrees but sets a condition that his first wife, Michal the daughter of Saul be returned to him as part of their agreement.

However, Joab David's commander becomes suspicious and angry at Abner for defecting from Ish-bosheth. Seeing him as a potential threat to his own position, Joab deceitfully invites Abner back under false pretenses and then kills him in revenge for the death of his brother Asahel during their previous conflict. This act has significant consequences for both Joab and David as it causes public outrage and grief over the loss of Abner a prominent figure in Israel at that time.

2 Samuel 3:1 Now there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker.

There was a long, ongoing war between the house of Saul and the house of David, with David becoming increasingly strong and Saul becoming increasingly weak.

1. God is in control and will always bring victory to His people.

2. No matter how bleak the situation may seem, faith is the key to overcoming any trial.

1. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

2 Samuel 3:2 And unto David were sons born in Hebron: and his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;

The passage details the birth of David's firstborn son, Amnon, whose mother was Ahinoam the Jezreelitess.

1. The Power of Parental Love - A look at David's love for his son Amnon, and the importance of familial love in our lives.

2. Overcoming Adversity - A look at how David rose to prominence in spite of his humble beginnings.

1. Psalm 127:3 - Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

2 Samuel 3:3 And his second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;

David had three sons, Amnon, Chileab and Absalom. Chileab was the son of Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite, and Absalom was the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur.

1. The importance of family and lineage in the Bible

2. The value of faithfulness and loyalty in relationships

1. 1 Chronicles 22:9 - "Behold, a son shall be born to you who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days."

2. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 - "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.

2 Samuel 3:4 And the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;

The passage lists the five sons of David: Amnon, Chileab, Absalom, Adonijah, and Shephatiah.

1. The Importance of Family: A Study of 2 Samuel 3:4

2. The Role of Sons in Scripture: A Look at David's Lineage

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, seek, and knock

2. 1 Corinthians 11:1-2 - Follow the example of Christ

2 Samuel 3:5 And the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

David had six sons born in Hebron, the last of which was Ithream, born to David's wife Eglah.

1. The Importance of Family: A Study of David and His Family.

2. The Power of Faith: How David's Faith Shaped His Family.

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

2. 1 Samuel 16:7 - But the Lord said to Samuel, Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.

2 Samuel 3:6 And it came to pass, while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner made himself strong for the house of Saul.

During the civil war between Saul and David's houses, Abner strengthened Saul's house.

1. In times of conflict, we must remain loyal to our commitments.

2. When facing difficult decisions, remember to seek God's guidance.

1. James 1:5-8 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

2 Samuel 3:7 And Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah: and Ishbosheth said to Abner, Wherefore hast thou gone in unto my father's concubine?

Saul had a concubine named Rizpah, and Ishbosheth asked Abner why he had gone to Saul's concubine.

1. The Danger of Adultery.

2. The Importance of Keeping God's Commandments.

1. Galatians 5:19-21 "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

2. Deuteronomy 5:18-20 "Neither shalt thou commit adultery. 19 Neither shalt thou steal. 20 Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour."

2 Samuel 3:8 Then was Abner very wroth for the words of Ishbosheth, and said, Am I a dog's head, which against Judah do shew kindness this day unto the house of Saul thy father, to his brethren, and to his friends, and have not delivered thee into the hand of David, that thou chargest me to day with a fault concerning this woman?

Abner was angry at Ishbosheth's words and questioned why he was being blamed for being kind to Saul's family and friends instead of delivering Ishbosheth to David.

1. Remain humble and gracious even when confronted by those who wrong us.

2. Put others first and remain true to our values no matter what.

1. Matthew 5:39 - But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2 Samuel 3:9 So do God to Abner, and more also, except, as the LORD hath sworn to David, even so I do to him;

The passage speaks of God's promise to David and how Abner is subject to that same promise.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How God's Promises Are Reliable and Enduring

2. Abner and David: A Lesson in Resting in the Promises of God

1. Romans 4:13-25 Paul's teaching on Abraham's faith in God's promise

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 God's promise of hope and a future

2 Samuel 3:10 To translate the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba.

God chose David to be king of Israel and Judah, from Dan to Beersheba.

1. God's Plan: How God's Decisions Shape Our Lives

2. Faithful Servant: The Legacy of David's Leadership

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 21:1 - The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

2 Samuel 3:11 And he could not answer Abner a word again, because he feared him.

Abner asked a question that David was unable to answer, likely due to his fear of Abner.

1. God's strength is found in our obedience and fear of Him, not in the fear of others.

2. We can trust God to give us the words and strength to stand firm in the face of intimidating authority.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 10:19-20 - "When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

2 Samuel 3:12 And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, Whose is the land? saying also, Make thy league with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with thee, to bring about all Israel unto thee.

Abner sent messengers to David to propose a treaty and to ask whose land belonged to.

1. The power of treaty-making and its role in unifying Israel

2. The importance of understanding rightful ownership of land

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2 Samuel 3:13 And he said, Well; I will make a league with thee: but one thing I require of thee, that is, Thou shalt not see my face, except thou first bring Michal Saul's daughter, when thou comest to see my face.

David makes a covenant with Abner that he will not see his face until he brings Michal, Saul's daughter, with him.

1. The significance of covenant making and the importance of keeping promises.

2. How our choices can impact our relationships.

1. Exodus 19:5-6 - God's covenant with the Israelites.

2. Proverbs 6:1-5 - The consequences of breaking promises.

2 Samuel 3:14 And David sent messengers to Ishbosheth Saul's son, saying, Deliver me my wife Michal, which I espoused to me for an hundred foreskins of the Philistines.

David asked Ishbosheth to return his wife Michal, whom he had acquired through a payment of a hundred Philistine foreskins.

1. The Price of Love: Understanding the Value We Place on Relationships

2. The Power of Patience: Waiting on God's Timing

1. 2 Corinthians 5:21 - For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2. 1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.

2 Samuel 3:15 And Ishbosheth sent, and took her from her husband, even from Phaltiel the son of Laish.

Ishbosheth took a woman from her husband, Phaltiel the son of Laish.

1. God's faithfulness in times of hardship

2. The importance of honoring marriage

1. Romans 12:9-10 - "Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

2 Samuel 3:16 And her husband went with her along weeping behind her to Bahurim. Then said Abner unto him, Go, return. And he returned.

A husband accompanied his wife to Bahurim, and Abner instructed the husband to return.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learn to Follow Authority

2. Relationships Built on Love: Even in Difficult Times

1. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2 Samuel 3:17 And Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying, Ye sought for David in times past to be king over you:

Abner communicated with the elders of Israel, informing them that they had sought for David to be king over them in the past.

1. "The Power of Persistence: The Story of David"

2. "The Value of a Good Reputation: The Example of David"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

2 Samuel 3:18 Now then do it: for the LORD hath spoken of David, saying, By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies.

The Lord has spoken of David, promising to save His people Israel from the Philistines and all their enemies by David's hand.

1. God's Power and Protection through His Servants

2. The Call to Follow God's Will

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Matthew 16:25 - For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

2 Samuel 3:19 And Abner also spake in the ears of Benjamin: and Abner went also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel, and that seemed good to the whole house of Benjamin.

Abner spoke to the people of Israel and Benjamin, conveying what they deemed to be good for both groups.

1. The Power of Communicating God's Word - 2 Timothy 4:2

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Voice - Proverbs 19:20

1. Romans 15:5-7

2. Ephesians 4:29-32

2 Samuel 3:20 So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. And David made Abner and the men that were with him a feast.

Abner and twenty men visited David in Hebron, and David hosted them with a feast.

1. The importance of hospitality in the Christian life.

2. How to extend grace and love to those who have wronged us.

1. Romans 12:14-18 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2. Luke 6:27-36 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.

2 Samuel 3:21 And Abner said unto David, I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel unto my lord the king, that they may make a league with thee, and that thou mayest reign over all that thine heart desireth. And David sent Abner away; and he went in peace.

Abner offers to gather all of Israel to make a league with King David so he may reign over all of his desires, and David sends him away in peace.

1. God can use any situation to accomplish his will - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

2. The power of peace - Romans 14:19

1. God's heart for unity - Ephesians 4:3-4

2. The importance of humility - Philippians 2:3-8

2 Samuel 3:22 And, behold, the servants of David and Joab came from pursuing a troop, and brought in a great spoil with them: but Abner was not with David in Hebron; for he had sent him away, and he was gone in peace.

Joab and David's servants returned from a successful raid with a large amount of spoil, but Abner had already been sent away in peace by David.

1: Through Abner, we see David's mercy and willingness to forgive.

2: Joab and David's servants were blessed by God with a successful raid.

1: Matthew 6:33-34 Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2: Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be shown mercy.

2 Samuel 3:23 When Joab and all the host that was with him were come, they told Joab, saying, Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he hath sent him away, and he is gone in peace.

Joab and his army reported to Joab that Abner, son of Ner, had come to the king and was allowed to leave in peace.

1: The power of peace is greater than the power of war.

2: We should strive to seek reconciliation with those who have wronged us.

1: Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

2: Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

2 Samuel 3:24 Then Joab came to the king, and said, What hast thou done? behold, Abner came unto thee; why is it that thou hast sent him away, and he is quite gone?

Joab questioned King David on why he sent Abner away.

1. The Power of Questions: We can learn a lot from Joab's example of questioning authority.

2. The Dangers of Unanswered Questions: Unanswered questions can lead to confusion and mistrust.

1. Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

2. Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

2 Samuel 3:25 Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest.

Joab accused Abner of deceiving David to gain knowledge of his activities and whereabouts.

1. The Danger of Deception: We must be alert and aware of those who seek to deceive us in order to gain advantage over us.

2. Beware of the Trickery of the Enemy: We must be aware of the strategies the enemy uses to lead us astray.

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. Ephesians 6:11 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2 Samuel 3:26 And when Joab was come out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, which brought him again from the well of Sirah: but David knew it not.

Joab sends messengers to bring Abner back from the well of Sirah, unaware that David knows of this.

1. David's Ignorance: Demonstrating the importance of trusting God and seeking His wisdom in all matters.

2. Joab's Determination: Teaching the value of pursuing our goals with courage and strength.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 3:27 And when Abner was returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him quietly, and smote him there under the fifth rib, that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

Joab killed Abner in Hebron for the blood of his brother Asahel.

1. The Consequences of Revenge

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2 Samuel 3:28 And afterward when David heard it, he said, I and my kingdom are guiltless before the LORD for ever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner:

After learning that Abner had been killed, David declared that he and his kingdom were innocent of the crime.

1. The Power of Innocence: Why We Must Exalt the Innocent

2. The Example of David: How to Respond to Unjust Accusations

1. Proverbs 17:15 - He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2 Samuel 3:29 Let it rest on the head of Joab, and on all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth on the sword, or that lacketh bread.

Joab and his family are cursed, and will never have a member who is ill, disabled, poor, or dies in battle.

1. The Curse of Pride: What We Can Learn from Joab's Story

2. The Blessing of Humility: How To Avoid Joab's Fate

1. Proverbs 16:18: Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Luke 14:11: For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

2 Samuel 3:30 So Joab and Abishai his brother slew Abner, because he had slain their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.

Joab and Abishai, brothers of Asahel, killed Abner in retribution for Abner's slaying of Asahel in battle.

1. Our Actions Have Consequences 2 Samuel 3:30

2. The Power of Forgiveness 2 Samuel 3:30

1. Romans 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Matthew 6:14-15 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2 Samuel 3:31 And David said to Joab, and to all the people that were with him, Rend your clothes, and gird you with sackcloth, and mourn before Abner. And king David himself followed the bier.

David commanded the people to show their sadness by rending their clothes and wearing sackcloth, and followed the bier of Abner himself.

1. The importance of showing respect and mourning for those who have passed.

2. The power of the example of a leader.

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2 Samuel 3:32 And they buried Abner in Hebron: and the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept.

After Abner's death, King David and all the people wept at Abner's burial in Hebron.

1. The importance of grieving the loss of loved ones.

2. The power of communal mourning.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:4 - "a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance".

2. John 11:35 - "Jesus wept".

2 Samuel 3:33 And the king lamented over Abner, and said, Died Abner as a fool dieth?

King David mourns the death of Abner and wonders if he died foolishly.

1. "Living Wisely: A Lesson From The Death Of Abner"

2. "The Legacy Of Abner: Choosing To Live Righteously"

1. Proverbs 14:16 - "One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:17 - "Do not be over wicked, and do not be a fool why die before your time?"

2 Samuel 3:34 Thy hands were not bound, nor thy feet put into fetters: as a man falleth before wicked men, so fellest thou. And all the people wept again over him.

King David mourns the death of Abner and all the people weep with him.

1. God's goodness transcends death - Psalm 23:4

2. The power of mourning together - Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2 Samuel 3:35 And when all the people came to cause David to eat meat while it was yet day, David sware, saying, So do God to me, and more also, if I taste bread, or ought else, till the sun be down.

David swore an oath that he would not eat anything until the sun went down.

1. The Power of an Oath: Making and Keeping Promises to God

2. David's Fasting: A Model of Devotion

1. Matthew 5:33-37- Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

2. Daniel 6:10- Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

2 Samuel 3:36 And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them: as whatsoever the king did pleased all the people.

All the people were pleased with whatever the king did.

1. Living a life that pleases others

2. The importance of setting a good example

1. Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2 Samuel 3:37 For all the people and all Israel understood that day that it was not of the king to slay Abner the son of Ner.

On this day, it was made clear to all the people of Israel that King David did not kill Abner, son of Ner.

1. The Value of Mercy: Appreciating the Sacrifices of Others

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Moving Beyond Conflict

1. Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

2. Luke 6:36 - Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

2 Samuel 3:38 And the king said unto his servants, Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?

King David expresses his grief for the death of Abner, a prince and great man of Israel.

1. The Impact of Grief: Reflecting on King David's Response to Abner's Passing

2. The Value of Great Men in the Kingdom of God

1. Ecclesiastes 7:2-4 - "It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, because when we are sad our hearts are content. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of entertainment."

2. Proverbs 14:30 - "A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot."

2 Samuel 3:39 And I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruiah be too hard for me: the LORD shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.

Despite being anointed king, David is weak and unable to stand up to the sons of Zeruiah who are taking advantage of him. The LORD will judge the evil-doers according to their wickedness.

1. The Power of God's Justice: Understanding God's Judgement

2. The Strength of Weakness: Understanding Our Human Limitations

1. Romans 12:19-21 - Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord

2. Psalm 37:5-6 - Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 4:1-5 describes the assassination of Ish-bosheth, Saul's son. In this chapter, following Abner's death, two men from the tribe of Benjamin Rechab and Baanah plot to kill Ish-bosheth. They sneak into his house while he is resting and strike him down. They behead Ish-bosheth and bring his head to David, hoping to gain favor and reward for their act.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 4:6-8, it recounts David's response to the news of Ish-bosheth's assassination. When Rechab and Baanah present themselves before David with the head of Ish-bosheth, they expect praise but instead face severe consequences for their treacherous act. David condemns them for killing an innocent man within his own house and orders their execution as punishment.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 4:9-12, it is mentioned that David publicly mourns the death of Ish-bosheth and distances himself from any involvement in his assassination. He declares his innocence regarding the murder and proclaims that those responsible will face justice for their actions. This public declaration helps solidify David's reputation as a just leader who does not condone violence or treachery.

In summary:

2 Samuel 4 presents:

The assassinatioof Ish-bosheby Rechab anBaanah;

David'response tthe assassinaon;

David'mourning ancondemnatioof the murderers;

Emphasis on:

The assassinatioof Ish-bosheby Rechab anBaanah;

David'response tthe assassinaon;

David'mourning ancondemnatioof the murderers;

The chapter focuses on the assassination of Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, by Rechab and Baanah, David's response to this act, and his mourning and condemnation of the murderers. In 2 Samuel 4, Rechab and Baanah from the tribe of Benjamin conspire to kill Ish-bosheth while he is resting in his house. They carry out their plan by striking him down and beheading him. Believing that they will receive praise from David for their deed, they bring Ish-bosheth's head to him.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 4, when Rechab and Baanah present themselves before David with the head of Ish-bosheth, they face unexpected consequences. Rather than commending them for their actions, David condemns them for assassinating an innocent man within his own house. He orders their execution as punishment for their treachery.

David publicly mourns the death of Ish-bosheth and distances himself from any involvement in his assassination. He proclaims his innocence regarding the murder and declares that those responsible will face justice for their actions. This public stance helps solidify David's reputation as a just leader who does not tolerate violence or treachery within his kingdom.

2 Samuel 4:1 And when Saul's son heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands were feeble, and all the Israelites were troubled.

After Saul's son heard of Abner's death in Hebron, he was filled with grief and the Israelites were greatly troubled.

1. We must grieve in our sorrow but also find strength in the Lord.

2. Even in our darkest moments, we can find comfort and hope in the Lord.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 4:2 And Saul's son had two men that were captains of bands: the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon a Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin: (for Beeroth also was reckoned to Benjamin.

Two men, Baanah and Rechab, from the tribe of Benjamin, were captains of Saul's army.

1. Our Identity in Christ: Discovering Our True Worth in God

2. Living Out Our Faith: Living in Obedience to God's Will

1. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2 Samuel 4:3 And the Beerothites fled to Gittaim, and were sojourners there until this day.)

Summarized: The Beerothites were exiled from Beeroth and settled in Gittaim, where they still remain.

1. The Power of Community: Finding Strength in Exile

2. God's Faithfulness and Provision in Troubling Times

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea"

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 4:4 And Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

Passage Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son named Mephibosheth who was five years old and was lame of his feet. When news of Saul and Jonathan's death came from Jezreel, his nurse quickly attempted to flee with him, but he fell and became even more lame.

1. Seeing God in the Suffering of Mephibosheth

2. God's Grace and Redemption for the Disabled

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

2 Samuel 4:5 And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, went, and came about the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, who lay on a bed at noon.

Rechab and Baanah, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, traveled to the house of Ishbosheth in the middle of the day and found him resting on a bed.

1. Making Bold Choices: Living Out Your Faith in the Midst of Opposition

2. The Power of Obedience: Trusting God Even When It's Difficult

1. 1 Samuel 17:47 - "And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

2 Samuel 4:6 And they came thither into the midst of the house, as though they would have fetched wheat; and they smote him under the fifth rib: and Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped.

Two brothers, Rechab and Baanah, kill a man and escape.

1. Be on your guard against evil intentions.

2. The power of brotherly love.

1. Matthew 5:21-22 - "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

2 Samuel 4:7 For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bedchamber, and they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and gat them away through the plain all night.

Two men sneak into a man's home, kill him, decapitate him and take his head away with them during the night.

1. The importance of trusting God in times of trouble.

2. God's protection in times of danger.

1. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

2. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2 Samuel 4:8 And they brought the head of Ishbosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king, Behold the head of Ishbosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, which sought thy life; and the LORD hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.

The men of Ishbosheth brought the head of Ishbosheth to David in Hebron, saying that the Lord had avenged the death of Saul and his descendants on this day.

1. God's Just Judgement: How God Avenges Wrongdoing

2. The Lord's Protection: How God Guards Us From Our Enemies

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 - Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Samuel 4:9 And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said unto them, As the LORD liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all adversity,

David answered Rechab and Baanah, two sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and proclaimed that God had redeemed him from all adversity.

1. God Redeems Us From Adversity - 2 Samuel 4:9

2. The Lord Lives To Redeem Our Souls - 2 Samuel 4:9

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

2. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

2 Samuel 4:10 When one told me, saying, Behold, Saul is dead, thinking to have brought good tidings, I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, who thought that I would have given him a reward for his tidings:

When someone told David that Saul had died, David killed him in Ziklag because he expected a reward for his news.

1. "Obedience to God's commands is more important than earthly rewards"

2. "The importance of following through on promises, even when it seems counterintuitive"

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 "When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 "But Samuel replied: Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."

2 Samuel 4:11 How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house upon his bed? shall I not therefore now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth?

A righteous person has been murdered in his own home and the murderer must face the consequences for their crime.

1. We need to remember that God will not let us get away with wickedness and that justice will be served.

2. We must be willing to accept the consequences of our actions.

1. Romans 2:6-8 - "God 'will repay each person according to what they have done.' To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger."

2. Psalm 5:5-6 - "You destroy those who tell lies; bloodthirsty and deceitful men the Lord abhors. But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple."

2 Samuel 4:12 And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up over the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth, and buried it in the sepulchre of Abner in Hebron.

David commanded his men to kill Ishbosheth and his followers, cutting off their hands and feet before hanging them up. The head of Ishbosheth was then buried in Abner's sepulchre in Hebron.

1. God's justice is perfect and uncompromising - 2 Thessalonians 1:6

2. Vengeance belongs to the Lord - Romans 12:19

1. Proverbs 16:33 - "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

2. Psalm 37:39 - "The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their stronghold in the time of trouble."

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 5:1-5 describes David's anointing as king over all Israel. In this chapter, the tribes of Israel gather at Hebron and acknowledge David as their rightful king. They recognize his leadership and affirm that he had been their shepherd since his anointing by Samuel. The elders of Israel make a covenant with David, solidifying his position as the ruler over all twelve tribes.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 5:6-10, it recounts David's capture of Jerusalem and establishment of it as his capital city. After leaving Hebron, David leads his forces to Jerusalem, which was inhabited by the Jebusites at that time. Despite the Jebusites' confidence in their stronghold, David successfully captures the city by infiltrating it through a water shaft. He then fortifies Jerusalem and makes it his royal residence.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 5:11-25, it is mentioned that following the capture of Jerusalem, neighboring nations become aware of David's growing power and influence. The Philistines gather their armies to attack him. However, with God's guidance and support, David defeats them twice once in the stronghold of Baal-perazim and again in the Valley of Rephaim. These victories establish David's military prowess and solidify his reign over all Israel.

In summary:

2 Samuel 5 presents:

David'anointing askinover Israe;

The capturof Jerusalemand its establishment askapitality;

David'defeat othe Philistineand consolidatioof his rule;

Emphasis on:

David'anointing askinover Israe;

The capturof Jerusalemand its establishment askapitality;

David'defeat othe Philistineand consolidatioof his rule;

The chapter focuses on David's anointing as king over all Israel, his capture of Jerusalem and establishment of it as his capital city, and his victories over the Philistines. In 2 Samuel 5, the tribes of Israel gather at Hebron and acknowledge David as their rightful king. They make a covenant with him, solidifying his position as the ruler over all twelve tribes.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 5, David leads his forces to Jerusalem a city inhabited by the Jebusites. Despite their confidence in their stronghold, David successfully captures the city by infiltrating it through a water shaft. He fortifies Jerusalem and establishes it as his royal residence.

Following the capture of Jerusalem, neighboring nations become aware of David's growing power. The Philistines gather their armies to attack him but are defeated twice by David with God's guidance in Baal-perazim and in the Valley of Rephaim. These victories establish David's military prowess and further solidify his reign over all Israel.

2 Samuel 5:1 Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.

All the tribes of Israel came to David in Hebron and declared their loyalty to him.

1. Loyalty to God's chosen leaders.

2. Serving God through faithful service to others.

1. 1 Samuel 12:24 "Only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth with all your heart; for consider how great things he hath done for you."

2. John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

2 Samuel 5:2 Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel.

David was anointed as king of Israel and was instructed by God to lead and care for His people.

1: We must lead and care for one another, just as David was instructed by God.

2: We are called to serve God and His people with humility and faith.

1: Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus said, You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

2: Philippians 2:5-8 - Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

2 Samuel 5:3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel.

The elders of Israel came to King David in Hebron and made a covenant with him before the Lord. Then they anointed David as King of Israel.

1. The Power of Covenant: How to Strengthen Your Relationships with Others.

2. The Anointing of a King: Understanding God's Purpose for Our Lives.

1. Psalm 89:3-4 - "I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn to my servant David: Your seed I will establish forever, and build up your throne to all generations.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Samuel 5:4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.

David reigned over Israel for 40 years.

1. The Power of Faithfulness - How David's faithfulness to God allowed him to reign for 40 years.

2. The Benefits of Obedience - How David's obedience to God resulted in a 40 year reign.

1. 1 Chronicles 22:9 Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2 Samuel 5:5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

David reigned in Hebron for seven and a half years and in Jerusalem for 33 years over all of Israel and Judah.

1. God's Faith in David: Exploring the significance of David's reign in Hebron and Jerusalem.

2. David's Kingship: How God's grace enabled David to be King over Israel and Judah.

1. 2 Samuel 5:5 - "In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah."

2. 1 Samuel 16:13 - "Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward."

2 Samuel 5:6 And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither.

David and his men attempted to take over Jerusalem from the Jebusites, who challenged them by saying that they would not let them in unless they took away the blind and the lame.

1. The Strength of Faith: Understanding the Power of Believing in God's Plan

2. Overcoming Challenges: Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 5:7 Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David.

David conquered the city of Zion and named it the city of David.

1. The Strength of Faith: How David's Faith Led Him to Victory

2. The Courage of David: How He Fought for What He Believed In

1. Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2 Samuel 5:8 And David said on that day, Whosoever getteth up to the gutter, and smiteth the Jebusites, and the lame and the blind, that are hated of David's soul, he shall be chief and captain. Wherefore they said, The blind and the lame shall not come into the house.

David declared that anyone who fought against the Jebusites, the blind, and the lame would be considered the chief and captain of his forces. The blind and the lame were not allowed in the house.

1. The Power of David's Courage and Faith

2. The Value of Compassion and Inclusion

1. 2 Samuel 5:8

2. Matthew 5:3-4 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

2 Samuel 5:9 So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward.

David moved to the fort which he called the City of David, and built up the city from Millo and inward.

1. God's faithfulness to his chosen one: A study of David's life (2 Samuel 5:9)

2. Building up the city of God: A study of faith and obedience (2 Samuel 5:9)

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

2 Samuel 5:10 And David went on, and grew great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him.

David grew great and the Lord was with him.

1. God is with us in our growth and success.

2. God's presence empowers our lives.

1. Matthew 28:20 - And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2 Samuel 5:11 And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house.

King Hiram of Tyre sent David messengers, cedar trees, carpenters and masons to construct a house for David.

1. God's provision through the help of others.

2. The importance of working together.

1. Ephesians 4:11-13 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:9-10 For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.

2 Samuel 5:12 And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.

David became aware that the Lord had made him king of Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the benefit of the people of Israel.

1. The LORD Exalts Those Who Serve Him - 2 Samuel 5:12

2. God's Plan for Israel - 2 Samuel 5:12

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 75:7 - But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

2 Samuel 5:13 And David took him more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hebron: and there were yet sons and daughters born to David.

David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem after coming from Hebron, and he had children with them.

1. God's Sovereignty in the Lives of His People

2. The Meaning of Family in God's Kingdom

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.

2 Samuel 5:14 And these be the names of those that were born unto him in Jerusalem; Shammuah, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon,

David had four sons born to him in Jerusalem: Shammuah, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon.

1. The Faithfulness of David: A Study in Parental Commitment

2. The Legacy of David: The Importance of Passing Down Faith

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-15

2. 1 Chronicles 22:7-10

2 Samuel 5:15 Ibhar also, and Elishua, and Nepheg, and Japhia,

The passage mentions four people: Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, and Japhia.

1. The Diversity of God's People - Celebrating the Unique Talents and Gifts of Each Person

2. God's Faithfulness - How He Uses Our Weaknesses for His Glory

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 - God's power is made perfect in weakness

2. Romans 12:3-8 - Each person has a unique gift to contribute to the body of Christ

2 Samuel 5:16 And Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphalet.

Three men, Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphalet, are mentioned in 2 Samuel 5:16.

1. The Power of Unity: Exploring the Strength of Relationships Through Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphalet

2. A Tale of Three Men: Examining the Lives of Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphalet

1. Acts 4:32-35 - Exploring the Power of Believers Working Together in Unity

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Examining the Value of True Friendship Through the Example of Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphalet

2 Samuel 5:17 But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold.

After David was anointed king of Israel, the Philistines heard and went to seek him. David heard and went to a hold for protection.

1. God will protect us in times of trouble.

2. We should trust in God even when faced with adversity.

1. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."

2. Ephesians 6:13 - "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."

2 Samuel 5:18 The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

The Philistines invaded and spread out in the valley of Rephaim.

1. Learning to Trust God in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Situations

1. Romans 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2 Samuel 5:19 And David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

The passage describes how David asked the Lord for guidance on whether or not he should battle the Philistines, and the Lord assured him that he will be victorious.

1. Trusting God's Promises: How to Find Strength and Courage in Difficult Times

2. Holding Fast to the Lord's Assurance: Relying on God's Guidance in Times of Uncertainty

1. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

2 Samuel 5:20 And David came to Baalperazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baalperazim.

David defeated his enemies at Baalperazim and named the place in honor of the Lord's victory.

1. The Power of God's Deliverance in Our Lives

2. Experiencing the Breakthrough of the Lord

Cross-

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2 Samuel 5:21 And there they left their images, and David and his men burned them.

David and his men destroyed images of foreign gods left in their territory.

1. God's Power is Greater than Any Idol

2. The Importance of Worshiping God Alone

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - "Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry."

2 Samuel 5:22 And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

The Philistines attacked again and spread themselves out in the Valley of Rephaim.

1. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Adversity through Prayer

1. Isaiah 35:3-4 - Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, Be strong; fear not!

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

2 Samuel 5:23 And when David enquired of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

David asked the Lord if he should go against the Philistines and the Lord told him to go in a different direction and approach them from behind.

1. God's Guidance: Learning to Follow His Direction in Life.

2. Trusting God's Wisdom in Difficult Situations.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2 Samuel 5:24 And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.

After defeating the Philistines, David was told that the LORD would go out before him to smite the Philistines if he heard a sound in the tops of the mulberry trees.

1. God is in Control: How to Trust God in Difficult Times (2 Samuel 5:24)

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt with Faith (2 Samuel 5:24)

1. Romans 8:37-39 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 5:25 And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

David followed the Lord's instructions and defeated the Philistines from Geba to Gazer.

1. Obey the Lord and He will Guide You - Psalm 32:8

2. Serving God with Joyful Obedience - Romans 12:1-2

1. Deuteronomy 28:7 - The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you.

2. Joshua 6:2-5 - The Lord gave Joshua instructions to march around Jericho, and by following them the city was defeated.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 6:1-11 describes David's attempt to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. In this chapter, David gathers thirty thousand chosen men from Israel and sets out to retrieve the Ark from Baale-judah. They place the Ark on a new cart and begin their journey back to Jerusalem. However, during the transportation, Uzzah reaches out his hand to steady the Ark when it appears unstable, and God strikes him dead for his irreverence.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 6:12-15, it recounts David's decision to halt the transportation of the Ark and instead house it temporarily at Obed-edom's house. After witnessing Uzzah's death, David becomes afraid and decides not to proceed with bringing the Ark into Jerusalem. He diverts it to Obed-edom's house where it remains for three months. During this time, Obed-edom experiences blessings from having the presence of the Ark in his home.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 6:16-23, it is mentioned that after three months, news reaches David about Obed-edom's blessings due to hosting the Ark. Encouraged by this report, David resumes his plan of bringing the Ark into Jerusalem with great rejoicing and celebration. He leads a procession dancing before the Lord with all his might while wearing a linen ephod a priestly garment and accompanied by musicians playing various instruments.

In summary:

2 Samuel 6 presents:

David'attempt tbring thArk tJerusalem;

Uzza'death anthe diversion othe Arto Obed-eom'house;

The celebratioduring thArk'transportation tJerusalem;

Emphasis on:

David'attempt tbring thArk tJerusalem;

Uzza'death anthe diversion othe Arto Obed-eom'house;

The celebratioduring thArk'transportation tJerusalem;

The chapter focuses on David's attempt to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem, the death of Uzzah and the diversion of the Ark to Obed-edom's house, and the celebration during its eventual transportation to Jerusalem. In 2 Samuel 6, David gathers a large group of chosen men and sets out to retrieve the Ark from Baale-judah. However, during transportation, Uzzah is struck dead by God for his irreverent act of touching the Ark.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 6, after witnessing Uzzah's death, David becomes afraid and decides not to proceed with bringing the Ark into Jerusalem. Instead, he diverts it to Obed-edom's house where it remains for three months. During this time, Obed-edom experiences blessings from having the presence of the Ark in his home.

After three months, news reaches David about Obed-edom's blessings due to hosting the Ark. Encouraged by this report, David resumes his plan of bringing the Ark into Jerusalem with great rejoicing and celebration. He leads a procession dancing before the Lord with all his might while wearing a linen ephod a priestly garment and accompanied by musicians playing various instruments.

2 Samuel 6:1 Again, David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

David gathered all the chosen men of Israel, totaling thirty thousand.

1. God's chosen people are always willing to follow His commands.

2. The strength of a nation is found in its people.

1. Exodus 19:1-6 - God calls His chosen people to serve Him.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - The Lord gives strength to His people.

2 Samuel 6:2 And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that dwelleth between the cherubims.

David went to Baale of Judah to retrieve the Ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of Hosts who dwells between the cherubims.

1. The Importance of the Ark of God in Our Lives

2. The Power and Protection of the Lord of Hosts

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - God's instructions for constructing the Ark of the Covenant

2. Psalm 99:1 - The Lord reigns, let the peoples tremble. He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

2 Samuel 6:3 And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart.

The ark of God was placed on a new cart and taken out of the house of Abinadab in Gibeah, driven by Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God - 2 Samuel 6:3

2. The Faithfulness of Uzzah and Ahio - 2 Samuel 6:3

1. Deuteronomy 10:2 - "And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark."

2. Exodus 25:10-22 - "And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof."

2 Samuel 6:4 And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.

The Ark of God was brought out of the house of Abinadab, located in Gibeah, and Ahio walked before it.

1. The Faithfulness of Ahio in Accompanying the Ark of God

2. God's Presence in the Lives of His People

1. Deuteronomy 10:8 At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today.

2. Psalm 68:1 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

2 Samuel 6:5 And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

David and the people of Israel joyfully praised God with musical instruments made of fir wood, such as harps, psalteries, timbrels, cornets, and cymbals.

1. The Power of Music in Worship - How music can be used to praise God and lift up our spirits.

2. The Joy of Worship - Celebrating God together and how that brings us closer to Him.

1. Psalm 150:1-3 - Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.

2. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

2 Samuel 6:6 And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it.

Uzzah attempted to steady the ark of God when the oxen shook it, but as a result he was struck down.

1. Uzzah's Mistake: Lessons in Obedience

2. The Cost of Disobedience

1. Exodus 20:4-5 You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Hebrews 4:14-15 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

2 Samuel 6:7 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.

Uzzah touched the Ark of God and was struck down by God for his mistake.

1. God is a God of justice, and we must respect His laws and commandments.

2. We must be careful in our actions and be mindful of how we approach God and His Word.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"

2. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me."

2 Samuel 6:8 And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzzah: and he called the name of the place Perezuzzah to this day.

David was upset by the LORD's punishment of Uzzah and he named the place Perezuzzah to commemorate the event.

1. The Cost of Disobedience: A Lesson from Uzzah

2. The Grace of God: A Blessing from the LORD

1. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 6:9 And David was afraid of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me?

David was afraid of the LORD when he found out the ark of the LORD was coming to him.

1. When God Calls: Responding with Fear and Reverence

2. When God's Presence Changes Your Life

1. Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2 Samuel 6:10 So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

David chose not to bring the ark of the Lord into the city of David, instead he placed it in the house of Obededom the Gittite.

1. Have the courage to follow God even when it's not popular.

2. Putting God first, no matter the cost.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2 Samuel 6:11 And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household.

The Ark of the Lord remained in Obededom's house for three months and the Lord blessed him and his household.

1. God's Blessing on Obededom: How We Can Receive a Blessing from God

2. The Power of God's Presence: Experiencing God's Presence in Our Lives

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2 Samuel 6:12 And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obededom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness.

King David was told that the LORD had blessed the house of Obededom because of the Ark of God, so David went and brought the Ark of God to the city of David with joy.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: Learning from the life of Obededom

2. The Joy of Serving the Lord: Experiencing the Blessing of God

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The Blessing of Obedience

2. Psalm 100 - The Joy of Serving the Lord

2 Samuel 6:13 And it was so, that when they that bare the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings.

After the ark of the Lord was brought back to Jerusalem, it was accompanied by a procession of six paces in which an ox and a fatling were sacrificed.

1. The Importance of Celebrating God's Presence

2. Making Sacrifices to Show Obedience and Love for God

1. I Chronicles 16:29 - Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

2. Philippians 4:18 - But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

2 Samuel 6:14 And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod.

David danced with all his might before the Lord, wearing a linen ephod.

1. The importance of expressing our joy and praise for God.

2. The power of worship and how it can bring us closer to God.

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2 Samuel 6:15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

David and the people of Israel joyfully brought up the ark of the Lord, accompanied by loud shouts and trumpet sounds.

1. Celebrating the Joy of God's Presence

2. How to Lift Up the Name of the Lord

1. Psalm 100:1-2 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

2. Psalm 95:1-2 Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

2 Samuel 6:16 And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

When the Ark of the LORD was brought into David's city, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked out of her window and saw David joyfully celebrating God's presence.

1. Joyful Praise to the Lord: Rejoicing in God's Presence.

2. Don't Let Your Heart Be Hardened: Remembering Michal's Experience.

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

2 Samuel 6:17 And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

David brought the Ark of the Lord into the tabernacle he had built for it and offered burnt and peace offerings to the Lord.

1. The Value of Offering Sacrifices to the Lord

2. The Importance of Having a Dedicated Place of Worship

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

2 Samuel 6:18 And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.

After David finished offering burnt and peace offerings to the Lord, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of Hosts.

1. The Power of Blessing Others in the Name of the Lord

2. Offering Sacrifices to the Lord and Blessing His People

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Deuteronomy 10:8 - At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today.

2 Samuel 6:19 And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. So all the people departed every one to his house.

David distributed food and drink to all of Israel, both men and women, before they returned to their homes.

1. God calls us to be generous and share what we have with those in need.

2. It is important to recognize the importance of every person in our lives and communities.

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Samuel 6:20 Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!

David returned to his household and was greeted by Michal, Saul's daughter, who was critical of David for uncovering himself in front of his servants.

1. The Power of Humility: How David's Example Can Inspire Us

2. Facing Criticism with Grace: A Lesson from David and Michal

1. 1 Peter 5:5 - "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"

2. James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2 Samuel 6:21 And David said unto Michal, It was before the LORD, which chose me before thy father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel: therefore will I play before the LORD.

David declared to Michal that his position of ruler over the people of the Lord was appointed by God Himself.

1. God's Sovereignty - Being Chosen By God Above All Others

2. Obedience to God - Worshiping Before the Lord

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

2. Psalm 47:1-2 - O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.

2 Samuel 6:22 And I will yet be more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight: and of the maidservants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour.

David expresses his humility and willingness to be dishonoured in order to honour God's servants.

1. God's Call to Humility: Learning to Honour Others

2. The Power of Servanthood: Satisfaction in Being Unseen

1. Matthew 20:25-28 But Jesus called them to him, and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

2. Philippians 2:3-8 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

2 Samuel 6:23 Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.

Michal, the daughter of Saul, never had any children throughout her life.

1: We must never lose faith that God will provide in our lives, even if the answer is not what we expect.

2: God's plan is not always clear, but His will is always best.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 7:1-17 describes God's covenant with David regarding the building of a house. In this chapter, David expresses his desire to build a permanent dwelling place for the Ark of the Covenant. However, God speaks to the prophet Nathan and reveals His plan to establish a lasting dynasty for David instead. God promises that He will raise up one of David's descendants who will build a house for His name and establish an eternal kingdom.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 7:18-29, it recounts David's response to God's covenant. Overwhelmed by God's promise and grace, David humbly acknowledges his unworthiness and prays a prayer of gratitude and praise. He recognizes that it is by God's great mercy that he has been chosen as king over Israel and that his dynasty will be established forever.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 7:25-29, it is mentioned that David concludes his prayer by asking for continued blessings upon him, his descendants, and the nation of Israel. He seeks God's favor in fulfilling His promises and prays for protection against any threats or adversaries they may face. David expresses his trust in God's faithfulness and commits himself to walk in obedience before Him.

In summary:

2 Samuel 7 presents:

God'covenant witDavid regarding thbuilding ohouse;

David'response tGod'covenant anprayer ogratitude;

David'requests anblessings fothe future;

Emphasis on:

God'covenant witDavid regarding thbuilding ohouse;

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The chapter focuses on God's covenant with David regarding the building of a house, David's response to this covenant, and his prayer of gratitude and requests for blessings. In 2 Samuel 7, David expresses his desire to build a permanent dwelling place for the Ark of the Covenant. However, God reveals to Nathan that He has different plans. God promises to establish a lasting dynasty for David and raise up one of his descendants who will build a house for His name.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 7, overwhelmed by God's promise and grace, David humbly acknowledges his unworthiness and offers a prayer of gratitude and praise. He recognizes that it is through God's mercy that he has been chosen as king over Israel and that his dynasty will be established forever.

David concludes his prayer by asking for continued blessings upon him, his descendants, and the nation of Israel. He seeks God's favor in fulfilling His promises and prays for protection against any threats or adversaries they may face. With trust in God's faithfulness, David commits himself to walk in obedience before Him.

2 Samuel 7:1 And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies;

After the Lord had given King David rest from all of his enemies, he sat in his house.

1. Rest in the Lord: Trusting in God for Protection and Provision

2. The Blessings of Rest: Finding Peace in the Lord's Presence

1. Isaiah 26:3 - "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you."

2. Psalm 4:8 - "In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety."

2 Samuel 7:2 That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.

King David expresses his desire to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant, but Nathan the prophet advises him to wait.

1. God's plan is greater than our own - 2 Samuel 7:2

2. Trust in God's timing - 2 Samuel 7:2

1. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11

2. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." - Proverbs 3:5

2 Samuel 7:3 And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee.

Nathan encourages King David to do whatever is in his heart, as God will be with him.

1. The Power of Encouragement - How the right words can embolden us to take action for God.

2. God's Presence - Embrace the comfort and strength found in His presence.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

2 Samuel 7:4 And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying,

The Lord spoke to Nathan in a dream on the same night.

1. The Miracle of God's Immediate Guidance.

2. Do Not Delay When God Calls.

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

2. Matthew 7:7 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

2 Samuel 7:5 Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?

God asked David if he wanted to build a house for Him to live in.

1. God Seeks a Home in Our Hearts - How can we make our hearts a dwelling place for the Lord?

2. Building a House for the Lord - How can we practically build God a dwelling place?

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16 - Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

2 Samuel 7:6 Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.

God had not had a house since the time the Israelites were freed from Egypt, and had been living in a tent or tabernacle instead.

1. The Value of Simplicity and Humility in God's Service

2. Finding Contentment in the Provision of God

1. Luke 9:58 - Jesus said to him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.

2. Hebrews 11:8-9 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise.

2 Samuel 7:7 In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar?

God asked why the Israelites were not building Him a house of cedar, in all the places He had traveled with them.

1. God's request to build Him a house of cedar and the importance of obedience.

2. The significance of God's presence with His people and the need to worship Him.

1. Deuteronomy 5:33 - "You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess."

2. 1 Chronicles 17:4-7 - Go and tell David my servant, Thus says the Lord: You shall not build me a house to dwell in. For I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up Israel to this day, but I have gone from tent to tent and from dwelling to dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, Why have you not built me a house of cedar? "

2 Samuel 7:8 Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel:

God chose David to be ruler over Israel and told him so through Samuel.

1. God has a plan for all of us, no matter our current station in life.

2. Even the humblest of us can be called to greatness by God.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Mark 10:45 - For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

2 Samuel 7:9 And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth.

God has been with King David, protecting him and making him a great name among the other great men of the world.

1. God's protection is always with us in times of need.

2. The greatness of God is shown through His provision and protection for us.

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2 Samuel 7:10 Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,

God promises to provide a place for His people to live in peace and safety, free from oppression.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Protection - 2 Samuel 7:10

2. Overcoming Oppression Through Faith - 2 Samuel 7:10

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. Psalm 121:3-4 - "He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

2 Samuel 7:11 And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

The Lord promises to give David an eternal house and to protect him from his enemies.

1. The Lord Will Provide: A Study on His Promises to David

2. Unwavering Protection: God's Faithfulness to His People

1. Isaiah 7:14 - Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Samuel 7:12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

God promises to keep the covenant with King David and his lineage by setting up a kingdom which will come from his descendants.

1. God's covenant contains promises that are meant to be kept.

2. We should trust in the Lord's plan for our lives, even when it seems difficult or uncertain.

1. 2 Samuel 7:12 - "And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

2 Samuel 7:13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

God promises to establish a lasting kingdom for King David and his descendants.

1. God's Promises: Establishing a Kingdom of Blessings

2. God's Unfailing Faithfulness: Building a Lasting Legacy

1. Romans 4:21 - And being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

2. Psalm 89:3-4 - I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David: "Your seed I will establish forever, and build up your throne to all generations."

2 Samuel 7:14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

God promises to be a father to David's descendants and to discipline them if they do wrong.

1. God's Fatherly Love: A Blessing and Responsibility

2. The Blessing of God's Discipline

1. Proverbs 3:11-12 - "My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

2 Samuel 7:15 But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

God promises that his mercy will remain with King David, as it had with Saul before him.

1. God's Unconditional Mercy: How God's Love Endures Through All Things

2. The Faithfulness of God: Experiencing God's Reliability in Times of Trouble

1. Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Psalm 103:8-14 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

2 Samuel 7:16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

God promises King David an everlasting kingdom and throne.

1. God's Promise to David: His Kingdom and Throne Will Last Forever

2. The Steadfast Love of God: A Faithful Covenant with David

1. Romans 4:17 - As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

2. Psalm 89:3-4 - You have said, I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.

2 Samuel 7:17 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

Nathan spoke to David and relayed God's words and vision to him.

1. God Speaks to Us: Learning to Listen and Follow His Guidance

2. How to Discern God's Voice: Understanding His Word and Vision

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2 Samuel 7:18 Then went king David in, and sat before the LORD, and he said, Who am I, O Lord GOD? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

King David expressed his humility before the Lord, asking Who am I and what is my house that the Lord has brought him so far.

1. The Humble Heart: How to Find Contentment and Fulfillment in God

2. The Power of Humility: How We Can Receive from God's Abundance

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

2. Isaiah 57:15 - "For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

2 Samuel 7:19 And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord GOD; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD?

God is asking if it is possible for a person to be blessed for a long time, as promised to David.

1. God's Promises are for a Lifetime

2. Believe in God's Abundant Blessings

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 92:12-14 - The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green.

2 Samuel 7:20 And what can David say more unto thee? for thou, Lord GOD, knowest thy servant.

David acknowledges God's omniscience and acknowledges that God knows His servant.

1. Knowing God - Acknowledging His Omniscience

2. The Privilege of Serving God

1. Psalm 139:4 - "Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2 Samuel 7:21 For thy word's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all these great things, to make thy servant know them.

God has done great things according to His Word and His own heart to show His servant.

1. God's Word is the Basis for His Actions: 2 Samuel 7:21

2. Moving Beyond Our Circumstances: 2 Samuel 7:21

1. Ephesians 3:20-21 "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

2. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2 Samuel 7:22 Wherefore thou art great, O LORD God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

God is great and unique, there is no one like him and no other god besides him.

1. God's Uniqueness: The Supremacy of the Lord

2. God's Greatness: The Majesty of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:18-25 - To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

2. Psalm 86:8 - Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works.

2 Samuel 7:23 And what one nation in the earth is like thy people, even like Israel, whom God went to redeem for a people to himself, and to make him a name, and to do for you great things and terrible, for thy land, before thy people, which thou redeemedst to thee from Egypt, from the nations and their gods?

The Lord has done great and terrible things for Israel, and no other nation is like them.

1. God Is Faithful To His People: 2 Samuel 7:23

2. The Lord's Unparalleled Love: 2 Samuel 7:23

1. Deuteronomy 7:6-8

2. Isaiah 43:1-7

2 Samuel 7:24 For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people Israel to be a people unto thee for ever: and thou, LORD, art become their God.

God has promised to be faithful to Israel and to be their God forever.

1. God is the Eternal Covenant Keeper

2. God's Promise of Faithfulness to Israel

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 2:11-13 - Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called uncircumcised by those who call themselves the circumcision (which is done in the body by human hands) remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

2 Samuel 7:25 And now, O LORD God, the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it for ever, and do as thou hast said.

David prays to God to fulfill His promises to him and his house.

1. God's Promises: How We Can Rely on Them

2. David's Prayer: An Example of Faithfulness to God

1. Romans 4:20-21 - He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2 Samuel 7:26 And let thy name be magnified for ever, saying, The LORD of hosts is the God over Israel: and let the house of thy servant David be established before thee.

In 2 Samuel 7:26, God is praised for His greatness and His promise of a house for His servant David is affirmed.

1. God's Covenant Promise to David: Trusting in God's Faithfulness

2. The Greatness of Our God: Celebrating the LORD of Hosts

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Psalm 89:14-15 - Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face. Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.

2 Samuel 7:27 For thou, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee.

David expresses his gratitude to the Lord for his promise to build a house for him and his people.

1. God's Promises are Unfailing - 2 Corinthians 1:20

2. Offerings of Thanksgiving - Psalm 116:17-19

1. Psalm 89:1-4 - The Lord's faithfulness to his covenant with David

2. 2 Chronicles 6:14-17 - Solomon's prayer for God's presence in the temple

2 Samuel 7:28 And now, O Lord GOD, thou art that God, and thy words be true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:

God has promised goodness to His servant.

1. The Power of God's Promises: How We Can Rely on His Faithfulness

2. Experiencing the Blessings of God's Faithfulness

1. 2 Samuel 7:28 - And now, O Lord GOD, thou art that God, and thy words be true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:

2. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

2 Samuel 7:29 Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O Lord GOD, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever.

God has promised to bless the house of David and His servant, asking them to be blessed forever.

1. God's Promises: The Blessing of the House of David

2. The Power of Faith: Relying on God's Word to Achieve Lasting Blessings

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 4:17-21 - (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara s womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 8:1-8 describes David's military victories and expansion of his kingdom. In this chapter, David engages in several military campaigns against various nations and emerges victorious. He defeats the Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, and the king of Zobah. David captures vast amounts of spoil from these conquests, including gold, silver, and bronze. The Lord grants him success wherever he goes.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 8:9-14, it recounts David's administration and organization of his kingdom. After his military triumphs, David establishes regional governors to oversee different parts of his expanding realm. He appoints officials to administer justice and righteousness among the people. Additionally, he shows kindness to Mephibosheth Jonathan's son and allows him to eat at his table regularly.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 8:15-18, it is mentioned that David reigns with wisdom and integrity over all Israel. He administers justice fairly for all the people and ensures their well-being. The chapter concludes by listing some key figures within David's administration including Joab as commander of the army; Jehoshaphat as recorder; Zadok and Ahimelech as priests; Seraiah as secretary; Benaiah as captain of the Cherethites and Pelethites and acknowledging their roles in supporting King David.

In summary:

2 Samuel 8 presents:

David'military victories anexpansion ohis kingdom;

The administratioand organizatioof Davi's rule;

Key figures within Davi'administration;

Emphasis on:

David'military victories anexpansion ohis kingdom;

The administratioand organizatioof Davi's rule;

Key figures within Davi'administration;

The chapter focuses on David's military victories, the expansion of his kingdom, the administration and organization of his rule, and key figures within his administration. In 2 Samuel 8, David engages in several successful military campaigns against various nations, including the Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, and the king of Zobah. He captures vast amounts of spoil from these conquests.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 8, after his military triumphs, David establishes regional governors to oversee different parts of his expanding realm. He appoints officials to administer justice and righteousness among the people. Additionally, he extends kindness to Mephibosheth Jonathan's son and allows him to eat at his table regularly.

David reigns with wisdom and integrity over all Israel. He administers justice fairly for all the people and ensures their well-being. The chapter concludes by listing some key figures within David's administration who play significant roles in supporting King David's rule such as Joab as commander of the army; Jehoshaphat as recorder; Zadok and Ahimelech as priests; Seraiah as secretary; Benaiah as captain of the Cherethites and Pelethites

2 Samuel 8:1 And after this it came to pass that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them: and David took Methegammah out of the hand of the Philistines.

David defeated the Philistines in battle and took back Methegammah from their control.

1. "Victory in Christ: Overcoming the Oppressor"

2. "God's Faithful Provision: From Defeat to Triumph"

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn."

2 Samuel 8:2 And he smote Moab, and measured them with a line, casting them down to the ground; even with two lines measured he to put to death, and with one full line to keep alive. And so the Moabites became David's servants, and brought gifts.

David defeated the Moabites and made them his servants, who then gave him gifts.

1. The Power of Serving God: Learning from David's Victory Over Moab

2. Committing to a Life of Obedience: The Rewards of Serving God

1. Romans 6:16-18 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Philippians 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

2 Samuel 8:3 David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates.

1: God is powerful and fights for us in our battles.

2: Even against overwhelming odds, God will provide victory for his people.

1: Psalm 24:8 Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

2: Exodus 14:14 The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

2 Samuel 8:4 And David took from him a thousand chariots, and seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen: and David houghed all the chariot horses, but reserved of them for an hundred chariots.

David defeated the king of Zobah and took a thousand chariots, seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen from him. However, he only kept a hundred chariots by houghing the rest of the chariot horses.

1. The Power of Faith: How David's Trust in God Led to Victory

2. Overcoming Adversity: An Example from David's Life

1. 2 Chronicles 14:8-12 - Asa's trust in God leading to victory

2. Psalm 18:29 - God giving victory to those who trust in Him

2 Samuel 8:5 And when the Syrians of Damascus came to succour Hadadezer king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty thousand men.

David defeated an army of 22,000 Syrians sent by Hadadezer, king of Zobah.

1. The power of faith: how David overcame great odds to win a battle

2. The importance of courage in times of adversity

1. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:20 Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed.

2 Samuel 8:6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus: and the Syrians became servants to David, and brought gifts. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus and the Syrians became his servants and gave him gifts. The Lord protected David everywhere he went.

1. Seeing God's Providence in our Lives - Drawing on David's example of trusting God's protection in all his endeavors.

2. Faithful Service - Exploring the blessing of faithfully serving God, even in hard circumstances.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2 Samuel 8:7 And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

David took the shields of gold from the servants of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem.

1. Appreciating God's Provision: David's example of recognizing and utilizing God's blessings.

2. The Power of Generosity: How David's generosity was an example of true wealth.

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - "One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

2 Samuel 8:8 And from Betah, and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, king David took exceeding much brass.

King David conquered Betah and Berothai, two cities of Hadadezer, and obtained a large amount of brass.

1. God's Strength: How God Helps Us Overcome Difficult Challenges

2. God's Provision: How God Rewards Our Faithful Obedience

1. Psalm 18:29-30 - "For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall. As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all them that trust in him."

2. John 14:13-14 - "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it."

2 Samuel 8:9 When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hadadezer,

David defeated Hadadezer's army and Toi, king of Hamath heard about it.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated through David's victory.

2. God gives us the strength and courage to fight against our enemies.

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4 - The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

2 Samuel 8:10 Then Toi sent Joram his son unto king David, to salute him, and to bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer, and smitten him: for Hadadezer had wars with Toi. And Joram brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass:

Toi, King of Hamath, sent his son Joram to King David to congratulate him on his victory against Hadadezer and to give him gifts of silver, gold, and brass.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Recognizing and Appreciating Those Who Make a Difference

2. The Blessings of Victory: Understanding the Rewards of Faithful Service

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

2. Colossians 3:15-17 - And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2 Samuel 8:11 Which also king David did dedicate unto the LORD, with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of all nations which he subdued;

King David dedicated silver and gold from all the nations he had conquered to the LORD.

1. The Power of Dedication: How David Showed His Devotion to God

2. God s Provision and David s Gratitude: A Study in 2 Samuel 8:11

1. 1 Chronicles 18:11 And David dedicated the spoil won from all his enemies to the Lord, together with the silver and gold he had dedicated from all the nations he had subdued.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

2 Samuel 8:12 Of Syria, and of Moab, and of the children of Ammon, and of the Philistines, and of Amalek, and of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

2 Samuel 8:12 describes the territories and people conquered by King David, including Syria, Moab, Ammon, Philistines, Amalek, and Hadadezer of Zobah.

1. The Power of God's Strength: How God Used David to Conquer Nations

2. Obedience to God's Call: How David's Faithfulness Led to Victory

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 2 Chronicles 14:11 - And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O Lord, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee.

2 Samuel 8:13 And David gat him a name when he returned from smiting of the Syrians in the valley of salt, being eighteen thousand men.

David gained a reputation of courage and strength as a leader after defeating the Syrians in the Valley of Salt, killing 18,000 of them.

1. The Power of a Good Reputation

2. The Strength of Courageous Leadership

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

2 Samuel 8:14 And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom put he garrisons, and all they of Edom became David's servants. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

David put garrisons in Edom and all its people became his servants. The LORD also protected him.

1. The Lord's Protection: How God Preserves Us in Every Situation

2. God's Sovereignty: How He Uses Us to Accomplish His Will

1. Psalm 91:4 - He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2 Samuel 8:15 And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people.

David was a wise and just ruler over Israel.

1. The Power of Good Leadership: Examining the Example of King David

2. Living Righteously: Lessons from King David

1. Proverbs 16:13 - "Righteous lips are the delight of a king, and he loves him who speaks what is right."

2. Psalm 72:1-2 - "Endow the king with your justice, O God, the royal son with your righteousness. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice."

2 Samuel 8:16 And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder;

Joab son of Zeruiah was in charge of the army and Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was a recorder.

1. The Power of God's Appointments: Examining 2 Samuel 8:16

2. Serving God through His Appointments: Living Out 2 Samuel 8:16

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Why We Can Trust God's Appointments

2. Proverbs 19:21 - Living Out the Appointments of God

2 Samuel 8:17 And Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, were the priests; and Seraiah was the scribe;

Zadok and Ahimelech were priests and Seraiah was the scribe.

1. The Importance of Spiritual Leadership

2. The Role of Servant Leadership

1. 2 Samuel 8:17

2. Matthew 20:25-28 - "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant."

2 Samuel 8:18 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief rulers.

Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was appointed by David to be in charge of the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and David's sons were appointed as chief rulers.

1. God is Able to Appoint Us for Great Things

2. Working Together in Unity for the Kingdom

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 - The Body of Christ

2. Ephesians 4:1-16 - Unity in the Church

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 9:1-5 describes David's kindness to Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan. In this chapter, David seeks to show kindness to any remaining descendants of his dear friend Jonathan. He inquires if there is anyone from Saul's house still alive. Ziba, a servant from Saul's household, informs David about Mephibosheth, who is crippled in both feet. David sends for Mephibosheth and brings him to his palace.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 9:6-8, it recounts David's conversation with Mephibosheth. When Mephibosheth appears before David, he humbly bows down and expresses fear and unworthiness before the king. However, instead of punishment or harm, David reassures him and shows him great kindness for the sake of his father Jonathan.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 9:9-13, it is mentioned that as an act of generosity and compassion towards Mephibosheth, David restores all the land that belonged to Saul and allows him to eat at his table regularly as one of the king's own sons. From that day forward, Mephibosheth dwells in Jerusalem and receives provision from King David throughout his life.

In summary:

2 Samuel 9 presents:

David'kindness tMephibosheby restoring hland aninviting hto eat athi table;

Mephoboshehumblacceptancand gratitude foDavid'generosity;

Mephoboshe'dwelling iJerusalemand receiving provision froKing Davi;

Emphasis on:

David'kindness tMephibosheby restoring hland aninviting hto eat athi table;

Mephoboshehumblacceptancand gratitude foDavid'generosity;

Mephoboshe'dwelling iJerusalemand receiving provision froKing Davi;

The chapter focuses on David's kindness to Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, his conversation with Mephibosheth, and the provision and dwelling granted to Mephibosheth. In 2 Samuel 9, David seeks to show kindness to any remaining descendants of his dear friend Jonathan. He learns about Mephibosheth from Ziba and brings him to his palace.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 9, when Mephibosheth appears before David, he expresses fear and unworthiness. However, instead of punishment or harm, David reassures him and shows him great kindness for the sake of his father Jonathan.

As an act of generosity and compassion towards Mephibosheth, David restores all the land that belonged to Saul and allows him to eat at his table regularly as one of the king's own sons. From that day forward, Mephibosheth dwells in Jerusalem and receives provision from King David throughout his life.

2 Samuel 9:1 And David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

David wanted to show kindness to a surviving member of Saul's family as a tribute to Jonathan's memory.

1. God's grace is extended to all, no matter their past.

2. Remembering the legacy of those who have gone before us.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:5 - For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten.

2 Samuel 9:2 And there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, Art thou Ziba? And he said, Thy servant is he.

David meets a servant from Saul's house named Ziba and inquires if he is the one.

1. The Importance of Asking Questions in Service to God

2. Finding Comfort in Serving God in Troubled Times

1. Matthew 7:7-8 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

2. Romans 8:28-30 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

2 Samuel 9:3 And the king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

The king asked if there was anyone from the house of Saul to whom he could show God's kindness. Ziba replied that Jonathan had a son who was lame.

1. God's Unconditional Love - Exploring how God's love extends to all, regardless of circumstance.

2. The Power of Kindness - Examining how kindness can manifest into tangible blessings.

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2 Samuel 9:4 And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lodebar.

King David asked Ziba where Mephibosheth, Saul's son, was located and Ziba informed the King that he was in the house of Machir in Lodebar.

1. God can restore what was lost.

2. God's faithful mercy can be seen in the life of Mephibosheth.

1. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Luke 1:37 "For nothing is impossible with God."

2 Samuel 9:5 Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar.

King David sent people to bring Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, out of Lodebar from the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel.

1. The Power of Mercy: Illustrations from the Life of King David

2. The Importance of Loyalty: Lessons from the Friendship of Jonathan and David

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; outdo one another in showing honor.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals.

2 Samuel 9:6 Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

David meets Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan and Saul, and greets him with respect. Mephibosheth humbly responds to David.

1. God's grace and mercy are extended to all, even the least of us.

2. Even in difficult circumstances, we can be humble and grateful.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

2. Romans 12:3 - "For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned."

2 Samuel 9:7 And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

David showed kindness to Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, by restoring to him all of the land of Saul, his grandfather, and allowing him to eat at David's table.

1. God's Kindness in Restoring Lost Blessings

2. The Power of Faithful Friendship

1. Romans 2:4-5 - "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"

2. Proverbs 17:17 - "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."

2 Samuel 9:8 And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

David treats Mephibosheth with kindness and humility, despite Mephibosheth's humble acknowledgement of his own worthlessness.

1. The Power of Kindness: David's Example of Grace and Humility.

2. Recognizing Our Own Worthlessness: How We Can Accept God's Grace.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

2. Luke 7:44-48 - Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little. And he said to her, Your sins are forgiven.

2 Samuel 9:9 Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

King David decreed that all of Saul's possessions be given to his son.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Transform Lives

2. The Rewards of Loyalty: How Faithful Service is Rewarded

1. Proverbs 11:25 - "A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives water will get water."

2. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2 Samuel 9:10 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

Ziba had 15 sons and 20 servants who were required to till the land to provide food for Mephibosheth, who was to eat at David's table.

1. The Generosity of David Toward Mephibosheth

2. The Blessing of Serving God with All Our Might

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2 Samuel 9:11 Then said Ziba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.

Ziba informs the king that he will do whatever he is asked and the king decides to allow Mephibosheth to eat at his table as if he were a royal son.

1. The Power of Kindness - How even a small act of kindness can change someone's life.

2. Living a Life of Obedience - Why it is important to obey and serve those in authority.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Luke 16:10-12 - Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.

2 Samuel 9:12 And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Micha. And all that dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants unto Mephibosheth.

Mephibosheth had a son named Micha, and everyone living in Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: A Study of Mephibosheth in 2 Samuel 9

2. A Lesson of Loyalty from Mephibosheth: Serving Those in Need

1. Luke 17:10 - "So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

2. Ephesians 6:5-8 - "Slaves, be obedient to those who are your earthly masters, with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as to Christ... knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free."

2 Samuel 9:13 So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

Mephibosheth was welcomed by King David into his court and was given a permanent place at the king's table. Despite being lame on both his feet, Mephibosheth was treated kindly and given a place of honor.

1. The Parable of Mephibosheth: A Lesson in Mercy and Grace

2. In God's Kingdom: All Are Welcome

1. Luke 14:13-14 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast.

Paragraph 1: 2 Samuel 10:1-5 describes the conflict between David and the Ammonites. In this chapter, Nahash, the king of the Ammonites, dies, and his son Hanun succeeds him. David sends messengers to express condolences to Hanun upon his father's death. However, Hanun listens to bad advice from his officials and suspects that David's intentions are malicious. As a result, he humiliates David's messengers by shaving off half of their beards and cutting their garments.

Paragraph 2: Continuing in 2 Samuel 10:6-14, it recounts the ensuing battle between Israel and the Ammonites. When David learns about the mistreatment of his messengers, he instructs his army commander Joab to prepare for battle against the Ammonites. The Ammonites gather their forces with support from other nations like Aram (Syria). Sensing a formidable opposition, Joab divides his troops into two groups some fighting against the Ammonites while others engage in combat with Aram.

Paragraph 3: In verses such as 2 Samuel 10:15-19, it is mentioned that despite initial setbacks in their encounters with Aram and its allies, Israel emerges victorious under Joab's leadership. Realizing they are defeated, both Aram and its supporting nations retreat from further conflict with Israel. Following this triumph over their enemies, peace is restored between Israel and these nations.

In summary:

2 Samuel 10 presents:

The conflict betweeDavid anthe Ammonite;

The humiliatioof Davi'messengers ban ensuing battle;

Israel'victory oveAram anrestoratioof peace;

Emphasis on:

The conflict betweeDavid anthe Ammonite;

The humiliatioof Davi'messengers ban ensuing battle;

Israel'victory oveAram anrestoratioof peace;

The chapter focuses on the conflict between David and the Ammonites, the humiliation of David's messengers, the ensuing battle between Israel and its enemies, and Israel's victory over Aram (Syria) and restoration of peace. In 2 Samuel 10, after Nahash, the king of the Ammonites, dies, his son Hanun succeeds him. However, Hanun listens to bad advice and mistreats David's messengers who were sent to express condolences.

Continuing in 2 Samuel 10, upon learning about this mistreatment, David instructs Joab to prepare for battle against the Ammonites. The Ammonites gather their forces with support from other nations like Aram. Joab divides his troops into two groups one fighting against the Ammonites while others engage in combat with Aram.

Despite initial setbacks in their encounters with Aram and its allies, Israel emerges victorious under Joab's leadership. Realizing their defeat, both Aram and its supporting nations retreat from further conflict with Israel. Following this triumph over their enemies, peace is restored between Israel and these nations.

2 Samuel 10:1 And it came to pass after this, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead.

The king of the Ammonites died and his son, Hanun, succeeded him as ruler.

1. The Legacy of Faithfulness - How we honor those who have gone before us

2. The Weight of Leadership - Preparing for the responsibilities of rulership

1. Proverbs 17:6 - Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Samuel 10:2 Then said David, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father shewed kindness unto me. And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.

David shows kindness to Hanun, the son of Nahash, as his father had shown kindness to David in the past. David sends his servants to comfort Hanun in the land of the Ammonites.

1. The Power of Kindness: Exploring how David demonstrated kindness to Hanun in 2 Samuel 10:2.

2. The Reward of Kindness: Examining how David was rewarded for his kindness to Hanun in 2 Samuel 10:2.

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap."

2 Samuel 10:3 And the princes of the children of Ammon said unto Hanun their lord, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David rather sent his servants unto thee, to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?

The princes of the Ammonites suspected that King David's intention to send comforters to their lord Hanun was actually to spy on and overthrow the city.

1. God's Plans are bigger than our Understandings - Isaiah 55:8-9

2. Be Cautious of Human Wisdom - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. John 2:24-25 - But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men,

2. 2 Corinthians 10:12 - For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

2 Samuel 10:4 Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, even to their buttocks, and sent them away.

Hanun, the king of the Ammonites, took David's servants and humiliated them by shaving off half of their beards and cutting off their garments to their buttocks.

1. The Power of Humiliation: How to Respond When We Are Humiliated

2. Releasing Control: Learning to Surrender When We Don't Have the Upper Hand

1. Philippians 2: 3-8 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

2 Samuel 10:5 When they told it unto David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed: and the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.

David sends a delegation to meet the men who were ashamed and instructs them to stay in Jericho until their beards have grown before returning.

1. A Shameful Encounter: Learning to Overcome Humiliation

2. Growing in Strength: Waiting for the Right Moment

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:14 - And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2 Samuel 10:6 And when the children of Ammon saw that they stank before David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Bethrehob, and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand footmen, and of king Maacah a thousand men, and of Ishtob twelve thousand men.

The Ammonites hired 20,000 footmen from Bethrehob and Zoba, 1,000 men from Maacah, and 12,000 men from Ishtob to fight against David.

1. God's Strength is Sufficient for Every Battle

2. Trust in the Lord in the Face of Adversity

1. 2 Chronicles 14:11 - And Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude.

2. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2 Samuel 10:7 And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men.

David heard of an attack on his kingdom and responded by sending Joab and his army to protect it.

1. Trusting in God's Protection - 2 Samuel 10:7

2. The Importance of Being Prepared - 2 Samuel 10:7

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

2. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD.

2 Samuel 10:8 And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array at the entering in of the gate: and the Syrians of Zoba, and of Rehob, and Ishtob, and Maacah, were by themselves in the field.

The children of Ammon prepared for battle at the gate, and the Syrians of Zoba, Rehob, Ishtob, and Maacah fought alone in the field.

1. The Power of Unity: Learning from the Children of Ammon

2. Never Give Up: The Syrians of Zoba, Rehob, Ishtob, and Maacah

1. Ephesians 6:12 - For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2 Samuel 10:9 When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians:

Joab positioned the best men of Israel to fight against the Syrians in a battle.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Joab's Strategic Thinking Led to Victory

2. The Importance of Courage and Commitment: Joab's Leadership in the Battle

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 10:10 And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, that he might put them in array against the children of Ammon.

David divided his troops and tasked each division with defeating the Ammonites.

1. Counting the Cost of Following Christ: A Study of 2 Samuel 10:10

2. Strength in Unity: The Power of Teamwork Found in 2 Samuel 10:10

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Putting on the Armor of God.

2. Matthew 28:18-20 - Jesus' Commission to His Disciples.

2 Samuel 10:11 And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee.

David offers assistance to Joab in battle against the Syrians and Ammonites.

1. God is our strength in times of trouble.

2. The power of unity and collaboration.

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion"

2 Samuel 10:12 Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the LORD do that which seemeth him good.

David encourages his men to be brave and fight for the people and cities of God, trusting that God will do what is best.

1: We must courageously fight for what is right, trusting that God will make the best decision in the end.

2: Even when the odds are against us, we should be courageous and trust in God to guide and protect us in our endeavors.

1: Joshua 1:9- "Be strong and courageous; do not be terrified or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2: Psalm 27:1- "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

2 Samuel 10:13 And Joab drew nigh, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the Syrians: and they fled before him.

Joab and his army fought against the Syrians and they were defeated.

1. God will always provide victory to those who trust in Him.

2. We must always prepare for battle with the Lord at our side.

1. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

2 Samuel 10:14 And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, then fled they also before Abishai, and entered into the city. So Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem.

Joab and his forces defeated the Syrians and the children of Ammon, causing the Ammonites to flee into the city. Joab then returned to Jerusalem.

1. The Power of God in Battle - How God gives us strength to defeat our enemies

2. Perseverance and Faith - How faith in God can help us overcome any obstacle

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Samuel 10:15 And when the Syrians saw that they were smitten before Israel, they gathered themselves together.

The Syrians were defeated by the Israelites in battle and they regrouped.

1. We must never give up in the face of adversity.

2. We must trust in the Lord to give us strength in the midst of hardship.

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 10:16 And Hadarezer sent, and brought out the Syrians that were beyond the river: and they came to Helam; and Shobach the captain of the host of Hadarezer went before them.

Hadarezer sends Syrians from across the river to help him, and Shobach leads them to Helam.

1. The Power of Leadership: How God Uses Leaders to Accomplish His Purposes

2. The Strength of Community: How We Can Accomplish More Together Than Alone

1. Ephesians 4:11-12 - And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2 Samuel 10:17 And when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together, and passed over Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in array against David, and fought with him.

David gathered all the Israelites to battle against the Syrians at Helam.

1. The importance of standing together in times of adversity.

2. The power of courage and faith to overcome difficult odds.

1. Joshua 24:15 "Choose you this day whom ye will serve..."

2. Isaiah 41:10-13 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2 Samuel 10:18 And the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew the men of seven hundred chariots of the Syrians, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Shobach the captain of their host, who died there.

David defeated the Syrians in battle, killing seven hundred chariot drivers and forty thousand horsemen, and slaying their leader Shobach.

1. The Power of God's Faithfulness

2. Overcoming Adversity with Courage and Faith

1. 1 Chronicles 19:18 - "And the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew of the Syrians seven thousand men which fought in chariots, and forty thousand footmen, and killed Shophach the captain of the host."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2 Samuel 10:19 And when all the kings that were servants to Hadarezer saw that they were smitten before Israel, they made peace with Israel, and served them. So the Syrians feared to help the children of Ammon any more.

After Israel defeated the kings that served Hadarezer, these kings made peace with Israel and the Syrians no longer helped the children of Ammon.

1. When we put our trust in God, he will provide us with victory in any situation.

2. We should never rely on worldly support, as it is fleeting and unreliable.

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Samuel chapter 11 tells the story of King David's affair with Bathsheba and the subsequent cover-up.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the time when kings go out to battle, but David stays back in Jerusalem (2 Samuel 11:1). One evening, David sees Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite, bathing on a rooftop. He becomes infatuated with her beauty and desires her.

2nd Paragraph: David sends messengers to bring Bathsheba to him, and he sleeps with her, despite knowing she is married (2 Samuel 11:2-4). Bathsheba conceives a child as a result of their encounter.

3rd Paragraph: When Bathsheba informs David that she is pregnant, he tries to conceal his sin (2 Samuel 11:5-13). He brings Uriah back from battle in an attempt to make it seem like he fathered the child. However, Uriah remains loyal to his duty and refuses to go home while his fellow soldiers are still fighting.

4th Paragraph: In an attempt to cover up his transgression further, David orders Uriah's death by placing him in a vulnerable position during battle (2 Samuel 11:14-25). Joab carries out this command.

5th Paragraph: After Uriah's death, Bathsheba mourns for her husband. Once her mourning period ends, David marries her and she becomes one of his wives (2 Samuel 11:26-27).

In summary, Chapter eleven of 2 Samuel recounts the story of King David's affair with Bathsheba and the subsequent cover-up. David sees Bathsheba bathing, desires her beauty, and sleeps with her despite knowing she is married. Bathsheba becomes pregnant as a result, David attempts to hide his sin, bringing Uriah back from battle to make it seem like he fathered the child. However, Uriah remains loyal, To further conceal his transgression, David orders Uriah's death during battle. Joab carries out this command, After Uriah's death, Bathsheba mourns for her husband. Once mourning ends, David marries Bathsheba, This In summary, Chapter serves as a cautionary tale about the consequences of lust, adultery, and deceit. It highlights both human frailty and God's justice.

2 Samuel 11:1 And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.

After a year had passed, David sent Joab and his servants along with the army of Israel to battle the Ammonites and siege Rabbah. However, David stayed in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God s Commands

2. The Danger of Complacency: Overcoming Temptation

1. 1 Samuel 15:22 - And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2 Samuel 11:2 And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.

One evening, David got out of bed and walked on the roof of the palace. From there, he could see a woman washing herself and noticed her beauty.

1. "The Beauty of God's Creation"

2. "The Temptation of the Flesh"

1. Genesis 1:27 - And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. James 1:14-15 - But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

2 Samuel 11:3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?

David discovers Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite, and sends someone to inquire about her.

1. The Danger of Temptation - How to Overcome Sin in the Midst of Temptation

2. The Power of Forgiveness - How to Find Redemption and Restoration After Making a Mistake

1. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

2 Samuel 11:4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.

David sent messengers to take Bathsheba and then slept with her after she was purified from her uncleanness.

1. The Importance of Purity

2. The Consequences of Immoral Actions

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality; every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

2. Proverbs 6:27-29 - Can a man carry fire next to his chest and his clothes not be burned? Or can one walk on hot coals and his feet not be scorched? So is he who goes in to his neighbor s wife; none who touches her will go unpunished.

2 Samuel 11:5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.

The woman David had relations with became pregnant and informed him of it.

1. The consequences of our actions.

2. The importance of being accountable for our decisions.

1. Proverbs 5:22-23 - "His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, and he is caught in the cords of his sin. He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly."

2. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2 Samuel 11:6 And David sent to Joab, saying, Send me Uriah the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David.

David sent Joab a message to send Uriah the Hittite to him.

1. No one is beyond redemption, Romans 5:8

2. God is sovereign over all our circumstances, Isaiah 55:8-9

1. Psalm 51:10-12

2. James 4:17

2 Samuel 11:7 And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered.

David asked Uriah about the status of the war and how Joab and the people were doing.

1. The importance of staying informed of what is happening in the world.

2. The importance of being a leader who cares for their people.

1. Matthew 22:36-40, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3, "Be shepherd of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

2 Samuel 11:8 And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king.

David sends Uriah home with a meal from the king, but Uriah refuses to go.

1. A Study in Obedience: How Uriah Refused to Disobey God's Will

2. Reflection on Contentment: The Example of Uriah

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10 - He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

2 Samuel 11:9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house.

Uriah was faithful to his duty and did not go home, instead choosing to sleep with the other servants of the king at the door of the king's house.

1. The Power of Loyalty: The Story of Uriah

2. Practicing Faithfulness in Everyday Life

1. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:8 - But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

2 Samuel 11:10 And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine house?

David asked Uriah why he had not gone home after returning from his journey.

1. The importance of rest and relaxation after completing a task.

2. Recognizing God's plan in our lives and following it for our own benefit.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2 Samuel 11:11 And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.

Uriah refuses to go into his house to eat, drink, and lie with his wife despite being ordered by David to do so, as it would be wrong to do so while the Ark of the Lord and the people of Israel are living in tents.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Sacrifice for Others

1. Matthew 10:37-39 - "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me."

2. Ephesians 5:22-25 - "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything."

2 Samuel 11:12 And David said to Uriah, Tarry here to day also, and to morrow I will let thee depart. So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow.

David commanded Uriah to stay in Jerusalem for two days, and Uriah complied.

1. God's will is greater than our own plans.

2. We must be obedient to authority.

1. Philippians 2:5-8 - "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

2. Ephesians 5:22-24 - "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands."

2 Samuel 11:13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.

David called Uriah and made him drunk before sending him out to sleep with the servants of his lord, instead of going home.

1. The Danger of Drunkenness

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2 Samuel 11:14 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

In the morning, David composed a letter and sent it to Joab through Uriah.

1.The Power of Words: The importance of being thoughtful with our words and how they can have a profound impact.

2.The Power of God's Word: How God speaks to us through the scriptures and how we can apply His teachings in our daily lives.

1.Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

2.Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2 Samuel 11:15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die.

David used a letter to order that Uriah be put in the most dangerous part of the battle so he would be killed.

1. The importance of owning up to our mistakes and facing their consequences.

2. How our sins hurt others and the power of repentance.

1. Proverbs 28:13, "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

2. James 5:16, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2 Samuel 11:16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men were.

Joab assigned Uriah to a place where he knew there were brave men in order to make sure he died in battle.

1. The Dangers of Sin: How Joab's Sin Led to the Death of Uriah

2. The Grace of God in Forgiveness: How David Repented of His Sin

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2. Psalm 51:1-13 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2 Samuel 11:17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

Joab and the men of the city went out to fight, resulting in some of David's servants being killed, including Uriah the Hittite.

1. The Cost of Disobedience: Reflections on 2 Samuel 11:17

2. Making Wise Choices: Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

1. Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2 Samuel 11:18 Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war;

Joab informed David of the events of the war.

1. The Power of Information - How knowledge of the circumstances of a situation can shape one's decisions.

2. The Art of Listening - Why it's important to take in what is being said and to be attentive.

1. Proverbs 19:20-21 - "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2 Samuel 11:19 And charged the messenger, saying, When thou hast made an end of telling the matters of the war unto the king,

A messenger was given instructions to report on the matters of a war to the King.

1. God's sovereignty in times of war

2. The importance of sharing news of God's work faithfully

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2 Samuel 11:20 And if so be that the king's wrath arise, and he say unto thee, Wherefore approached ye so nigh unto the city when ye did fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from the wall?

David's army was close to the city of Rabbah and was met with arrows fired from the wall.

1. How to Respond to Opposition with Faith and Courage

2. Learning to Recognize and Respect the Power of Authority

1. Proverbs 16:32 - He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

2 Samuel 11:21 Who smote Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? did not a woman cast a piece of a millstone upon him from the wall, that he died in Thebez? why went ye nigh the wall? then say thou, Thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.

Uriah the Hittite was killed by a woman who threw a millstone at him from the wall of Thebez.

1. God's Justice: Exploring How God Brings Justice, Even Through Unexpected People and Methods.

2. Faith in the Face of Tragedy: Finding Hope in Times of Loss and Suffering.

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

2 Samuel 11:22 So the messenger went, and came and shewed David all that Joab had sent him for.

A messenger was sent to David by Joab to report news.

1. We can learn from David's example to seek out the truth and hear news, no matter the source.

2. We should always listen to the messenger and heed the news they bring.

1. Proverbs 18:13 - He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him.

2. James 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

2 Samuel 11:23 And the messenger said unto David, Surely the men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the field, and we were upon them even unto the entering of the gate.

A messenger informed David that the enemy had overpowered them and managed to enter the city gate.

1. God can bring us through difficult times and make a way even when all looks lost.

2. We can trust in God s provision and protection, no matter what challenges we face.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.

2 Samuel 11:24 And the shooters shot from off the wall upon thy servants; and some of the king's servants be dead, and thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.

Uriah the Hittite was killed by shooters from the wall during a battle between the king's servants and the wall.

1. God's Plan is Unfathomable - Romans 11:33-36

2. Our Faithful Response to Tragedy - James 1:2-4

1. 2 Samuel 11:1-27

2. Psalm 34:18-20

2 Samuel 11:25 Then David said unto the messenger, Thus shalt thou say unto Joab, Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth one as well as another: make thy battle more strong against the city, and overthrow it: and encourage thou him.

David commands a messenger to tell Joab to not be discouraged, and to mobilize his forces against the city and take it.

1. Perseverance in the Face of Adversity

2. The Strength of Encouragement

1. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2 Samuel 11:26 And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.

Uriah's wife heard of his death and mourned.

1. Grieving the Loss of a Loved One

2. God's Comfort in Times of Mourning

1. Psalm 56:8 - "You have taken account of my wanderings; Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your book?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 11:27 And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

David married Bathsheba after the mourning period for her late husband, and they had a son. However, the Lord was displeased with David's actions.

1. God's Plan is Greater than Our Mistakes

2. Understanding God's Forgiveness

1. Psalm 51:1-2 - "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel chapter 12 focuses on the confrontation between the prophet Nathan and King David regarding his sin with Bathsheba.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Nathan being sent by God to confront David (2 Samuel 12:1-6). Nathan tells a parable about a rich man who unjustly takes a poor man's only lamb, which angers David and leads him to pronounce judgment against the rich man.

2nd Paragraph: Nathan reveals that the parable was meant to expose David's sin (2 Samuel 12:7-14). He boldly confronts David, accusing him of adultery with Bathsheba and orchestrating Uriah's death. Nathan declares that because of his actions, calamity will befall David's household.

3rd Paragraph: Nathan announces God's judgment upon David (2 Samuel 12:15-23). The child born from David and Bathsheba's affair becomes ill, and despite fasting and pleading for its life, the child dies. However, Nathan comforts Bathsheba by assuring her that she will bear another son named Solomon.

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with an account of David's response to God's judgment (2 Samuel 12:24-25). He comforts Bathsheba in her grief and they conceive another son named Solomon. This section also mentions that Joab continues to lead military campaigns on behalf of Israel.

In summary, Chapter twelve of 2 Samuel presents the confrontation between Prophet Nathan and King David regarding his sin, Nathan uses a parable to expose David's adultery with Bathsheba and his orchestration of Uriah's death. He declares God's judgment upon him, The child born from their affair becomes ill, despite efforts to save its life, it eventually dies. Nathan assures Bathsheba of another son, David responds by comforting Bathsheba, and they conceive a son named Solomon. Joab continues leading military campaigns, This In summary, Chapter highlights the consequences of sin even for a powerful king like David. It demonstrates God's justice as well as His mercy in allowing the line of succession through Solomon.

2 Samuel 12:1 And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.

Nathan was sent by God to speak to King David about two men from the same city who had very different financial situations.

1. The Blessings of God: How to Appreciate What We Have

2. Stewardship: How to Use Our Resources for the Benefit of Others

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in or steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-18 - "Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share."

2 Samuel 12:2 The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds:

A rich man in 2 Samuel 12:2 was blessed with an abundance of animals.

1. God Rewards Faithful Generosity

2. The Blessing of Abundance

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."

2. Matthew 6:25-26 - "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?"

2 Samuel 12:3 But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.

A poor man had only one ewe lamb, which he had nurtured and it grew up with him and his children, eating his food and drinking his cup, and it was like a daughter to him.

1. The Miracle of the Ewe Lamb: How God Can Transform Our Lives Through the Smallest Things

2. The Power of Love: The Story of the Poor Man and His Lamb

1. Matthew 10:42 - And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple, truly I say to you he will not lose his reward.

2. Luke 12:6-7 - Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

2 Samuel 12:4 And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.

The rich man took the poor man's lamb to provide for a traveler instead of taking from his own flock.

1. The Power of Compassion: How a Rich Man's Kindness Can Change Lives

2. Generosity of the Heart: The Importance of Selfless Giving

1. Matthew 25:31-46 (Parable of the Sheep and the Goats)

2. Luke 14:12-14 (Parable of the Great Supper)

2 Samuel 12:5 And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:

David became very angry after Nathan told him a parable about a rich man stealing from a poor man and vowed that whoever had done such an act would be punished.

1. "The Importance of Justice: A Study of 2 Samuel 12:5"

2. "God's Justice: An Examination of David's Response in 2 Samuel 12:5"

1. Exodus 23:6-7 - Do not deny justice to your poor people in their lawsuits.

2. Proverbs 21:3 - To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2 Samuel 12:6 And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.

God commanded David to restore the lamb he had taken fourfold as a punishment for his lack of pity.

1. God expects us to show mercy and compassion to others.

2. Our actions have consequences, and God holds us accountable for our decisions.

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2. Romans 2:6-8 - God will repay each person according to what they have done. To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

2 Samuel 12:7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

Nathan confronts David after he committed adultery with Bathsheba and reminds him of the Lord's favor in making him king of Israel.

1. The Grace of God in Difficult Times

2. The Sovereignty of God in Human Affairs

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children.

2 Samuel 12:8 And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

God gave David his master's house, wives, and the house of Israel and Judah, and would have given him even more if it had not been enough.

1. The Generosity of God: Celebrating God s Abundance

2. The Power of Obedience: Receiving God s Blessings

1. Psalm 30:11-12: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

2. James 1:17: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

2 Samuel 12:9 Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

David had committed a great sin by taking Uriah the Hittite's wife and killing him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

1. The importance of following God's commands

2. The consequences of disobeying God

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2 Samuel 12:10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

David's sin of adultery with Bathsheba has been revealed and God declares that the sword will never depart from David's house.

1. How Can We Learn From David's Mistakes?

2. Why Do We Struggle With Sin?

1. Romans 6:12-14 - "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace."

2. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2 Samuel 12:11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.

God warned David that He will bring evil against him from his own house by taking his wives and giving them to another man, who will sleep with them in full view of the sun.

1. God's Warning to David: A Lesson on Pride and Humility

2. The Unfortunate Consequences of Disobedience

1. Luke 12:15 - "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2 Samuel 12:12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.

David acknowledges his sin before all of Israel and God, and promises to make it right.

1. The importance of owning up to our mistakes and making amends

2. The power of repentance and the grace of God

1. Psalm 32:5 - "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin."

2. Romans 5:20 - "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

2 Samuel 12:13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

David confesses his sin to Nathan and Nathan tells him that God has forgiven him.

1. God's Unconditional and Unfailing Forgiveness

2. The Power of Admitting Your Wrongdoing

1. Psalm 32:1-5

2. 1 John 1:9

2 Samuel 12:14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

David's sin has caused the Lord's enemies to blaspheme and the child born to him will die.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How Our Actions Have Repercussions

2. The Power of Repentance: Turning Away From Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2 Samuel 12:15 And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick.

Nathan departed after telling David the consequences of his sin, and God punished David by striking his child with a severe illness.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Examining the Story of David and Nathan

2. Learning from God's Discipline: What we can learn from Nathan's rebuke of David

1. Psalm 51:1-19 - David's prayer of repentance after Nathan's rebuke

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 12:16 David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth.

David prayed to God and fasted for his son's recovery, then spent the night lying on the ground.

1. A Parent's Heart: Finding Strength in Prayer and Fasting

2. God's Grace: How David Found Comfort in His Time of Need

1. Isaiah 40:31, But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 5:16b, The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2 Samuel 12:17 And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them.

David's elders try to comfort him after the death of his son, but he refuses to be comforted.

1. Comfort in the Midst of Grief

2. God's Comfort in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 66:13 - As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

2 Samuel 12:18 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead?

The servants of David were afraid to tell him that his son had died because he had not listened to them while the child was still alive.

1. God's Love and Mercy in Times of Grief

2. Learning to Listen to God's Voice

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2 Samuel 12:19 But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead.

David's servants inform him that the child he had with Bathsheba has passed away.

1. God's plan is greater than our own: 2 Corinthians 4:7

2. The importance of trusting in the Lord: Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2 Samuel 12:20 Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat.

David mourned the death of his son for a period of time, then he got up, bathed and changed his clothes before going to the House of the Lord to worship. Afterwards, his servants provided him with food to eat.

1. The importance of mourning and how it can lead to healing.

2. The significance of going to the House of the Lord in times of trial and despair.

1. Isaiah 61:3 - "To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

2. James 5:13 - "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms."

2 Samuel 12:21 Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread.

David fasted and wept for his child while it was alive, but upon the child's death he rose and ate bread.

1) The Sovereignty of God's Plan - How we can trust God when our plans don't go the way we expect

2) Mourning with Hope - How we can grieve with hope in an uncertain world

1) Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2) Lamentations 3:21-23 - "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2 Samuel 12:22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

David fasted and wept for his sick child in the hopes that God would grant him grace and heal the child.

1. The Power of Faith in a Hopeful Situation

2. How to Approach Difficult Prayers

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

2 Samuel 12:23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

David realizes that he cannot bring his son back to life and grieves his passing, accepting that he will one day join him in death.

1. Don't Take Loved Ones for Granted - 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

2. The Comfort of Death - 1 Corinthians 15:51-54

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:5, 10 - For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing; whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might.

2 Samuel 12:24 And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the LORD loved him.

Passage After being confronted by Nathan the prophet, David repented of his sins with Bathsheba and comforted her. She then bore a son whom he named Solomon and the Lord loved him.

1. God's Grace and Forgiveness - Exploring David's Repentance

2. Redemption Through Unconditional Love - The Uniting of David and Bathsheba

1. Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2 Samuel 12:25 And he sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet; and he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

Nathan the prophet was sent by God to give David and Bathsheba's son a special name: Jedidiah, which means beloved of the Lord.

1. God's Undying Love for His People - how God's love remains strong even in difficult times.

2. The Power of Names - how God uses our names to remind us of His love and grace.

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 - God's everlasting love for His people.

2. Genesis 17:5-6 - God's promise to give Abraham and Sarah a special name.

2 Samuel 12:26 And Joab fought against Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and took the royal city.

Joab fought against the city of Rabbah, which was inhabited by the Ammonites, and captured it.

1. Strength in God: Overcoming Obstacles through Faith

2. The Power of Perseverance: Standing Firm in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2 Samuel 12:27 And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, I have fought against Rabbah, and have taken the city of waters.

Joab fought against Rabbah and captured the city of waters.

1. The Power of Obedience: God's Faithfulness in the Fulfillment of His Promises

2. The Strength of Leadership: Joab's Faithfulness in the Fulfillment of His Mission

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 12:28 Now therefore gather the rest of the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it: lest I take the city, and it be called after my name.

David commands his men to take a city so that it will bear his name.

1. The Power of a Name: How Even in Our Smallest Actions, We Can Leave a Lasting Legacy

2. The Ambition of Nations: How We Can Harness Our Ambition for Good

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

2. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

2 Samuel 12:29 And David gathered all the people together, and went to Rabbah, and fought against it, and took it.

David gathered the people and marched to Rabbah, where he fought and conquered it.

1. God Rewards Obedience - 2 Samuel 12:29

2. The Power of Unity - 2 Samuel 12:29

1. 1 Chronicles 14:1-2 - And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house.

2. Ephesians 4:3 - Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2 Samuel 12:30 And he took their king's crown from off his head, the weight whereof was a talent of gold with the precious stones: and it was set on David's head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city in great abundance.

David took the king's crown from off his head and placed it on his own head, and brought back the bounty of the city.

1. The Blessing of Obedience - God's blessing on those who obey His commands.

2. The Power of Faith - How faith enables one to accomplish great and impossible things.

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

2 Samuel 12:31 And he brought forth the people that were therein, and put them under saws, and under harrows of iron, and under axes of iron, and made them pass through the brick-kiln: and thus did he unto all the cities of the children of Ammon. So David and all the people returned unto Jerusalem.

David and his people defeated the Ammonites and destroyed their cities by making them pass through a brick kiln. Finally, they returned to Jerusalem.

1. The Power of God s Providence: David and his people demonstrate the power of God's providence in their victory over the Ammonites.

2. Trusting in God s Strength: In all of our struggles, we must trust in God's strength to give us the victory.

1. Romans 8:31: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 40:31: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2 Samuel chapter 13 recounts the tragic events surrounding Amnon's assault on his half-sister Tamar and the subsequent revenge carried out by their brother Absalom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Amnon, David's eldest son, who becomes infatuated with his beautiful half-sister Tamar (2 Samuel 13:1-2). Amnon devises a plan to deceive and violate her.

2nd Paragraph: Amnon feigns illness and requests Tamar's presence to care for him (2 Samuel 13:3-10). When she arrives, he seizes her and forces himself upon her against her will. Afterward, he experiences a strong hatred towards her.

3rd Paragraph: Tamar is devastated by the violation and pleads with Amnon not to cast her away in shame (2 Samuel 13:11-19). However, he rejects her and orders his servants to remove her from his presence.

4th Paragraph: Absalom, Tamar's brother, learns of what happened and harbors deep anger toward Amnon (2 Samuel 13:20-22). He bides his time but plans revenge against him.

5th Paragraph: Two years later, Absalom organizes a feast where he has Amnon murdered (2 Samuel 13:23-29). He instructs his servants to kill him as payback for what he did to their sister. Afterward, Absalom flees in fear of David's wrath.

6th Paragraph: Upon hearing the news of Amnon's death, David mourns deeply but does not take any action against Absalom (2 Samuel 13:30-39).

In summary, Chapter thirteen of 2 Samuel depicts the tragic events involving Amnon's assault on Tamar and Absalom's subsequent revenge, Amnon deceives and violates Tamar, resulting in deep anguish for her. Absalom harbors anger towards Amnon, planning revenge over two years, Absalom orchestrates a feast where he has Amnon killed. He then flees in fear, while David mourns but takes no action, This In summary, Chapter portrays the devastating consequences of sin within David's family. It highlights themes of betrayal, vengeance, grief, and justice.

2 Samuel 13:1 And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.

Amnon, son of David, fell in love with his sister Tamar.

1. The consequences of lustful desires

2. The importance of guarding our hearts

1. Matthew 5:28 - "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."

2. Proverbs 4:23 - "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

2 Samuel 13:2 And Amnon was so vexed, that he fell sick for his sister Tamar; for she was a virgin; and Amnon thought it hard for him to do anything to her.

Amnon was madly in love with his sister Tamar but was unable to do anything to her because of her virginity.

1. Love and Lust: Knowing the Difference

2. The Power of Purity: Understanding Our God-Given Value

1. Proverbs 6:25-26, Do not lust after her beauty in your heart; do not let her captivate you with her eyelids. For a prostitute can be had for a loaf of bread, but another man s wife preys on your very life.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18, Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

2 Samuel 13:3 But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother: and Jonadab was a very subtil man.

Amnon had a friend, Jonadab, who was a very wise man.

1. The importance of wise counsel in difficult times

2. The benefit of true friendship

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

2 Samuel 13:4 And he said unto him, Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And Amnon said unto him, I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.

Amnon confesses to his friend Jonadab that he is in love with his sister Tamar, who is Absalom's sister.

1. God's love is greater than all our earthly loves.

2. The consequences of our choices should be seriously considered.

1. 1 John 4:8 - "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

2 Samuel 13:5 And Jonadab said unto him, Lay thee down on thy bed, and make thyself sick: and when thy father cometh to see thee, say unto him, I pray thee, let my sister Tamar come, and give me meat, and dress the meat in my sight, that I may see it, and eat it at her hand.

Jonadab advises Amnon to feign illness to convince his father to send Tamar to him.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience - 2 Samuel 13:5

2. The Power of Persuasion - 2 Samuel 13:5

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2. James 1:14-15 - But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

2 Samuel 13:6 So Amnon lay down, and made himself sick: and when the king was come to see him, Amnon said unto the king, I pray thee, let Tamar my sister come, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat at her hand.

Amnon pretended to be sick to get his sister Tamar to come make him cakes.

1. The Danger of Pretending to be Someone You Are Not

2. The Dangers of Manipulation in Relationships

1. Ephesians 5:11 - Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

2. Proverbs 12:16 - The vexation of a fool is known at once, but the prudent ignores an insult.

2 Samuel 13:7 Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, Go now to thy brother Amnon's house, and dress him meat.

Tamar is instructed by David to prepare a meal for her brother Amnon.

1. The importance of family and how we should treat our siblings.

2. The importance of following instructions even when they are hard to accept.

1. Genesis 2:18 - God said, "It is not good for man to be alone."

2. Matthew 7:12 - So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

2 Samuel 13:8 So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house; and he was laid down. And she took flour, and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes.

Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house and made him cakes.

1. How God uses the actions of others to show His love and care.

2. The importance of showing love and kindness to our siblings.

1. Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. 1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

2 Samuel 13:9 And she took a pan, and poured them out before him; but he refused to eat. And Amnon said, Have out all men from me. And they went out every man from him.

Amnon refused to eat the food his sister, Tamar, had prepared for him and asked everyone to leave the room.

1. God's love is greater than the brokenness of our human relationships.

2. God is always ready to forgive our sins, no matter how great they are.

1. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 - Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

2 Samuel 13:10 And Amnon said unto Tamar, Bring the meat into the chamber, that I may eat of thine hand. And Tamar took the cakes which she had made, and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother.

Amnon asked Tamar to bring food into his chamber so that he could eat from her hand. Tamar then brought cakes she had made into the chamber for her brother.

1. Learning to Respect One Another - 2 Samuel 13:10

2.The Power of Kindness - 2 Samuel 13:10

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Galatians 5:13 - "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

2 Samuel 13:11 And when she had brought them unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, Come lie with me, my sister.

King David's son Amnon took advantage of his sister Tamar and asked her to sleep with him.

1. God's love provides us with strength to resist temptation.

2. We must show respect and love for our family members.

1. Matthew 4:1-11 - Jesus' temptation by Satan in the wilderness.

2. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Putting on the armor of God to fight against spiritual forces of evil.

2 Samuel 13:12 And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly.

Tamar pleads with Amnon to not rape her, as it is not acceptable in Israel.

1. Respect for Others: The importance of treating others with respect and decency according to Biblical standards.

2. The Power of Saying No: Learning to stand up for oneself and to draw a line in order to protect oneself from harm.

1. Matthew 22:39 - "And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

2. Ephesians 5:3 - "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God s holy people."

2 Samuel 13:13 And I, whither shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be as one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king; for he will not withhold me from thee.

In 2 Samuel 13:13, the speaker expresses their shame and begs the listener to speak to the King in order to help them.

1. Our Shame and Our Hope in the Power of the King

2. To Bring Our Shame to the King and Find Deliverance

1. Psalm 18:3 - I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

2. Isaiah 41:13 - For I am the Lord your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear; I will help you.

2 Samuel 13:14 Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.

Tamar attempts to stop Amnon from forcing himself upon her, but he is too strong and he rapes her.

1. The Power of Consent: The Importance of Understanding Consent in Relationships

2. The Strength of God's Love: Experiencing Comfort and Healing in Times of Suffering

1. Psalm 57:1-3 "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by. I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me. He will send from heaven and save me; he will put to shame him who tramples on me."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

2 Samuel 13:15 Then Amnon hated her exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, Arise, be gone.

Amnon became filled with hatred towards Tamar, a much greater emotion than the love he had felt before, and commanded her to leave.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Emotions: A Study of Amnon and Tamar

2. The Power of Love and Hate: A Biblical Analysis

1. Proverbs 14:30 - "A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones."

2. James 1:14 15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2 Samuel 13:16 And she said unto him, There is no cause: this evil in sending me away is greater than the other that thou didst unto me. But he would not hearken unto her.

Tamar appealed to her half-brother Amnon to let her stay, but he refused to listen.

1. When God s people turn away from His will - 2 Samuel 13:16

2. The power of persuasion - 2 Samuel 13:16

1. James 1:16-17 - Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2 Samuel 13:17 Then he called his servant that ministered unto him, and said, Put now this woman out from me, and bolt the door after her.

Absalom orders his servant to expel Tamar from his chambers and lock the door behind her.

1. God's plan for our lives is bigger than our own.

2. We must be careful how we treat others.

1. Genesis 50:20 - "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good."

2. Ephesians 4:32 - "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2 Samuel 13:18 And she had a garment of divers colours upon her: for with such robes were the king's daughters that were virgins apparelled. Then his servant brought her out, and bolted the door after her.

Tamar was dressed in a colorful robe and brought out of the house by a servant who then locked the door.

1. The beauty of Tamar's robe and the importance of honoring God's daughters.

2. The consequences of sin and the importance of repentance.

1. Proverbs 31:30-31, "Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates."

2. James 4:17, "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2 Samuel 13:19 And Tamar put ashes on her head, and rent her garment of divers colours that was on her, and laid her hand on her head, and went on crying.

Tamar mourned her violated innocence by covering her head in ashes and tearing her colorful garment, while crying.

1. Don't Take Away Innocence: The Story of Tamar - A about the power of innocence and how we should protect it.

2. Learning to Mourn: The Heartache of Tamar - A about learning to grieve and process loss in a healthy way.

1. Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

2. Proverbs 17:22 - A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

2 Samuel 13:20 And Absalom her brother said unto her, Hath Amnon thy brother been with thee? but hold now thy peace, my sister: he is thy brother; regard not this thing. So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house.

Tamar is left heartbroken after her brother Amnon takes advantage of her. Her other brother, Absalom, tells her to remain silent and stay in his house.

1. The importance of speaking up in the face of injustice.

2. Comfort in the face of brokenness.

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 - Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2 Samuel 13:21 But when king David heard of all these things, he was very wroth.

King David was angered upon hearing of a situation.

1. The Power of Wrath: Dealing with Anger and Discontentment

2. Establishing Control: How to Respond to Difficult Situations

1. Proverbs 16:32 - Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

2. James 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

2 Samuel 13:22 And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

Absalom refused to speak to his brother Amnon due to Amnon's violent act of rape against his sister Tamar.

1. The Importance of Forgiveness and Love Despite Hardship

2. The Power of Unforgiveness and Hatred

Cross-

1. Luke 6:27-31 - Love your enemies and forgive those who have wronged you

2. Colossians 3:13 - Bearing with one another and forgiving each other if anyone has a complaint against another

2 Samuel 13:23 And it came to pass after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baalhazor, which is beside Ephraim: and Absalom invited all the king's sons.

1: God will use even difficult situations to bring about His purpose.

2: No matter the circumstances, God's love for us remains.

1: Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2: Jeremiah 31:3 "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2 Samuel 13:24 And Absalom came to the king, and said, Behold now, thy servant hath sheepshearers; let the king, I beseech thee, and his servants go with thy servant.

Absalom asked the King and his servants to come to his sheepshearers.

1. The importance of humility in our lives.

2. The importance of hospitality towards others.

1. James 4:6-10

2. Philippians 2:1-11

2 Samuel 13:25 And the king said to Absalom, Nay, my son, let us not all now go, lest we be chargeable unto thee. And he pressed him: howbeit he would not go, but blessed him.

The king refused to go with Absalom, even though Absalom urged him to, and instead blessed him.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated even in difficult relationships.

2. We must learn to trust in God's provision even when we don't understand the plan.

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:10- He says, Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

2 Samuel 13:26 Then said Absalom, If not, I pray thee, let my brother Amnon go with us. And the king said unto him, Why should he go with thee?

Absalom asked the king for permission to bring his brother Amnon with him, but the king refused.

1) The Power of Refusal: How to Respond to Unwise Requests

2) Seeking God's Wisdom in Decisions

1) Proverbs 14:15 The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2) James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2 Samuel 13:27 But Absalom pressed him, that he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

Absalom urged his father, King David, to allow Amnon and all the other royal sons to accompany him.

1. The importance of family and the power of persuasion.

2. The importance of respecting authority figures.

1. Philippians 2:3 4, Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. James 3:17, But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.

2 Samuel 13:28 Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.

Absalom commanded his servants to kill Amnon when he was merry with wine, and gave them assurance of courage and valor.

1. God's grace enables us to serve Him courageously.

2. Living by faith requires us to have courage.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 13:29 And the servants of Absalom did unto Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and every man gat him up upon his mule, and fled.

The servants of Absalom followed his orders and caused Amnon to flee on his mule.

1. Trusting God's Plan: Understanding God's Sovereign Ways in Difficult Situations

2. The Danger of Unchecked Authority: Recognizing the Dangers of Abusing Power

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2 Samuel 13:30 And it came to pass, while they were in the way, that tidings came to David, saying, Absalom hath slain all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left.

David receives news that his son Absalom has killed all of his other sons.

1: God's pain can be felt in the suffering of our loved ones.

2: The power of sin and death can destroy even the most beloved of God's children.

1: Romans 5:12 - Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

2: John 14:1 - Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.

2 Samuel 13:31 Then the king arose, and tare his garments, and lay on the earth; and all his servants stood by with their clothes rent.

King David tore his garments and lay on the ground, while all his servants stood by with their clothes rent in sorrow.

1. The Power of Grief: What it looks like and how to process it.

2. Learning to be Like David: A Study of His Character and His Relationship With God.

1. Psalm 39:12-13 "Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more."

2. Matthew 5:4 "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

2 Samuel 13:32 And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose that they have slain all the young men the king's sons; for Amnon only is dead: for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.

Jonadab informs David that although all of his sons were attacked, only Amnon was killed, and that Absalom had planned this from the day that he had raped Tamar.

1. We can learn from the story of David's sons to not be complacent in life and be aware of the consequences of our actions.

2. God has a plan for all of us, even in times of tragedy.

1. Daniel 4:35 - "And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and He does according to His will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand or say to Him, 'What have You done?'"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 13:33 Now therefore let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead: for Amnon only is dead.

King David's son Amnon has died, but the king should not assume that all of his sons have died.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Grief - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

2. The Power of Love in Difficult Times - 1 John 4:7-8

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2 Samuel 13:34 But Absalom fled. And the young man that kept the watch lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came much people by the way of the hill side behind him.

Absalom fled from the watchman, who saw a large group of people coming from the hillside.

1. God is always watching, even in the midst of our darkest moments.

2. We can find hope in difficult times by trusting in God's plan.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2 Samuel 13:35 And Jonadab said unto the king, Behold, the king's sons come: as thy servant said, so it is.

Jonadab informs the King that his sons have arrived as he had predicted.

1. When God's Word is Fulfilled

2. Hope in Troubling Times

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

2 Samuel 13:36 And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of speaking, that, behold, the king's sons came, and lifted up their voice and wept: and the king also and all his servants wept very sore.

When the speaker had finished speaking, the king's sons arrived and began to cry. The king and his servants also cried heavily.

1: When we experience sorrow, it is comforting to know that we do not suffer alone.

2: In difficult times, it is important to recognize the support of those around us.

1: Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2: Romans 12:15-16 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

2 Samuel 13:37 But Absalom fled, and went to Talmai, the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day.

After David's son, Absalom, committed a terrible crime, he fled to the king of Geshur, and David mourned for him every day.

1. The Power of a Father s Love

2. Healing from the Pain of Loss

1. Luke 15:20 So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with love for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

2. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

2 Samuel 13:38 So Absalom fled, and went to Geshur, and was there three years.

Absalom fled and found refuge in Geshur for three years.

1. Overcoming Fear and Taking Refuge in God

2. Persevering through Adversity and Remaining Faithful to God

1. Psalm 34:6-7 "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 13:39 And the soul of king David longed to go forth unto Absalom: for he was comforted concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead.

King David was comforted by the death of his son Amnon and longed to go to Absalom.

1. The Comfort of God: Learning to Lean on the Lord in Times of Sorrow

2. Trusting in God's Timing: Understanding and Accepting His Purposes

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 51:12 - I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass.

2 Samuel chapter 14 revolves around the actions of Joab and a wise woman from Tekoa as they work together to reconcile David with his estranged son Absalom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Joab realizing that David longs for Absalom despite his involvement in Amnon's murder (2 Samuel 14:1-3). Joab devises a plan to bring about reconciliation between David and Absalom.

2nd Paragraph: Joab sends a wise woman from Tekoa to speak with David (2 Samuel 14:4-20). Disguised as a mourning widow, she presents a fictional story about two sons, one who killed the other, and pleads for mercy. The story is meant to parallel the situation between David and Absalom.

3rd Paragraph: The woman's plea touches David's heart, and he promises her that no harm will come to her son (2 Samuel 14:21-24). However, he initially refuses to allow Absalom back into Jerusalem.

4th Paragraph: After further persuasion by the woman, David agrees to let Absalom return but forbids him from entering his presence (2 Samuel 14:25-28). Thus, Absalom returns but lives in Jerusalem without seeing his father for two years.

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes by describing how beautiful and renowned Absalom becomes during this time (2 Samuel 14:29-33).

In summary, Chapter fourteen of 2 Samuel portrays Joab's plan to reconcile David with his estranged son Absalom, Joab sends a wise woman from Tekoa to present a fictional story that mirrors the situation between them. Her plea touches David's heart, David promises not to harm her son, but initially refuses to allow Absalom back into Jerusalem. After further persuasion, he relents, Absalom returns but is forbidden from seeing his father face-to-face. He resides in Jerusalem for two years, becoming renowned during this time, This In summary, Chapter highlights themes of forgiveness, reconciliation, and parental love. It shows the complexity of relationships within families and offers glimpses of hope amidst strained ties.

2 Samuel 14:1 Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was toward Absalom.

Joab noticed the king's affection for Absalom.

1. The Value of Discernment in Decisions - using Joab's example from 2 Samuel 14:1

2. The Power of Love - exploring the king's love for Absalom in 2 Samuel 14:1

1. Proverbs 12:15 - "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice"

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2 Samuel 14:2 And Joab sent to Tekoah, and fetched thence a wise woman, and said unto her, I pray thee, feign thyself to be a mourner, and put on now mourning apparel, and anoint not thyself with oil, but be as a woman that had a long time mourned for the dead:

Joab sent to Tekoah to retrieve a wise woman and instructed her to feign mourning and to not anoint herself with oil as if she had been mourning for a long time.

1. The Power of Mourners - What we can learn from those who mourn and how we can use it to bring peace.

2. God's Wisdom - How God's wisdom works to bring us comfort and healing.

1. Psalm 30:5 - "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal."

2 Samuel 14:3 And come to the king, and speak on this manner unto him. So Joab put the words in her mouth.

Joab instructed a woman to speak to the king in a certain way.

1. God can use anyone to accomplish His will.

2. Our words have the power to influence others.

1. Proverbs 16:1 - "The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD."

2. James 3:5-6 - "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell."

2 Samuel 14:4 And when the woman of Tekoah spake to the king, she fell on her face to the ground, and did obeisance, and said, Help, O king.

A woman from Tekoah appeals to the king for help.

1. The Power of Prayer: Appealing to God for Help

2. The Power of Humility: Demonstrating Respect for Authority

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. 1 Peter 5:6 - "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you."

2 Samuel 14:5 And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, I am indeed a widow woman, and mine husband is dead.

A widow woman pleads her case to the king, explaining that her husband is dead.

1: Our God is a God of compassion and mercy, even for those who are most vulnerable.

2: We are called to show the same compassion and mercy to those around us that God shows to us.

1: James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble.

2: Psalm 68:5 - A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation.

2 Samuel 14:6 And thy handmaid had two sons, and they two strove together in the field, and there was none to part them, but the one smote the other, and slew him.

A woman's two sons had a fight in the field and one killed the other.

1. "The Consequences of Conflict": Exploring the impact of unchecked anger and strife.

2. "The Power of Forgiveness": Understanding how to move forward from tragedy.

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."

2. Proverbs 17:14 - "The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with."

2 Samuel 14:7 And, behold, the whole family is risen against thine handmaid, and they said, Deliver him that smote his brother, that we may kill him, for the life of his brother whom he slew; and we will destroy the heir also: and so they shall quench my coal which is left, and shall not leave to my husband neither name nor remainder upon the earth.

A family is seeking to take revenge on an individual who killed his brother, and plans to destroy the heir as well.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Understanding the importance of showing mercy instead of revenge.

2. The Strength of Family - Recognizing the power of unity and how it can lead to healing.

1. Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

2. Proverbs 17:9 - He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates friends.

2 Samuel 14:8 And the king said unto the woman, Go to thine house, and I will give charge concerning thee.

The king told a woman to go home and he would give her instructions.

1. The Power of Submission: Obeying the King's Commands

2. God's Grace and Mercy in Difficult Situations

1. Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 1:19: If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.

2 Samuel 14:9 And the woman of Tekoah said unto the king, My lord, O king, the iniquity be on me, and on my father's house: and the king and his throne be guiltless.

A woman from Tekoah pleads with King David that the iniquity of her and her father's house should be on her, and the king and his throne be guiltless.

1. The Power of Pleadings: How to Effectively Appeal for Justice

2. The Call of Duty: King David's Commitment to Righteousness

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 - Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

2 Samuel 14:10 And the king said, Whosoever saith ought unto thee, bring him to me, and he shall not touch thee any more.

The king of Israel promised that anyone who spoke against the woman would have to face him personally and would no longer bother her.

1. God will always protect those who are faithful to Him and honour His name.

2. We should seek justice and help the oppressed, as God calls us to do.

1. Psalm 91:9-10 - If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your dwelling.

2. Proverbs 22:23 - The wise man s heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.

2 Samuel 14:11 Then said she, I pray thee, let the king remember the LORD thy God, that thou wouldest not suffer the revengers of blood to destroy any more, lest they destroy my son. And he said, As the LORD liveth, there shall not one hair of thy son fall to the earth.

A woman begged King David to remember the Lord and not let the revengers of blood destroy her son. King David vowed that not a single hair of her son would be harmed.

1. The Power of Faithful Prayer: Examining the Woman's Request to King David

2. The Lord's Protection: King David's Vow of Safety

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

2 Samuel 14:12 Then the woman said, Let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak one word unto my lord the king. And he said, Say on.

A woman asked King David for permission to speak. He granted her permission.

1. "God Will Provide a Way": Drawing on this passage, we can see God's faithfulness in providing a way for us to speak our truth.

2. "The Power of a Single Request": Sometimes, all it takes is a single request for a great change to be set in motion.

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2 Samuel 14:13 And the woman said, Wherefore then hast thou thought such a thing against the people of God? for the king doth speak this thing as one which is faulty, in that the king doth not fetch home again his banished.

A woman confronts the king for not bringing home his banished people, questioning why he has thought such a thing against God's people.

1. "God's People: Caring for the Banished"

2. "God's People: Challenging the King"

1. Matthew 25:35-36 - For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

2. Ezekiel 22:7 - In you they have dealt treacherously; in you they have oppressed the fatherless and the widow.

2 Samuel 14:14 For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth God respect any person: yet doth he devise means, that his banished be not expelled from him.

God does not respect any person, but He does find ways to allow those who are banished from Him to remain connected.

1. Finding Hope When You Feel Banished From God

2. Understanding God's Devised Ways to Support Us

1. Isaiah 43:1-2 - But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2 Samuel 14:15 Now therefore that I am come to speak of this thing unto my lord the king, it is because the people have made me afraid: and thy handmaid said, I will now speak unto the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his handmaid.

A handmaid of the King of Israel comes to him to make a request, but she is afraid of the people.

1. God's Strength and Protection in Difficult Situations

2. Overcoming Fear and Trusting in God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

2 Samuel 14:16 For the king will hear, to deliver his handmaid out of the hand of the man that would destroy me and my son together out of the inheritance of God.

A woman pleads with the king to deliver her and her son from their oppressor and to restore their inheritance from God.

1. God's Inheritance: Restoring What is Ours

2. Delivered by God's Hand: Overcoming Oppression

1. Psalm 37:9 - For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

2. Isaiah 61:7 - Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, and instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

2 Samuel 14:17 Then thine handmaid said, The word of my lord the king shall now be comfortable: for as an angel of God, so is my lord the king to discern good and bad: therefore the LORD thy God will be with thee.

A handmaid tells King David that the Lord will be with him because he can discern between good and bad.

1. The Power of Discernment: How to Use it for Good

2. The Blessing of the Lord: An Invitation for All

1. Psalm 32:8-9 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, but answer me promptly and courteously.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

2 Samuel 14:18 Then the king answered and said unto the woman, Hide not from me, I pray thee, the thing that I shall ask thee. And the woman said, Let my lord the king now speak.

A woman speaks to the king, encouraging him to ask her a question and assuring him she will answer.

1. The Power of Encouragement - The importance of encouraging one another in difficult times.

2. Unconditional Faithfulness - How we can remain faithful to God despite challenging circumstances.

1. Philippians 4:5 - "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

2 Samuel 14:19 And the king said, Is not the hand of Joab with thee in all this? And the woman answered and said, As thy soul liveth, my lord the king, none can turn to the right hand or to the left from ought that my lord the king hath spoken: for thy servant Joab, he bade me, and he put all these words in the mouth of thine handmaid:

The woman told the king that Joab had instructed her to give these answers to the king's questions, and she could not turn right or left from anything the king had said.

1. The Power of Obedience: Joab's example of following the King's will

2. Faithful Service: The woman's willingness to remain obedient despite the consequences

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding

2. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters; either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

2 Samuel 14:20 To fetch about this form of speech hath thy servant Joab done this thing: and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are in the earth.

Joab has done a thing in accordance with a certain form of speech, and the speaker acknowledges that his lord is wise, like a divine messenger.

1. The Wisdom of God is Unfathomable

2. Our Actions Should Reflect God's Wisdom

1. Proverbs 8:12 - I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."

2 Samuel 14:21 And the king said unto Joab, Behold now, I have done this thing: go therefore, bring the young man Absalom again.

King David orders Joab to bring his son Absalom back home.

1: Even in difficult times, God can help us find a way to restore and heal relationships.

2: Our love for others should be unconditional and never-ending, even when faced with difficult decisions.

1: Romans 12:18- If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

2: Colossians 3:13- Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

2 Samuel 14:22 And Joab fell to the ground on his face, and bowed himself, and thanked the king: and Joab said, To day thy servant knoweth that I have found grace in thy sight, my lord, O king, in that the king hath fulfilled the request of his servant.

Joab thanked the king for fulfilling his request and expressed his appreciation for the king's grace.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Appreciating God's Blessings

2. The Importance of Showing Respect: Expressing Honor for Authority

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

2 Samuel 14:23 So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.

Joab travels to Geshur and brings Absalom back to Jerusalem.

1. God's redemption of sinners - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

2. The importance of reconciliation - Romans 12:18

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

2 Samuel 14:24 And the king said, Let him turn to his own house, and let him not see my face. So Absalom returned to his own house, and saw not the king's face.

King David orders his son, Absalom, to return to his home and not to appear before him.

1. God's love is unconditional, even when it means turning away from our loved ones.

2. Even in our darkest moments, God will lead us toward redemption.

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:18- The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

2 Samuel 14:25 But in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.

Absalom was praised throughout all of Israel for his beauty, as there was no blemish in him from head to toe.

1. The Beauty of God's Perfect Creation

2. Appreciating the Beauty of Others

1. Psalm 139:14 - I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

2. Matthew 7:12 - So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

2 Samuel 14:26 And when he polled his head, (for it was at every year's end that he polled it: because the hair was heavy on him, therefore he polled it:) he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels after the king's weight.

Every year, David would shave his head and the weight of the hair he shaved off was two hundred shekels, according to the king's weight.

1. Learning to Trust God Through Difficult Times

2. The Importance of Humility and Obedience

1. Isaiah 40:31 - They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2 Samuel 14:27 And unto Absalom there were born three sons, and one daughter, whose name was Tamar: she was a woman of a fair countenance.

Absalom had three sons and one daughter named Tamar, who was beautiful.

1. The Beauty of a Daughter - 2 Samuel 14:27

2. The Value of Family - 2 Samuel 14:27

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

2 Samuel 14:28 So Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, and saw not the king's face.

Absalom did not see the King for two years while living in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Learning to forgive one another even when it is difficult to do so.

2. The Impact of Distance - Exploring the impact of physical and emotional distance in relationships.

1. Matthew 6:14-15: For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Romans 12:14-18: Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

2 Samuel 14:29 Therefore Absalom sent for Joab, to have sent him to the king; but he would not come to him: and when he sent again the second time, he would not come.

Absalom sent for Joab to speak to the king, but Joab refused to come both times.

1. God will not be ignored: The importance of listening to God's call.

2. Putting God first: The consequences of forgetting God's will.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

2 Samuel 14:30 Therefore he said unto his servants, See, Joab's field is near mine, and he hath barley there; go and set it on fire. And Absalom's servants set the field on fire.

Absalom instructed his servants to set Joab's field on fire.

1. The consequences of hatred and envy.

2. The power of obedience.

1. Proverbs 14:30 - A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rottenness to the bones.

2. Romans 13:1 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Samuel 14:31 Then Joab arose, and came to Absalom unto his house, and said unto him, Wherefore have thy servants set my field on fire?

Joab confronts Absalom about his servants setting Joab's field on fire.

1. The Consequences of Unwise Actions

2. The Importance of Honoring Others

1. Proverbs 14:29-30 "Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly. A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot."

2. James 3:17-18 "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

2 Samuel 14:32 And Absalom answered Joab, Behold, I sent unto thee, saying, Come hither, that I may send thee to the king, to say, Wherefore am I come from Geshur? it had been good for me to have been there still: now therefore let me see the king's face; and if there be any iniquity in me, let him kill me.

Absalom tells Joab that he should have remained in Geshur, but he still desires to see the king's face, even if it results in his death.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - Exploring how God's grace allows us to seek forgiveness even after making mistakes.

2. The Courage to Ask - Learning to take a risk and make requests even when the outcome may be uncertain.

1. Psalm 32:5 - I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

2 Samuel 14:33 So Joab came to the king, and told him: and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king, and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king: and the king kissed Absalom.

Joab informed the king that Absalom had returned, and the king welcomed him with a kiss.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - How Unconditional Love Can Lead to Restoration

2. The Bond of a Father-Son Relationship - How a Father's Love Can Endure Even Through Adversity

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel chapter 15 narrates Absalom's conspiracy against his father, King David, and his subsequent attempt to seize the throne.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Absalom gradually gaining popularity among the people of Israel by displaying charm and offering justice (2 Samuel 15:1-6). He positions himself as an alternative leader and secretly plans to overthrow David.

2nd Paragraph: Absalom requests permission from David to go to Hebron to fulfill a vow he made (2 Samuel 15:7-9). However, his true intention is to gather support for his rebellion.

3rd Paragraph: Absalom's conspiracy gains momentum as he wins over many influential individuals in Israel (2 Samuel 15:10-12). The people become increasingly disenchanted with David's reign, leading them to join Absalom's cause.

4th Paragraph: When a messenger informs David of the situation in Jerusalem, he decides to flee the city with his loyal followers (2 Samuel 15:13-14). He leaves behind some people and takes refuge on the Mount of Olives, weeping as he goes.

5th Paragraph: As David departs from Jerusalem, several loyal individuals offer their support. Zadok the priest and Abiathar carry the Ark of the Covenant back into Jerusalem while remaining faithful to David (2 Samuel 15:24-29).

6th Paragraph: As part of Absalom's plan, he seeks counsel from Ahithophel, a wise advisor who had previously served under David. Ahithophel provides strategic advice that greatly concerns David (2 Samuel 15:31).

7th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with Hushai, another advisor loyal to David, being sent back into Jerusalem by him. Hushai is tasked with undermining Ahithophel's counsel and supporting David's cause covertly (2 Samuel 15:32-37).

In summary, Chapter fifteen of 2 Samuel depicts Absalom's conspiracy against King David and his attempt to seize the throne, Absalom gradually gains popularity, wins over influential figures, and positions himself as an alternative leader. He requests permission from David, David flees Jerusalem upon learning of Absalom's growing support. Some loyal followers remain behind, while others join him on Mount Olives, As part of his plan, Absalom seeks advice from Ahithophel. Hushai is sent back into Jerusalem by David to undermine Ahithophel covertly, This In summary, Chapter showcases political intrigue, the erosion of loyalty towards a king, and highlights both faithfulness and betrayal. It sets the stage for further conflict between father and son.

2 Samuel 15:1 And it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run before him.

Absalom prepared chariots, horses, and 50 men to run ahead of him.

1. The importance of preparation - Proverbs 21:5

2. Consider the cost of ambition - Luke 14:28-30

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

2. Luke 14:28-30 - For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

2 Samuel 15:2 And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate: and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.

Absalom rose up early and stood beside the gate to hear people with controversies come to the king for judgment. When they arrived, he asked them where they were from and they said they were from one of the tribes of Israel.

1. Cultivating a Heart of Compassion: Learning from Absalom's Example

2. Seeking Justice: The Role of the King and Those Who Come to Him for Judgment

1. Proverbs 21:3 - To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2 Samuel 15:3 And Absalom said unto him, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.

Absalom noticed that the matter in question was good and right, but there was no one appointed by the king to hear it.

1. The importance of having a leader appointed by God.

2. The importance of seeking justice in all matters.

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Psalm 82:3-4 - Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

2 Samuel 15:4 Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!

Absalom wished to become a judge so that he could provide justice to anyone seeking it.

1. Following God's Law Instead of Your Own Desires - 2 Samuel 15:4

2. Being Humble and Seeking God's Will - 2 Samuel 15:4

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2 Samuel 15:5 And it was so, that when any man came nigh to him to do him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.

King David would greet people who came to him with a kiss.

1. The Power of the Kiss: How to Demonstrate Love and Respect for Others

2. The Selflessness of David: How to Lead with Humility and Compassion

1. Luke 22:47-48 "While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?

2. Romans 16:16 "Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you."

2 Samuel 15:6 And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

Absalom used manipulation to gain favor from the people of Israel by stealing their hearts.

1. The Power of Manipulation: How to Recognize and Resist It

2. The Tragedy of Misplaced Trust: Learning to Discern Wisely

1. Proverbs 14:15, The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. James 1:5, If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2 Samuel 15:7 And it came to pass after forty years, that Absalom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD, in Hebron.

After forty years, Absalom asked King David for permission to fulfill a vow he had made to the Lord in Hebron.

1. The Power of Commitment - How Absalom held true to his vow even after forty years.

2. The Strength of Forgiveness - How King David graciously accepted Absalom's plea.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:12 - For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

2 Samuel 15:8 For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If the LORD shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.

When David was living in Geshur in Syria he vowed to serve the Lord if the Lord brought him back to Jerusalem.

1. Keeping God's Promises Despite Adversity

2. Honoring our Vows to the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 23:21-23 - When you make a vow to the Lord your God, do not be slow to pay it, for the Lord your God will surely require it of you, and it would be sin in you.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

2 Samuel 15:9 And the king said unto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron.

David sends a man to Hebron with a message of peace.

1. The Peaceful King: The importance of exemplifying peace and reconciliation in our lives.

2. The Power of Peace: The power of peace and its ability to bring about restoration and healing.

1. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

2 Samuel 15:10 But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.

Absalom sent spies throughout all of the tribes of Israel to spread the message that when they heard the sound of the trumpet, they should proclaim that he was ruling in Hebron.

1. The Power of Proclamation - How the declaration of our faith impacts our lives

2. Finding Strength in Unity - How our collective voices can make a difference

1. Matthew 12:36-37 - "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

2. Isaiah 52:7 - How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, Your God reigns!

2 Samuel 15:11 And with Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not any thing.

Two hundred men from Jerusalem went with Absalom without knowledge of the situation.

1. Simplicity is not always a blessing, but a curse if it comes from ignorance.

2. Knowing the truth is essential for making wise decisions.

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. Philippians 4:5 - Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

2 Samuel 15:12 And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

Absalom sent for Ahithophel, a counselor of David, and the conspiracy against David grew stronger as people joined Absalom.

1. The Power of Unification: How Uniting with a Common Cause Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. The Peril of Division: How Working Against a Common Cause Can Weaken Our Faith

1. Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2 Samuel 15:13 And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.

A messenger informed David that the people of Israel wanted Absalom as their leader.

1. God's people often turn away from Him and turn to the world and its values.

2. The importance of listening to God and following His commands.

1. Isaiah 53:6 - "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

2 Samuel 15:14 And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword.

David instructed his servants to flee Jerusalem and escape from Absalom, warning them that if they did not leave quickly, Absalom would overtake them and bring destruction upon them.

1. The Danger of Delay - Drawing on 2 Samuel 15:14, this examines the dangers of delaying obedience to God's commands.

2. Fear Not, but Obey - This uses 2 Samuel 15:14 to illustrate the importance of trusting in the Lord and obeying His commands, even when we are afraid.

1. Psalm 56:3-4 - "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2 Samuel 15:15 And the king's servants said unto the king, Behold, thy servants are ready to do whatsoever my lord the king shall appoint.

The king's servants were willing to do whatever the king asked them to do.

1. Trusting in the Lord: Learning to Obey and Serve God.

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Submitting to God's Will.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thy heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

2 Samuel 15:16 And the king went forth, and all his household after him. And the king left ten women, which were concubines, to keep the house.

King David left his palace with all of his household and left behind ten of his concubines to keep the house.

1. Take courage in the face of adversity, trusting in God to lead you through.

2. Making difficult decisions for the greater good.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

2 Samuel 15:17 And the king went forth, and all the people after him, and tarried in a place that was far off.

King David and the people of Israel left Jerusalem and stopped at a distant place.

1. The importance of leaving our comfort zone and stepping out in faith.

2. The power in trusting in God's plan even when it leads us away from our comfort zone.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2 Samuel 15:18 And all his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the king.

David is accompanied by 600 men from Gath on his journey away from Jerusalem.

1. Life is a Journey: Our Faithful Companions

2. God's Provision: The Strength of 600

1. Matthew 6:26, "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

2. Isaiah 11:4, "But with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked."

2 Samuel 15:19 Then said the king to Ittai the Gittite, Wherefore goest thou also with us? return to thy place, and abide with the king: for thou art a stranger, and also an exile.

King David asked Ittai the Gittite why he was joining them on their journey, suggesting that Ittai return home and stay with the king as he was a foreigner and an exile.

1. Following God's Calling: Ittai the Gittite and the Example of Obedience

2. Keeping Faith in Difficult Times: The Story of Ittai the Gittite

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2 Samuel 15:20 Whereas thou camest but yesterday, should I this day make thee go up and down with us? seeing I go whither I may, return thou, and take back thy brethren: mercy and truth be with thee.

King David is showing kindness and mercy to his servant by allowing him to return home to his family rather than travel with the King and his men.

1. The Power of Mercy: How to Show Kindness to Others.

2. The Impact of Truth: How to Live a Life of Integrity.

1. Micah 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2. Psalm 25:10 All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

2 Samuel 15:21 And Ittai answered the king, and said, As the LORD liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in what place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also will thy servant be.

Ittai pledges his loyalty to King David, vowing to remain by the king's side in life or death.

1. Faithfulness to God and our Leaders

2. The Power of Loyalty

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2 Samuel 15:22 And David said to Ittai, Go and pass over. And Ittai the Gittite passed over, and all his men, and all the little ones that were with him.

David instructs Ittai the Gittite to cross the river with all his men and the children accompanying them.

1. Knowing when to obey: A study of Ittai's example of faithfulness.

2. Following through with God's plan: The importance of obedience in the midst of hardship.

1. Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

2 Samuel 15:23 And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over: the king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness.

All the people of the land, led by the king, crossed the brook Kidron and started their journey into the wilderness.

1. God is with us even in the wilderness.

2. The power of community in times of need.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

2 Samuel 15:24 And lo Zadok also, and all the Levites were with him, bearing the ark of the covenant of God: and they set down the ark of God; and Abiathar went up, until all the people had done passing out of the city.

Zadok and the Levites accompanied the ark of the covenant of God and set it down before the people of the city passed out.

1. God's Covenant: The Foundation of Our Faith

2. The Importance of God's Ark in Our Lives

1. Hebrews 9:4 - "which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant"

2. Exodus 25:16 - "And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee."

2 Samuel 15:25 And the king said unto Zadok, Carry back the ark of God into the city: if I shall find favour in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me again, and shew me both it, and his habitation:

King David orders Zadok to return the Ark of God to Jerusalem with the hope that the Lord will favor him and allow him to return.

1. God's faithfulness in times of trial - 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

2. The importance of trusting God - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2 Samuel 15:26 But if he thus say, I have no delight in thee; behold, here am I, let him do to me as seemeth good unto him.

A person's attitude towards God should be one of willingness to serve Him, regardless of how God chooses to treat them.

1. The importance of devotion to God, even when He seems to be distant or uninterested.

2. Faith in God is tested when we are willing to put our trust in Him, even when it seems He is not paying attention.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 15:27 The king said also unto Zadok the priest, Art not thou a seer? return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz thy son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar.

King David instructed Zadok the priest to return to the city with his two sons, Ahimaaz and Jonathan.

1. God is with us in times of sorrow and hardship

2. The importance of having faith in God during difficult times

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 15:28 See, I will tarry in the plain of the wilderness, until there come word from you to certify me.

David plans to wait in the wilderness until he receives word from Absalom about his fate.

1. The Power of Patience: Learning to Wait on God's Timing

2. Waiting on God in Times of Uncertainty

1. Psalm 40:1-3 - "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

2. James 5:7-8 - "Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

2 Samuel 15:29 Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the ark of God again to Jerusalem: and they tarried there.

Zadok and Abiathar returned the Ark of God to Jerusalem and remained there.

1. The Journey of Obedience - 2 Samuel 15:29

2. The Strength of Unity - 2 Samuel 15:29

1. Acts 2:46 - And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart.

2. Hebrews 10:25 - Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

2 Samuel 15:30 And David went up by the ascent of mount Olivet, and wept as he went up, and had his head covered, and he went barefoot: and all the people that was with him covered every man his head, and they went up, weeping as they went up.

David ascended Mount Olivet, covering his head and going barefoot, followed by a group of people who were also covering their heads and weeping.

1. The Power of Lament: A Study on 2 Samuel 15:30

2. Walking in Jesus' Steps: Reflections from 2 Samuel 15:30

1. Matthew 26:39 - "And He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.

2. Psalm 137:1 - "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion."

2 Samuel 15:31 And one told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said, O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.

David learns that Ahithophel has joined the conspiracy against him and he prays to God to turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.

Best

1. Life's Challenges: How We Can Trust God in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Prayer: How to Find Strength Through Prayer

Best

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2 Samuel 15:32 And it came to pass, that when David was come to the top of the mount, where he worshipped God, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his coat rent, and earth upon his head:

Hushai the Archite met David at the top of the mountain wearing a torn coat and dirt on his head.

1. Worshiping God in Times of Crisis

2. The Power of Humility in Obtaining God's Blessings

1. Isaiah 61:3 - To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2 Samuel 15:33 Unto whom David said, If thou passest on with me, then thou shalt be a burden unto me:

David tells someone that if they come with him, they will be a burden.

1. "The Weight of Your Presence"

2. "The Power of Your Words"

1. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue; and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

2 Samuel 15:34 But if thou return to the city, and say unto Absalom, I will be thy servant, O king; as I have been thy father's servant hitherto, so will I now also be thy servant: then mayest thou for me defeat the counsel of Ahithophel.

David tells his servant to return to the city and tell Absalom that he will be Absalom's servant just as he was his father's servant.

1. The sacrifices we make for loyalty.

2. Facing our fears for a greater cause.

1. John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

2. Romans 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

2 Samuel 15:35 And hast thou not there with thee Zadok and Abiathar the priests? therefore it shall be, that what thing soever thou shalt hear out of the king's house, thou shalt tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests.

David commands Zadok and Abiathar the priests to inform him of everything they hear from the king's house.

1. Trusting God's Messengers: The Example of Zadok and Abiathar

2. Obedience in Leadership: Lessons from the Story of David and Zadok and Abiathar

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2. 2 Peter 1:20-21 - Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Samuel 15:36 Behold, they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz Zadok's son, and Jonathan Abiathar's son; and by them ye shall send unto me every thing that ye can hear.

David sends Ahimaaz and Jonathan to keep him updated on the events in Jerusalem.

1. God calls us to obedience even in difficult times. 2 Corinthians 5:20.

2. We can trust God's plan even when it doesn't make sense to us. Jeremiah 29:11

1. 2 Samuel 15:14: "And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword."

2. 2 Samuel 15:31: "And it was told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said, O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness."

2 Samuel 15:37 So Hushai David's friend came into the city, and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

Hushai, a friend of David, entered the city of Jerusalem, followed by Absalom.

1. The Power of Friendship: How Hushai's Loyalty to David Shaped History

2. The Importance of Loyalty: How Absalom's Betrayal of David Changed History

1. Luke 16:10-13 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

2. Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."

2 Samuel chapter 16 describes David's encounter with several individuals as he flees from Jerusalem due to Absalom's rebellion.

1st Paragraph: As David and his loyal followers continue their journey, they encounter Ziba, a servant of Saul's grandson Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 16:1-4). Ziba brings provisions for David and falsely accuses Mephibosheth of disloyalty.

2nd Paragraph: Later on, as David continues his escape, he faces another challenge when Shimei, a member of Saul's family, curses and throws stones at him (2 Samuel 16:5-8). Despite being provoked by Shimei's insults, David restrains his men from retaliating.

3rd Paragraph: Abishai, one of David's loyal followers, suggests killing Shimei for cursing the king (2 Samuel 16:9-10). However, David shows mercy and acknowledges that God may have allowed this situation as a form of chastisement.

4th Paragraph: While on the run, David reaches a resting place called Bahurim. There he encounters a man named Machir who provides support to him and his weary followers (2 Samuel 16:14).

5th Paragraph: Meanwhile, Absalom enters Jerusalem accompanied by Ahithophel. They seek counsel on how to consolidate Absalom's power and undermine any remaining support for David (2 Samuel 16:15-23).

In summary, Chapter sixteen of 2 Samuel portrays David encountering various individuals as he flees from Jerusalem, Ziba falsely accuses Mephibosheth, bringing provisions for David. Shimei curses and throws stones at him, but David restrains his men, Abishai suggests killing Shimei, but David shows mercy. Machir provides support to them at the resting place in Bahurim, Meanwhile, Absalom enters Jerusalem and seeks counsel from Ahithophel to solidify his power. This In summary, Chapter depicts loyalty tested, mercy shown amidst adversity, and the continued challenges faced by both father and son.

2 Samuel 16:1 And when David was a little past the top of the hill, behold, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him, with a couple of asses saddled, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread, and an hundred bunches of raisins, and an hundred of summer fruits, and a bottle of wine.

Ziba, the servant of Mephibosheth, met David on the top of the hill with two asses saddled with 200 loaves of bread, 100 bunches of raisins, 100 summer fruits, and a bottle of wine.

1. The Power of Generosity: How God Can Use Our Generous Hearts

2. Showing God's Love through Kindness: What We Can Learn from Ziba's Example

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

2. Matthew 6:19-21

2 Samuel 16:2 And the king said unto Ziba, What meanest thou by these? And Ziba said, The asses be for the king's household to ride on; and the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat; and the wine, that such as be faint in the wilderness may drink.

Ziba explains to the king that the asses are for the king's household to ride on, the bread and summer fruit are for the young men to eat, and the wine is for those who are faint in the wilderness to drink.

1. "The Mercy of God in Providing for our Needs"

2. "God's Provision in Times of Need"

1. Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you

2. Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 Samuel 16:3 And the king said, And where is thy master's son? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he abideth at Jerusalem: for he said, To day shall the house of Israel restore me the kingdom of my father.

Ziba informs King David that his master's son is in Jerusalem, hoping to be restored the kingdom of his father.

1. God's Will Will Be Done: Understanding God's Plan for Restoring His Kingdom

2. The Hope of Restoration: How Faith in God Can Bring About Change

1. Matthew 6:10 - Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

2. Isaiah 61:4-5 - They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.

2 Samuel 16:4 Then said the king to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king.

King David tells his servant Ziba that all of Mephibosheth's possessions are now his, and Ziba humbly requests the king's favor in response.

1. The Power of Humility - How even a simple request can lead to great blessings.

2. A New Inheritance - How God can replace what we have lost and provide new blessings.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

2 Samuel 16:5 And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed still as he came.

When King David arrived in Bahurim, a man named Shimei, from the family of Saul's house, came out and cursed as he approached.

1. God's Sovereignty: Recognizing the Lord's Hand in Every Circumstance

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Moving Beyond Wrath and Vengeance

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'"

2. Proverbs 24:17-18 - "Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles, lest the Lord see it and be displeased, and turn away his anger from him."

2 Samuel 16:6 And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

Shimei, a descendant of Saul, threw stones at King David and his servants as they passed by. All of David's people and mighty men were positioned around him for protection.

1. The Power of Protection: How God's People Care for One Another

2. The Faithfulness of God's People: Standing with David Through Adversity

1. Psalm 91:11 12 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

2. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

2 Samuel 16:7 And thus said Shimei when he cursed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial:

Shimei cursed King David, calling him a "bloody man" and a "man of Belial."

1: We must be careful not to let our words become curses, but rather use them to build each other up.

2: We must learn to forgive even when we are wronged, as King David did with Shimei.

1: Ephesians 4:29 - Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

2: Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2 Samuel 16:8 The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

David has been taken into captivity by his son Absalom, because of his past actions of bloodshed.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How Our Actions Impact Our Future

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Letting Go of the Past and Moving Forward

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

2 Samuel 16:9 Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.

Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, challenges King David for allowing Shimei to curse him, and suggests that he should behead Shimei.

1. "The Power of Forgiveness: The Example of King David"

2. "The Strength of Conviction: Abishai's Challenge to King David"

1. Matthew 18:21-22 - "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times? No, not seven times, Jesus replied, but seventy times seven!"

2. Romans 12:17-18 - "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2 Samuel 16:10 And the king said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so?

King David was cursed by a man, and when his sons asked why he was letting it happen, he said that it was because the Lord had commanded it and no one should question it.

1. The Power of Obedience How following God s commands can lead to unexpected consequences.

2. The Wisdom of Submission Why it pays to trust in God s judgement and accept His will.

1. James 4:6-7 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2 Samuel 16:11 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now may this Benjamite do it? let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him.

David is aware that his son is attempting to take his life, but decides to leave him alone because God has commanded it.

1. Obedience to God's Will: The Example of David

2. Submission to God's Plan: David's Response to Adversity

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2 Samuel 16:12 It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.

David acknowledges that the Lord may be punishing him for his sins, yet he still holds out hope that the Lord will show mercy.

1. When trials come, we can always find hope in God's mercy.

2. Trials are often a result of our own mistakes, but God's love and mercy still remain.

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 16:13 And as David and his men went by the way, Shimei went along on the hill's side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust.

Shimei threw stones and cursed David and his men as they passed by.

1. The Power of Kindness: Responding to Unjust Treatment

2. Turning the Other Cheek: Rejecting Revenge

1. Matthew 5:38-41 You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

2. Romans 12:14-18 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

2 Samuel 16:14 And the king, and all the people that were with him, came weary, and refreshed themselves there.

King David and his people arrived weary, but were able to rest and regain their strength.

1. God provides rest and strength for those who are weary.

2. Everyone needs rest and renewal at times.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Psalm 23:3 - He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name s sake.

2 Samuel 16:15 And Absalom, and all the people the men of Israel, came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him.

All of the men of Israel, led by Absalom and Ahithophel, arrived in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Community How working together can positively shape our lives.

2. The Strength of Friendship How having supportive relationships can lead to success.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

2. Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

2 Samuel 16:16 And it came to pass, when Hushai the Archite, David's friend, was come unto Absalom, that Hushai said unto Absalom, God save the king, God save the king.

Hushai the Archite, a friend of David, greeted Absalom with a blessing of God's protection when he arrived.

1. The Power of Blessing: How to Bless Others with God's Grace

2. The Value of Friendship: How to Cultivate Relationships of Loyalty and Respect

1. Proverbs 18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2 Samuel 16:17 And Absalom said to Hushai, Is this thy kindness to thy friend? why wentest thou not with thy friend?

Absalom questions Hushai about why he did not follow him and join him in his travels.

1: God calls us to be loyal friends.

2: We should be willing to sacrifice for those we love.

1: Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

2: Luke 6:31 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

2 Samuel 16:18 And Hushai said unto Absalom, Nay; but whom the LORD, and this people, and all the men of Israel, choose, his will I be, and with him will I abide.

Hushai refuses Absalom's offer to join his side and instead pledges his allegiance to whoever the Lord and Israel chooses.

1. The Strength of Loyalty: Living Faithfully in Times of Conflict

2. The Lord is Our Guide: Submitting to His Will

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

2 Samuel 16:19 And again, whom should I serve? should I not serve in the presence of his son? as I have served in thy father's presence, so will I be in thy presence.

David refuses to serve anyone but God's son, as he has served God's presence before.

1. The power of loyalty and faithfulness to God

2. Our commitment to serve God above all

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

2 Samuel 16:20 Then said Absalom to Ahithophel, Give counsel among you what we shall do.

Absalom asked Ahithophel to provide advice and counsel for what they should do.

1. Seek wise counsel in times of confusion

2. The importance of seeking Godly advice

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

2 Samuel 16:21 And Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Go in unto thy father's concubines, which he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel shall hear that thou art abhorred of thy father: then shall the hands of all that are with thee be strong.

Ahithophel advised Absalom to sleep with his father's concubines in order to demonstrate his power and gain the support of the people of Israel.

1. The Power of Perception: How Our Actions and Decisions Impact Others

2. The Danger of Unwise Advice: Discerning Wise Counsel from Foolishness

1. Proverbs 14:15-16: The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps. One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.

2. Proverbs 19:20-21: Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2 Samuel 16:22 So they spread Absalom a tent upon the top of the house; and Absalom went in unto his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

Absalom publicly went into his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

1. The importance of family and its boundaries

2. The consequences of disregarding God's laws

1. Matthew 5:27 28 You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

2. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 16:23 And the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, was as if a man had enquired at the oracle of God: so was all the counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

Ahithophel's counsel was so wise that it was as if he had asked the Lord for advice.

1. How to Seek Godly Counsel in Difficult Decisions

2. The Benefits of Seeking Godly Advice

1. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

2 Samuel chapter 17 describes the strategic counsel given to Absalom by Ahithophel and Hushai, as well as the subsequent events leading to Absalom's defeat.

1st Paragraph: Ahithophel advises Absalom to pursue David immediately with a select group of men, hoping to capture and kill him while his forces are still scattered (2 Samuel 17:1-4). Absalom and the elders find this advice favorable.

2nd Paragraph: However, Hushai, who remains loyal to David, arrives and offers an alternative plan (2 Samuel 17:5-14). He suggests gathering a large army to personally lead the pursuit against David. His intention is to buy time for David's forces to regroup.

3rd Paragraph: Absalom chooses Hushai's plan over Ahithophel's advice because it seems more appealing (2 Samuel 17:15-23). This decision is part of God's plan to thwart Ahithophel's counsel and bring disaster upon him.

4th Paragraph: Meanwhile, David receives information about Absalom's plans through his spies. He quickly instructs his followers on how they should proceed (2 Samuel 17:24-29).

5th Paragraph: As Absalom prepares for battle against David, both sides gather their armies in the forest of Ephraim (2 Samuel 17:30-26).

6th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a description of the clash between David's forces and those loyal to Absalom. Despite being outnumbered, David's men emerge victorious in battle (2 Samuel 17:27-29).

In summary, Chapter seventeen of 2 Samuel presents the strategic counsel given to Absalom by Ahithophel and Hushai, Ahithophel advises immediate pursuit to capture and kill David. Hushai suggests gathering a large army to buy time for David, Absalom chooses Hushai's plan, leading to God thwarting Ahithophel. David receives information about the plans, and both sides prepare for battle, David's forces emerge victorious despite being outnumbered. This In summary, Chapter highlights themes of strategy, divine intervention, loyalty, and shows how God works behind the scenes.

2 Samuel 17:1 Moreover Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Let me now choose out twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue after David this night:

Ahithophel suggests to Absalom to send 12,000 men to pursue David that night.

1. The Power of Suggestion: Exploring the Influence of Ahithophel

2. God's Sovereignty in the Face of Adversity

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Samuel 17:2 And I will come upon him while he is weary and weak handed, and will make him afraid: and all the people that are with him shall flee; and I will smite the king only:

Absalom plans to launch a surprise attack on David when he is weary and weak-handed, and to make him afraid, causing all the people with him to flee. He plans to kill David alone.

1. God's Providence: Even in the midst of great danger, God is in control.

2. Trust in God's Plan: We must be willing to accept God's will even when it isn't what we had in mind.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2 Samuel 17:3 And I will bring back all the people unto thee: the man whom thou seekest is as if all returned: so all the people shall be in peace.

David suggests to Ahithophel that he should lead an attack against Absalom to restore peace to the people.

1. God's Plan: Finding Peace in Uncertain Times

2. The Power of Restoring Relationships

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Philippians 4:7 - "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2 Samuel 17:4 And the saying pleased Absalom well, and all the elders of Israel.

Absalom's plan was accepted by himself and all the elders of Israel.

1. God's approval of Absalom's plan shows us that we should trust in his will.

2. We can learn from Absalom's example and seek approval for our plans from God.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2 Samuel 17:5 Then said Absalom, Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear likewise what he saith.

Absalom requests to hear what Hushai the Archite has to say.

1. God Heals Our Broken Relationships: Finding Balance in Conflict

2. The Power of Listening: Embracing the Voice of Others

1. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. James 1:19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

2 Samuel 17:6 And when Hushai was come to Absalom, Absalom spake unto him, saying, Ahithophel hath spoken after this manner: shall we do after his saying? if not; speak thou.

Absalom asked Hushai for his opinion on a matter after Ahithophel had already given his opinion.

1. The importance of hearing multiple perspectives.

2. Trusting our own judgement.

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2 Samuel 17:7 And Hushai said unto Absalom, The counsel that Ahithophel hath given is not good at this time.

Hushai disagreed with the advice given by Ahithophel and advised Absalom to take another course of action.

1. "The Strength of Discernment: Knowing When to Follow and When to Reject Advice"

2. "The Power of Expression: Speaking Up When You Disagree"

1. Proverbs 12:15 - "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2 Samuel 17:8 For, said Hushai, thou knowest thy father and his men, that they be mighty men, and they be chafed in their minds, as a bear robbed of her whelps in the field: and thy father is a man of war, and will not lodge with the people.

Hushai warns David that his father and his men are powerful warriors and will not stay with the people if they feel betrayed.

1. Trust in God s plan, even when it seems hard.

2. Our actions can have consequences that are far reaching.

1. Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2. Proverbs 16:9 In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2 Samuel 17:9 Behold, he is hid now in some pit, or in some other place: and it will come to pass, when some of them be overthrown at the first, that whosoever heareth it will say, There is a slaughter among the people that follow Absalom.

Absalom is hiding in a pit or another place, and when some of his followers are defeated, those who hear it will spread the news that there is a massacre among his followers.

1. The Power of Rumor: How Our Words Can Impact Others

2. Taking Responsibility for Our Decisions: What We Must Consider Before Taking Action

1. Proverbs 21:23 - Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles.

2. James 3:5-10 - So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!

2 Samuel 17:10 And he also that is valiant, whose heart is as the heart of a lion, shall utterly melt: for all Israel knoweth that thy father is a mighty man, and they which be with him are valiant men.

David's men are confident that they have a great leader in David and they know that his army is full of courageous warriors.

1. The Courage of David and His Men: Lessons in Valor and Faith

2. A Mighty Man and His Valiant Followers: Learning to Follow in Good Company

1. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2. Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

2 Samuel 17:11 Therefore I counsel that all Israel be generally gathered unto thee, from Dan even to Beersheba, as the sand that is by the sea for multitude; and that thou go to battle in thine own person.

David's advisor suggested that he assemble all of Israel for battle and personally lead them.

1. Calling All Warriors: God s Strength in Unity

2. Leadership: Taking Up the Standard of the Lord

1. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2 Samuel 17:12 So shall we come upon him in some place where he shall be found, and we will light upon him as the dew falleth on the ground: and of him and of all the men that are with him there shall not be left so much as one.

David's forces plan to find Absalom and kill him and all of his men.

1. The consequences of rebellion against God's appointed leaders.

2. The power of God to bring about justice.

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - The consequences of disobeying the instructions and laws of God.

2. Psalm 37:9-11 - The assurance of God's justice and ultimate victory.

2 Samuel 17:13 Moreover, if he be gotten into a city, then shall all Israel bring ropes to that city, and we will draw it into the river, until there be not one small stone found there.

The Israelites threatened to drag a city into the river if they could not capture the person they were searching for.

1. God's Wrath is Justified: Understanding 2 Samuel 17:13

2. The Power of Prayer: Finding Strength in Times of Conflict

1. Romans 12:19: "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. James 4:7: Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2 Samuel 17:14 And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel. For the LORD had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring evil upon Absalom.

The men of Israel favored the counsel of Hushai over that of Ahithophel, because the Lord had determined to bring misfortune upon Absalom through the counsel of Hushai.

1. The Wisdom of Hushai: How We Should Seek Guidance in Times of Trouble

2. The Sovereignty of God: How He Redirects Our Steps to His Purposes

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2 Samuel 17:15 Then said Hushai unto Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, Thus and thus did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel; and thus and thus have I counselled.

Hushai advised Zadok and Abiathar the priests on how to counter the counsel of Ahithophel, which had been accepted by Absalom and the elders of Israel.

1. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5-6

2. The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Psalm 9:9-10

1. Hushai's advice was intended to outwit the plans of Ahithophel. Proverbs 21:30

2. We can find wisdom in the counsel of many. Proverbs 15:22

2 Samuel 17:16 Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying, Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily pass over; lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people that are with him.

The people of Israel urge David to flee quickly from the wilderness plains, warning him that the king and his followers may be in danger.

1. The importance of heeding warnings from God.

2. The power of a unified people working together.

1. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2 Samuel 17:17 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by Enrogel; for they might not be seen to come into the city: and a wench went and told them; and they went and told king David.

Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by Enrogel to remain hidden and a woman informed them of developments in the city, then they reported back to King David.

1. How Our Actions Can Impact Others - 2 Samuel 17:17

2. The Power of Obedience - 2 Samuel 17:17

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. 1 Peter 4:8-11 - Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins.

2 Samuel 17:18 Nevertheless a lad saw them, and told Absalom: but they went both of them away quickly, and came to a man's house in Bahurim, which had a well in his court; whither they went down.

Two men fled and hid in a house in Bahurim with a well in the courtyard, but a young boy saw them and told Absalom.

1. The importance of maintaining vigilance and obedience, even when it seems like we are unseen.

2. The power of a single witness to make an impact in the lives of many.

1. Luke 8:17 For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.

2. Proverbs 28:13 Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

2 Samuel 17:19 And the woman took and spread a covering over the well's mouth, and spread ground corn thereon; and the thing was not known.

A woman covered a well and spread ground corn over it, so that it was not noticed.

1. God's providence in our lives can be seen in the small details.

2. God's grace can be found in the most unlikely of places.

1. Colossians 1:17 - And he is before all things, and in him all things consist.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2 Samuel 17:20 And when Absalom's servants came to the woman to the house, they said, Where is Ahimaaz and Jonathan? And the woman said unto them, They be gone over the brook of water. And when they had sought and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.

Ahimaaz and Jonathan are found to have gone missing, and Absalom's servants search for them but to no avail.

1. The importance of staying close to God, even when things seem uncertain.

2. The power of faith in difficult times.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 17:21 And it came to pass, after they were departed, that they came up out of the well, and went and told king David, and said unto David, Arise, and pass quickly over the water: for thus hath Ahithophel counselled against you.

Ahithophel had given a plan to the men of Israel to capture King David, but the men of Israel refused and informed King David of the plan.

1. God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. Persevering in Faithful Service

1. Proverbs 18:10 "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

2. Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

2 Samuel 17:22 Then David arose, and all the people that were with him, and they passed over Jordan: by the morning light there lacked not one of them that was not gone over Jordan.

David and his people passed over Jordan in the morning with no one missing.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for our every need.

2. The importance of perseverance in the face of difficult tasks.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.

2. Matthew 19:26 - But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

2 Samuel 17:23 And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and gat him home to his house, to his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulchre of his father.

Ahithophel was disappointed that his counsel was disregarded, so he returned home and took his own life.

1. The Danger of Rejecting Wise Counsel - 2 Samuel 17:23

2. The Power of Discouragement - 2 Samuel 17:23

1. Proverbs 19:20 - Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

2. Galatians 6:1 - Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

2 Samuel 17:24 Then David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom passed over Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him.

David traveled to Mahanaim while Absalom and the men of Israel crossed the Jordan River.

1. The Importance of Making Wise Decisions - 2 Samuel 17:24

2. The Importance of Following God's Plan - 2 Samuel 17:24

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2 Samuel 17:25 And Absalom made Amasa captain of the host instead of Joab: which Amasa was a man's son, whose name was Ithra an Israelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah Joab's mother.

Absalom appoints Amasa as the captain of the army instead of Joab. Amasa is the son of Ithra, an Israelite, and Abigail, daughter of Nahash and sister to Zeruiah, Joab's mother.

1. The Power of God's Sovereignty - How God works through our lives to bring about His divine plans.

2. The Importance of Family - How our relationships with our family can shape our lives and destiny.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

2 Samuel 17:26 So Israel and Absalom pitched in the land of Gilead.

Israel and Absalom camped in Gilead.

1. The Power of Location: How Where We Are Determines Our Outcome

2. The Journey of Reconciliation: How to Restore Broken Relationships

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and faithfulness and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

2 Samuel 17:27 And it came to pass, when David was come to Mahanaim, that Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the son of Ammiel of Lodebar, and Barzillai the Gileadite of Rogelim,

Three men, Shobi, Machir, and Barzillai, traveled to meet David at Mahanaim, coming from the Ammonites, Lodebar, and Rogelim respectively.

1. The Power of Unity: Even in the midst of conflict, we can come together for a common purpose.

2. The Strength of Diversity: Each person has something unique to contribute, and together we are stronger.

1. Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Romans 12:4-5 "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

2 Samuel 17:28 Brought beds, and basons, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and parched corn, and beans, and lentiles, and parched pulse,

David supplies his followers with various grains and food items.

1. How Our Supplies Are Always Provided For Us By God

2. We Are Blessed With Abundance

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do Not Be Anxious About Your Life

2. Philippians 4:19 - God Will Supply All Your Needs

2 Samuel 17:29 And honey, and butter, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that were with him, to eat: for they said, The people is hungry, and weary, and thirsty, in the wilderness.

David and his people were provided with honey, butter, sheep, and cheese while in the wilderness due to their hunger, weariness, and thirst.

1. "The Provision of God: Finding Hope in Difficult Times"

2. "The Power of Unity in Times of Adversity"

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

2 Samuel chapter 18 recounts the battle between David's forces and Absalom's army, resulting in Absalom's death and the aftermath of the conflict.

1st Paragraph: David organizes his troops into three divisions under the command of Joab, Abishai, and Ittai (2 Samuel 18:1-5). However, he instructs his commanders to deal gently with Absalom for his sake.

2nd Paragraph: The battle takes place in the forest of Ephraim, where David's men defeat Absalom's forces (2 Samuel 18:6-8). During the fight, many soldiers die, including a significant number from Absalom's side.

3rd Paragraph: As Absalom flees on a mule, he becomes entangled in the branches of a large oak tree (2 Samuel 18:9-10). One of David's men reports this to Joab but is warned not to harm Absalom.

4th Paragraph: Despite Joab's instructions, he takes three spears and thrusts them into Absalom's heart while he hangs from the tree (2 Samuel 18:11-15). The soldiers then bury him in a deep pit and cover it with stones.

5th Paragraph: Ahimaaz and Cushi are chosen as messengers to bring news of victory to David. Ahimaaz insists on delivering the message personally but lacks crucial information about Absalom (2 Samuel 18:19-23).

6th Paragraph: Eventually, Ahimaaz outruns Cushi and reaches David first. He informs him about their victory but avoids mentioning anything about Absalom (2 Samuel 18:28-32).

7th Paragraph: Shortly after Ahimaaz arrives, Cushi also comes bearing news. He reveals that despite their success in battle, Absalom is dead (2 Samuel 18:33).

8th Paragraph: Upon hearing this devastating news about his son, David mourns deeply and expresses grief over his loss (2 Samuel 19:1).

In summary, Chapter eighteen of 2 Samuel portrays the battle between David's forces and those loyal to his son Absalom, David organizes his troops, instructing them to deal gently with Absalom. The battle takes place, resulting in many casualties, Absalom becomes trapped in a tree, and Joab kills him against orders. News is brought to David by messengers, who deliver partial information, David mourns deeply upon learning of his son's death. This In summary, Chapter explores themes of war, consequences of rebellion, and highlights both triumph and tragedy within families.

2 Samuel 18:1 And David numbered the people that were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.

David organized his army into divisions of thousands and hundreds, assigning captains to lead them.

1. The Power of Organization: How God Puts Us in Order for His Purposes

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together to Accomplish God's Will

1. Ephesians 4:11-12 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2 Samuel 18:2 And David sent forth a third part of the people under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said unto the people, I will surely go forth with you myself also.

David divides the people into three parts for battle and joins them himself.

1. The Power of Unity: How Leaders Can Inspire Others to Work Together

2. The Courage to Face Challenges: Learning from David's Example

1. Ephesians 4:11-13, "And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13, "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."

2 Samuel 18:3 But the people answered, Thou shalt not go forth: for if we flee away, they will not care for us; neither if half of us die, will they care for us: but now thou art worth ten thousand of us: therefore now it is better that thou succour us out of the city.

The people of Israel plead with David not to go to battle, explaining that if he were to die, the consequences would be much greater than if half of them died.

1. The Power of One: How One Person Can Make a Difference

2. Sacrifice in Leadership: What It Takes to Lead

1. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2. Joshua 1:5-7 - No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

2 Samuel 18:4 And the king said unto them, What seemeth you best I will do. And the king stood by the gate side, and all the people came out by hundreds and by thousands.

King David asked his advisors what they thought he should do, and then stood at the gate as the people came out in large numbers.

1. The Power of Asking for Advice - Learning to seek counsel from wise people in all areas of life.

2. Taking a Stand - How the simple act of standing can be an act of courage and strength.

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2 Samuel 18:5 And the king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom. And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains charge concerning Absalom.

The King commands Joab, Abishai, and Ittai to show mercy towards Absalom. All the people hear the King's orders.

1. The Power of Mercy - How to show mercy in the face of opposition.

2. Compassion in Leadership - The importance of showing kindness to others.

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

2 Samuel 18:6 So the people went out into the field against Israel: and the battle was in the wood of Ephraim;

The people of Israel went out to battle in the wood of Ephraim.

1. The Battle of Ephraim: The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt in the Wood of Ephraim

1. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 18:7 Where the people of Israel were slain before the servants of David, and there was there a great slaughter that day of twenty thousand men.

On a great day of battle, David's army defeated the people of Israel, resulting in a great slaughter of 20,000 men.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning from the Example of David

2. The Cost of War: Understanding the Consequences of Battle

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the Full Armor of God

2. Isaiah 2:4 - Turning Swords into Plowshares

2 Samuel 18:8 For the battle was there scattered over the face of all the country: and the wood devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.

A battle took place in a large area and the wood devoured more people than the sword did.

1. The Power of the Word of God - 2 Timothy 3:16

2. The Nature of God's Justice - Job 34:17-20

1. Jeremiah 5:14 - They have become great and rich; they have grown fat and sleek.

2. Amos 4:10 - I sent plagues among you as I did to Egypt. I killed your young men with the sword, along with your captured horses.

2 Samuel 18:9 And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away.

Absalom encountered David's servants while riding a mule, and his head got stuck in the branches of a large oak, suspending him between the sky and ground. The mule he was riding escaped.

1. "God's Involvement in Unexpected Situations"

2. "The Unexpectedness of God's Plans"

1. 2 Samuel 18:9

2. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

2 Samuel 18:10 And a certain man saw it, and told Joab, and said, Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an oak.

A man witnessed Absalom being hanged on an oak tree and reported it to Joab.

1. The Danger of Pride - Pride can lead to tragedy, as seen in the story of Absalom.

2. The Power of Witnessing - We can have a great impact when we share what we have seen with others.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

2 Samuel 18:11 And Joab said unto the man that told him, And, behold, thou sawest him, and why didst thou not smite him there to the ground? and I would have given thee ten shekels of silver, and a girdle.

Joab asked a man why he didn't kill someone when he had the chance and offered him a reward for doing so.

1) The Power of Forgiveness: How to Overcome Temptations to Retaliate.

2) The Power of Compassion: How to Show Mercy to Others.

1) Matthew 5:38-48 - Jesus' teaching on turning the other cheek and loving one's enemies.

2) Romans 12:14-21 - Paul's teaching on how to respond to evil with goodness.

2 Samuel 18:12 And the man said unto Joab, Though I should receive a thousand shekels of silver in mine hand, yet would I not put forth mine hand against the king's son: for in our hearing the king charged thee and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Beware that none touch the young man Absalom.

A man refused to harm Absalom, even for a large sum of money, as he had heard King David commanding Joab, Abishai and Ittai to protect him.

1. Be Brave in the Face of Temptation

2. Obey God's Commands Above All Else

1. Deuteronomy 13:4 - "You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him."

2. Psalm 112:1 - "Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments!"

2 Samuel 18:13 Otherwise I should have wrought falsehood against mine own life: for there is no matter hid from the king, and thou thyself wouldest have set thyself against me.

1: All of our actions have consequences, and it is important to remember that God is all-knowing, and He will ultimately judge our actions.

2: We should be careful not to do anything that would bring dishonor to God, as He will be our judge.

1: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

2: Romans 14:10-12 - But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

2 Samuel 18:14 Then said Joab, I may not tarry thus with thee. And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak.

Joab, unwilling to continue his fight against Absalom, thrust three darts into Absalom's heart while he was still alive.

1. The Danger of Unrighteous Anger - 2 Samuel 18:14

2. God's Sovereignty in Unexpected Places - 2 Samuel 18:14

1. Proverbs 19:11 - "A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression."

2. Ecclesiastes 8:4 - "Where the word of a king is, there is power; and who may say unto him, What doest thou?"

2 Samuel 18:15 And ten young men that bare Joab's armour compassed about and smote Absalom, and slew him.

Joab's ten young men killed Absalom in battle.

1. The Power of Unity - How working together can lead to success

2. The Cost of Conflict - The consequences of pursuing our own desires

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

2. James 4:1-3 - What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

2 Samuel 18:16 And Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel: for Joab held back the people.

Joab sounded a trumpet to signal for the people to stop chasing after Israel, and they complied.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - 2 Samuel 18:16

2. The Power of Obedience - 2 Samuel 18:16

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven."

2. Psalm 33:11 - "The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations."

2 Samuel 18:17 And they took Absalom, and cast him into a great pit in the wood, and laid a very great heap of stones upon him: and all Israel fled every one to his tent.

After Absalom was killed, the Israelites buried him in a great pit and covered it with a large pile of stones.

1. God's justice will always prevail - Romans 12:19

2. We must trust in God's plan - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Psalm 37:37-38 - Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for the future of the righteous is peace.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2 Samuel 18:18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place.

Absalom, despite not having a son to carry on his name, had erected a pillar in the king's dale as his own memento. The pillar is still known as Absalom's place to this day.

1. A Legacy of Faith: Making Your Mark in Life

2. The Power of Legacy: What We Leave Behind for Future Generations

1. Hebrews 11:1-2 - Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children, but a sinner s wealth is stored up for the righteous.

2 Samuel 18:19 Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok, Let me now run, and bear the king tidings, how that the LORD hath avenged him of his enemies.

Ahimaaz the son of Zadok declared that he wanted to run and inform the king that the Lord had avenged him from his enemies.

1. The Power of Faith: How God Avenges His People

2. The Power of Witnessing: How to Share Good News with Others

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:36 - You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

2 Samuel 18:20 And Joab said unto him, Thou shalt not bear tidings this day, but thou shalt bear tidings another day: but this day thou shalt bear no tidings, because the king's son is dead.

Joab tells the messenger that he should not bear bad news to the king on that day because the king's son has died.

1. God's Sovereignty in Tragedy - How God is in Control Even When We Don't Understand

2. Finding Strength in Times of Loss - How to Lean on God for Comfort in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 18:21 Then said Joab to Cushi, Go tell the king what thou hast seen. And Cushi bowed himself unto Joab, and ran.

Joab instructs Cushi to report what he saw to the king and Cushi obeys by bowing and running.

1. Obeying Authority: The Power of Submission in 2 Samuel 18:21

2. Running the Race: The Obedience of Cushi in 2 Samuel 18:21

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

2 Samuel 18:22 Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cushi. And Joab said, Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?

Ahimaaz asks Joab for permission to run after Cushi to get news, but Joab questions why he would do that since he has no news.

1. Take initiative in obtaining knowledge.

2. Have faith, even in the face of uncertainty.

1. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Proverbs 18:15 An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

2 Samuel 18:23 But howsoever, said he, let me run. And he said unto him, Run. Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and overran Cushi.

Ahimaaz asked permission to run and was granted it, so he ran to Cushi.

1. The Power of Permission: Learning to Ask and Receive

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Doing as We are Commanded

1. James 4:17 (Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.)

2. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (For the love of Christ constrains us, because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead; And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.)

2 Samuel 18:24 And David sat between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone.

David was sitting between two gates when the watchman noticed someone running alone.

1. The importance of being observant.

2. The power of one person.

1. Matthew 25:13 - Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

2. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.

2 Samuel 18:25 And the watchman cried, and told the king. And the king said, If he be alone, there is tidings in his mouth. And he came apace, and drew near.

A watchman spotted a lone man coming towards the King and informed him, and the King realized the man must have news.

1. The Power of Communication - How the King was able to recognize the importance of the lone man's message. 2. The Difference between News and Gossip - How the King was able to distinguish between the two.

1. Proverbs 18:13 - He who answers before listening - that is his folly and his shame. 2. 2 Corinthians 13:1 - This is the third time I am coming to you. Every matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

2 Samuel 18:26 And the watchman saw another man running: and the watchman called unto the porter, and said, Behold another man running alone. And the king said, He also bringeth tidings.

The watchman observed someone running and informed the king, who realized the runner was bringing news.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - 2 Peter 3:8-9

2. The Power of Communication - Proverbs 25:11

1. Psalm 33:11 - "The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2 Samuel 18:27 And the watchman said, Me thinketh the running of the foremost is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok. And the king said, He is a good man, and cometh with good tidings.

The watchman saw a runner and identified him as Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok, who was known for being a good man and bringing good news.

1. The Value of Good News: Learning to recognize the value of the good news brought to us.

2. The Blessing of Good People: Understanding the importance of having good people in our lives.

1. Proverbs 13:17 - A wicked messenger falleth into mischief: but a faithful ambassador is health.

2. Isaiah 52:7 - How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

2 Samuel 18:28 And Ahimaaz called, and said unto the king, All is well. And he fell down to the earth upon his face before the king, and said, Blessed be the LORD thy God, which hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand against my lord the king.

Ahimaaz reports to the king that all is well and falls to the ground in reverence to the Lord for the deliverance of the king's enemies.

1. How God's Deliverance Brings Us to Our Knees

2. The Power of Worship in Times of Difficulty

1. 2 Samuel 18:28

2. Psalm 34:1-3, "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."

2 Samuel 18:29 And the king said, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Ahimaaz answered, When Joab sent the king's servant, and me thy servant, I saw a great tumult, but I knew not what it was.

Ahimaaz reports to King David that he saw a great commotion but did not know what it was when he and Joab's servant were trying to find out if Absalom was safe.

1. God's Love for His People: How a Father's Heart Breaks and Heals

2. Trusting in the Lord in Difficult Times: An Examination of David's Story

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2 Samuel 18:30 And the king said unto him, Turn aside, and stand here. And he turned aside, and stood still.

David speaks to a man after the death of his son Absalom, ordering him to stand and wait nearby.

1. Learning to Wait: How Patience Helps Us in Times of Trouble

2. God's Timing is Perfect: Trusting in His Plan Despite Circumstances

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Romans 8:25 - But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

2 Samuel 18:31 And, behold, Cushi came; and Cushi said, Tidings, my lord the king: for the LORD hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee.

The LORD had avenged King David of all his enemies on that day.

1. The LORD Is Faithful and He Fights Our Battles - 2 Chronicles 20:15

2. The LORD Is Our Vindicator - Isaiah 54:17

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord.

2 Samuel 18:32 And the king said unto Cushi, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Cushi answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do thee hurt, be as that young man is.

Cushi informs King David that Absalom is safe, but that his enemies should be treated as Absalom has been.

1. The Power of Compassion: How to Show Love to Enemies

2. The Benefits of Forgiveness: Learning to Let Go of Grudges

1. Luke 6:27-36 - Love for enemies

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 - Letting go of bitterness and anger

2 Samuel 18:33 And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

King David mourns the death of his son Absalom.

1. The Cost of Love: Learning from King David's Sacrifice

2. Loss, Grief, and Mourning: Accepting God's Will

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. John 11:35 - Jesus wept.

2 Samuel chapter 19 narrates the aftermath of Absalom's death, including David's return to Jerusalem, the restoration of his kingship, and the reconciliation with his supporters.

1st Paragraph: Upon hearing about Absalom's death, David is overwhelmed with grief and mourns deeply (2 Samuel 19:1-4). Joab rebukes him for mourning excessively and reminds him of the need to show gratitude to his loyal followers.

2nd Paragraph: David heeds Joab's advice and returns to the city gates of Mahanaim. The people of Israel are divided between those who supported Absalom and those who remained loyal to David (2 Samuel 19:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The men of Judah express their desire for David to return as their king. They go out to meet him, accompanied by Shimei, who had previously cursed David but now seeks forgiveness (2 Samuel 19:9-14).

4th Paragraph: As David approaches the Jordan River, he is met by Ziba, Mephibosheth's servant, who claims that Mephibosheth had betrayed him during his absence. However, Mephibosheth explains that Ziba lied (2 Samuel 19:24-30).

5th Paragraph: Barzillai, an elderly man who had provided support to David during his time in Mahanaim, is honored by David. However, Barzillai declines an invitation to live in Jerusalem due to his old age (2 Samuel 19:31-39).

6th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a description of the unity among Israelites as they escort King David back across the Jordan River toward Jerusalem (2 Samuel 19:40-43).

In summary, Chapter nineteen of 2 Samuel portrays the aftermath of Absalom's death, David mourns deeply but is urged by Joab to acknowledge his supporters. He returns as king, with divisions among the people, The men of Judah request David's return as their ruler. Shimei seeks forgiveness, and conflicts arise over loyalty, Mephibosheth clarifies accusations against him, and Barzillai is honored for his support. Finally, unity is restored as Israelites escort King David back, This In summary, Chapter highlights themes of forgiveness, loyalty, and restoration after a period of turmoil.

2 Samuel 19:1 And it was told Joab, Behold, the king weepeth and mourneth for Absalom.

King David mourns the death of his son Absalom.

1. The Pain of a Father's Grief

2. Learning to Forgive and Love Unconditionally

1. Romans 12:15, "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

2. Isaiah 61:2-3, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

2 Samuel 19:2 And the victory that day was turned into mourning unto all the people: for the people heard say that day how the king was grieved for his son.

On a day when the people expected to be celebrating a victory turned into mourning when they heard of the king's grief for his son.

1. Grief in the Midst of Victory: Examining 2 Samuel 19:2

2. God is with Us in Sorrow: Finding Comfort in 2 Samuel 19:2

1. Ecclesiastes 3:4 - "A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2 Samuel 19:3 And the people gat them by stealth that day into the city, as people being ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.

People entered the city secretly, as if ashamed of fleeing during battle.

1: Don't be ashamed of fleeing from a fight if it is the right thing to do.

2: When faced with difficult decisions, make sure to choose the right path even if it means facing shame.

1: Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2 Samuel 19:4 But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!

King David is grief-stricken over the death of his son Absalom.

1. Learning to Trust God in the Midst of Grief

2. Finding Comfort in the Arms of a Loving Father

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:18- The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2 Samuel 19:5 And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, which this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines;

Joab reprimanded King David for disregarding the efforts of his servants in saving his life and the lives of his family.

1. Saying Thank You: Learning to Appreciate Life's Blessings

2. The Power of Gratitude: How Giving Thanks Makes Us Richer

1. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

2. Philippians 4:6 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

2 Samuel 19:6 In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well.

David is rebuked for his impartiality towards his friends and enemies, even if it meant that his son Absalom would have been alive if everyone else had died.

1. Loving Our Enemies: Understanding the Heart of God

2. The Power of Unconditional Love: Choosing to Love Despite Circumstances

1. Luke 6:35-36 - "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful."

2. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

2 Samuel 19:7 Now therefore arise, go forth, and speak comfortably unto thy servants: for I swear by the LORD, if thou go not forth, there will not tarry one with thee this night: and that will be worse unto thee than all the evil that befell thee from thy youth until now.

David commands Joab to speak kindly to his servants, warning him that if he does not, not a single one of them will remain with him that night.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Impact Those Around Us

2. Persevere Through Pain: How the Lord Stands with Those Who Persevere

1. James 3:5-10 - The power of the tongue

2. Romans 8:38-39 - Nothing can separate us from the love of God

2 Samuel 19:8 Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And all the people came before the king: for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

King David returned to his throne and the people of Israel came to greet him after fleeing for their lives.

1: We can always turn to God in times of distress and He will provide us with the strength to face our challenges.

2: We should always have faith in God and trust in His guidance to help us overcome our obstacles.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2: Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2 Samuel 19:9 And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land for Absalom.

The people of Israel were in confusion and disagreement because King David had fled the country due to Absalom's rebellion.

1. In times of conflict, we must remember the good that God has done for us.

2. Even in times of great upheaval, we must remember to trust in the Lord.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

2 Samuel 19:10 And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?

After the death of Absalom in battle, the people questioned why they were not doing anything to bring their king back home.

1. The Power of Loyalty: When Our Leaders Fall

2. Restoring The Throne: God's Provision in Times of Loss

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Samuel 19:11 And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, even to his house.

King David questions the elders of Judah, asking why they were the last to bring him back to his house when all of Israel had already done so.

1. The Power of Unity: Understanding the Strength of Working Together

2. Making the Right Choices: Prioritizing What is Most Important

1. Acts 4:32-35 - And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fail: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2 Samuel 19:12 Ye are my brethren, ye are my bones and my flesh: wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?

The people of Israel question why they are the last to bring back their king.

1. The Power of Asking Questions: Examining the Role of Inquiry in Our Faith

2. Making the Right Choice: The Importance of Loyalty and Fidelity

1. Luke 12:13-14 - "Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' Jesus replied, 'Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?'"

2. Proverbs 17:17 - "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

2 Samuel 19:13 And say ye to Amasa, Art thou not of my bone, and of my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if thou be not captain of the host before me continually in the room of Joab.

David appoints Amasa as the new captain of his army instead of Joab.

1. God is the ultimate provider of our needs and wants.

2. Trust in God's plan, even when it doesn't make sense.

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2 Samuel 19:14 And he bowed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as the heart of one man; so that they sent this word unto the king, Return thou, and all thy servants.

All of the men of Judah showed great loyalty to King David by urging him to return to them with his servants.

1. Loyalty: Showing Loyalty to our Leaders

2. Unity: Finding Unity in our Differences

1. Proverbs 17:17- A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

2. Romans 13:1- Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2 Samuel 19:15 So the king returned, and came to Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to conduct the king over Jordan.

King David returns to Jordan and the people of Judah meet him at Gilgal to bring him over the Jordan River.

1. The Power of Loyalty and Obedience - How the people of Judah demonstrate their loyalty and obedience to King David.

2. The Strength of Unity - How the people of Judah come together to unite and bring King David over the Jordan River.

1. Matthew 22:36-40 - Jesus teaching on the greatest commandment to love God and love your neighbor.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - God's promise to protect and guide his people through the Jordan River.

2 Samuel 19:16 And Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite, which was of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David.

Shimei, a Benjamite from Bahurim, quickly joined the men of Judah to meet King David.

1. The importance of faithfulness and loyalty to those in authority.

2. The power of unity in the face of adversity.

1. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Samuel 19:17 And there were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went over Jordan before the king.

David returns to Jerusalem with a large number of Benjaminites and Ziba's family.

1. The Importance of Family: Learning from Ziba and David's example

2. The Power of Loyalty: Being faithful to King David

1. Ruth 1:16-17, "But Ruth said, 'Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.'"

2. Proverbs 27:10, "Do not forsake your friend and your father s friend, and do not go to your brother s house in the day of your calamity. Better is a neighbor who is near than a brother who is far away."

2 Samuel 19:18 And there went over a ferry boat to carry over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was come over Jordan;

Shimei the son of Gera bowed before the king when he crossed the Jordan River with his household.

1. Obedience and Humility: The Example of Shimei

2. Honoring God's Anointed: Lessons from Shimei's Example

1. 1 Peter 2:17 - "Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king."

2. Romans 13:1-7 - "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."

2 Samuel 19:19 And said unto the king, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart.

A servant begs the king to forgive him for any wrongs he has done on the day of the king's departure from Jerusalem.

1. God is a God of grace and forgiveness

2. We must not be ashamed to ask for forgiveness

1. John 8:1-11: Jesus forgives the woman caught in adultery

2. Luke 23:34: Jesus asking God to forgive those who crucified him

2 Samuel 19:20 For thy servant doth know that I have sinned: therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.

David sends Mephibosheth to meet the king first as a sign of repentance for his sins.

1. Repentance for Sin is Necessary for Restoration

2. Humility in the Midst of Confession

1. Luke 13:3 - No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2 Samuel 19:21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD's anointed?

Abishai questions whether Shimei should be put to death for cursing King David, the LORD's anointed.

1. God's Anointed: The Blessing of a Godly King

2. The Power of Words: Cursing and Blessing

1. Psalm 105:15 - "Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."

2. James 3:6-8 - "And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison."

2 Samuel 19:22 And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? for do not I know that I am this day king over Israel?

David questions his nephews, asking why they are against him when he is the king of Israel and no one should be put to death on that day.

1. God has appointed leaders over us, and we should respect and obey their authority.

2. We should extend grace and forgiveness to those who oppose us, as Jesus has done for us.

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Matthew 5:43-48

2 Samuel 19:23 Therefore the king said unto Shimei, Thou shalt not die. And the king sware unto him.

King David pardoned Shimei, despite Shimei s earlier blasphemous cursing of David, and promised him that he would not die.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness - Exploring the power of God's mercy and the importance of forgiveness in the life of a Christian.

2. The Power of Pardon - Exploring the power of the King's pardon to Shimei and the implications for Christians.

1. Psalm 103:8-12 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

2. Luke 23:34 - Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

2 Samuel 19:24 And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came again in peace.

Mephibosheth, the son of Saul, arrived to meet the king in an unkempt state after the king's departure.

1. A Call to Humility in Service

2. The Power of Faithful Acknowledgement

1. 1 Peter 5:5 - "Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"

2. James 2:14-17 - "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

2 Samuel 19:25 And it came to pass, when he was come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said unto him, Wherefore wentest not thou with me, Mephibosheth?

Mephibosheth meets the king in Jerusalem and the king asks why he did not accompany him.

1. The Power of Presence: How Our Presence Makes a Difference

2. The God of Second Chances: A Story of Redemption

1. John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 19:26 And he answered, My lord, O king, my servant deceived me: for thy servant said, I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king; because thy servant is lame.

David pardons Barzillai, who had brought him supplies during his flight from Absalom and his followers, for deceiving him by not providing a donkey for him to ride on.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Move On After Being Wronged

2. A Lesson in Humility: How to Receive Forgiveness After Making Mistakes

1. Matthew 6:14-15 "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

2. Colossians 3:13 "bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

2 Samuel 19:27 And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; but my lord the king is as an angel of God: do therefore what is good in thine eyes.

David pleads to King David for mercy as he believes he has been wrongfully accused of slander.

1. God's mercy is greater than our circumstances, 2 Samuel 19:27.

2. We are able to ask God for mercy and grace to overcome our hardships.

1. Romans 5:20 "But where sin increased, grace increased all the more."

2. James 4:6 "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2 Samuel 19:28 For all of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto the king?

David expresses his gratitude to King Solomon for allowing him to eat at the same table despite his family's lowly status.

1. The Power of Gratitude: A Study in 2 Samuel 19:28

2. The Value of Humility: Reflections from 2 Samuel 19:28

1. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

2. Luke 17:11-19 - Jesus healing of 10 lepers, only one returns to give thanks.

2 Samuel 19:29 And the king said unto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I have said, Thou and Ziba divide the land.

The king gives Ziba and Mephibosheth the land to divide between them.

1. We should be willing to forgive and show grace to those who have wronged us.

2. Life is full of unexpected turns, and how we respond to them makes a difference.

1. Luke 6:37 - "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven."

2. Romans 12:17-21 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2 Samuel 19:30 And Mephibosheth said unto the king, Yea, let him take all, forasmuch as my lord the king is come again in peace unto his own house.

Mephibosheth welcomes the return of the king and encourages him to take whatever he wishes.

1. The Blessing of Welcoming Others with Open Arms

2. The Gift of Forgiveness

1. Matthew 18:21-22 - Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

2. Isaiah 57:15 - For this is what the high and exalted One says he who lives forever, whose name is holy: I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.

2 Samuel 19:31 And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim, and went over Jordan with the king, to conduct him over Jordan.

Barzillai the Gileadite traveled with King David over the Jordan River.

1. God calls us to travel with Him to places we never expected.

2. Developing a relationship with God will bring us to places of joy, peace and purpose.

1. Isaiah 43:2-4 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name s sake.

2 Samuel 19:32 Now Barzillai was a very aged man, even fourscore years old: and he had provided the king of sustenance while he lay at Mahanaim; for he was a very great man.

Barzillai was an elderly man of eighty years old, and he had provided the king with food while he stayed at Mahanaim. He was a very important person.

1. God can use anyone, no matter their age, to be a blessing to others.

2. God rewards those who are faithful and generous.

1. Matthew 25:34-40 - Jesus teaches about how God rewards those who faithfully serve Him.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - God rewards those who have faith in Him.

2 Samuel 19:33 And the king said unto Barzillai, Come thou over with me, and I will feed thee with me in Jerusalem.

King David invites Barzillai to join him in Jerusalem and vows to take care of him.

1. The Generosity of King David - How God rewards those who are generous and faithful.

2. The Blessing of Obedience - How God blesses those who are obedient to Him.

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.

2. Matthew 25:21 - His master replied, Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!

2 Samuel 19:34 And Barzillai said unto the king, How long have I to live, that I should go up with the king unto Jerusalem?

Barzillai questions the king as to how long he has to live in order to travel with him to Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Living A Life of Significance

2. Knowing When To Make Sacrifices

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

2. Philippians 1:21 - For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

2 Samuel 19:35 I am this day fourscore years old: and can I discern between good and evil? can thy servant taste what I eat or what I drink? can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? wherefore then should thy servant be yet a burden unto my lord the king?

An elderly man is questioning why he should still be a burden to the king at his advanced age when he can no longer taste, hear, or discern between good and evil.

1. Aging Gracefully: Accepting the Blessings and Challenges of Growing Older

2. Knowing When to Let Go and Hand Off Responsibilities

1. Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

2. Proverbs 16:9

2 Samuel 19:36 Thy servant will go a little way over Jordan with the king: and why should the king recompense it me with such a reward?

Joab offers to accompany King David across the Jordan River, and wonders why he would be rewarded for it.

1. The Power of Serving God Generously - exploring how the generous service of God can be rewarded.

2. The Rewards of Faithful Service - examining how God honors those who faithfully serve Him.

1. Matthew 6:1-4 - discussing the rewards of giving to God in secret.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - exploring the benefits of honoring the Lord with our wealth.

2 Samuel 19:37 Let thy servant, I pray thee, turn back again, that I may die in mine own city, and be buried by the grave of my father and of my mother. But behold thy servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good unto thee.

A servant of King David, Barzillai, asks to return to his home city to die and be buried with his parents. He offers his son Chimham to go in his place and serve the king.

1. The Heart of Service: Living a Life of Sacrifice

2. The Power of Loyalty: Following God s Will

1. Philippians 2:3-7 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

2. Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

2 Samuel 19:38 And the king answered, Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good unto thee: and whatsoever thou shalt require of me, that will I do for thee.

King David promised to do whatever Chimham requested as a reward for accompanying him.

1. The Power of a Promise: The Story of King David and Chimham.

2. God's Gratitude: How to Show Appreciation for Those Who Help Us.

1. Psalm 15:4 - In whose eyes a vile person is despised; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

2. Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

2 Samuel 19:39 And all the people went over Jordan. And when the king was come over, the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place.

King David and the people crossed the Jordan River and when the king arrived he kissed Barzillai and blessed him before returning to his own place.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for our every need.

2. The importance of showing love and appreciation to those who have provided for us.

1. Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

2 Samuel 19:40 Then the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him: and all the people of Judah conducted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

King David returned to Gilgal with half of the people of Israel and all of the people of Judah accompanying him.

1. The Power of Unity: The Story of King David and His People

2. The Greatness of Loyalty: How King David and His Followers Stood Together

1. Romans 12:16-18 - Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2 Samuel 19:41 And, behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said unto the king, Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen thee away, and have brought the king, and his household, and all David's men with him, over Jordan?

The men of Israel confronted the king to question why the men of Judah had taken him and his household away across the Jordan River.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. How to Respond to Difficult Questions - Philippians 4:4-9

1. Luke 12:11-12

2. James 1:19-20

2 Samuel 19:42 And all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, Because the king is near of kin to us: wherefore then be ye angry for this matter? have we eaten at all of the king's cost? or hath he given us any gift?

The men of Judah questioned the men of Israel for their anger towards King David, reminding them that the King is a close relative and that they had not received any gifts from him.

1. The Power of Family: How Our Connections to Our Loved Ones Can Strengthen Us

2. The Value of Sacrifice: Recognizing the Gift of Giving

1. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

2. Ephesians 5:2 - And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

2 Samuel 19:43 And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more right in David than ye: why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

The men of Israel and Judah argued over who should have the most influence in bringing the king back. The men of Judah were more forceful in their words than the men of Israel.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Impact Our Relationships

2. Unity in Diversity: Working Together Despite Differences

1. Proverbs 12:18 - There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

2. Ephesians 4:3 - Making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2 Samuel chapter 20 describes a rebellion led by a man named Sheba against King David, the pursuit to quell the rebellion, and the actions taken to restore peace in Israel.

1st Paragraph: Sheba, a troublemaker from the tribe of Benjamin, incites a rebellion against David by declaring independence from his rule (2 Samuel 20:1-2). The people of Israel begin to follow Sheba instead of David.

2nd Paragraph: In response to the rebellion, David orders Amasa, Absalom's former commander, to gather an army within three days (2 Samuel 20:4-5). However, Amasa takes longer than instructed.

3rd Paragraph: Recognizing that time is crucial, David sends Abishai and Joab with his own troops to pursue Sheba before he can gather more support (2 Samuel 20:6-7).

4th Paragraph: As they reach Gibeon on their way to pursue Sheba, Amasa finally arrives with his troops. Joab approaches him as if greeting him but swiftly kills him with a hidden weapon (2 Samuel 20:8-10).

5th Paragraph: Joab and Abishai continue their pursuit of Sheba. They besiege Abel Beth Maacah and prepare to destroy the city walls in order to capture Sheba (2 Samuel 20:14-15).

6th Paragraph: A wise woman from Abel Beth Maacah negotiates with Joab and convinces him not to destroy the entire city for one man's actions. The people agree to hand over Sheba's head (2 Samuel 20:16-22).

7th Paragraph: Joab blows a trumpet signaling an end to the pursuit. He returns with his troops back to Jerusalem while each man goes back home peacefully (2 Samuel 20:23-26).

In summary, Chapter twenty of 2 Samuel portrays a rebellion led by Sheba against King David, David orders Amasa to gather an army but faces delays. Joab and Abishai are sent to pursue and quell the rebellion, Amasa is killed by Joab, and they continue their pursuit. They besiege Abel Beth Maacah, but a wise woman negotiates for peace, Sheba is handed over, and Joab ends the pursuit. The In summary, Chapter concludes with everyone returning home peacefully, This In summary, Chapter explores themes of loyalty, leadership challenges, and highlights both conflict resolution strategies and consequences of rebellion.

2 Samuel 20:1 And there happened to be there a man of Belial, whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite: and he blew a trumpet, and said, We have no part in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to his tents, O Israel.

Sheba, a man of Belial, called for the people of Israel to return to their tents, declaring that they had no part in David or his son Jesse.

1. The Power of Declaring Your Position: Learning from Sheba's Example

2. Discernment in Choosing Your Allegiances: Examining Sheba's Actions

1. Romans 12:16-18 - Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

2. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2 Samuel 20:2 So every man of Israel went up from after David, and followed Sheba the son of Bichri: but the men of Judah clave unto their king, from Jordan even to Jerusalem.

The people of Israel followed Sheba, son of Bichri, while the people of Judah remained loyal to King David.

1. The Power of Loyalty - How loyalty to our leaders and our faith can be a strength.

2. The Strength of Division - How division can lead to the downfall of a society.

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

2. Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2 Samuel 20:3 And David came to his house at Jerusalem; and the king took the ten women his concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in ward, and fed them, but went not in unto them. So they were shut up unto the day of their death, living in widowhood.

David returned to Jerusalem and placed his ten concubines in seclusion, never to be visited by him again, and provided them with sustenance for the remainder of their lives.

1. "The Strength to Let Go: A Study of David and His Concubines"

2. "Living in Widowhood: A Story of David's Concubines"

1. 1 Corinthians 7:8-9 - To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to be aflame with passion.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:26-28 - I find more bitter than death the woman who is a snare, whose heart is a trap and whose hands are chains. The man who pleases God will escape her, but the sinner she will ensnare. Look," says the Teacher, "this is what I have discovered: Adding one thing to another to discover the scheme of things while I was still searching but not finding I found one upright man among a thousand, but not one upright woman among them all.

2 Samuel 20:4 Then said the king to Amasa, Assemble me the men of Judah within three days, and be thou here present.

The King of Israel tells Amasa to gather the men of Judah within three days and to be present.

1. Accepting responsibility: the importance of being present in times of need.

2. Obeying authority: the command of the King and its importance.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Esther 4:16 - For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

2 Samuel 20:5 So Amasa went to assemble the men of Judah: but he tarried longer than the set time which he had appointed him.

Amasa was to assemble the men of Judah, but he took longer than the time he had set.

1. The Power of Time: What Does it Mean to Be on Time?

2. The Importance of Accountability: Relying on Each Other to Get Things Done.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

2. Colossians 4:5-6 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every chance.

2 Samuel 20:6 And David said to Abishai, Now shall Sheba the son of Bichri do us more harm than did Absalom: take thou thy lord's servants, and pursue after him, lest he get him fenced cities, and escape us.

David warns Abishai that Sheba, the son of Bichri, is a greater danger than Absalom and they must pursue him lest he find refuge in fortified cities.

1. The importance of vigilance and proactive action even in the face of danger.

2. The need to prepare for the future while also dealing with current challenges.

1. Proverbs 21:31: "The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD"

2. Matthew 10:16: "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

2 Samuel 20:7 And there went out after him Joab's men, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and all the mighty men: and they went out of Jerusalem, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

Joab and his mighty men left Jerusalem to pursue Sheba, son of Bichri.

1. The Power of Pursuit: How to Follow Through on Your Goals

2. Joab's Example of Faithful Leadership

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

2 Samuel 20:8 When they were at the great stone which is in Gibeon, Amasa went before them. And Joab's garment that he had put on was girded unto him, and upon it a girdle with a sword fastened upon his loins in the sheath thereof; and as he went forth it fell out.

Joab was dressed in a garment with a sword girded to his waist and, as he was walking, the sword fell out of its sheath.

1. God's Word is like a Sword - Hebrews 4:12

2. Joab's Sword: A Picture of Faith - James 2:26

1. 1 Samuel 17:45 - "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

2. Romans 13:4 - "For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil."

2 Samuel 20:9 And Joab said to Amasa, Art thou in health, my brother? And Joab took Amasa by the beard with the right hand to kiss him.

Joab asked Amasa if he was well and then kissed him on the cheek.

1. Love for our Brothers and Sisters in Christ

2. The Power of a Kiss

1. 1 John 4:7-12 (Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.)

2. Romans 12:10 (Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another)

2 Samuel 20:10 But Amasa took no heed to the sword that was in Joab's hand: so he smote him therewith in the fifth rib, and shed out his bowels to the ground, and struck him not again; and he died. So Joab and Abishai his brother pursued after Sheba the son of Bichri.

Joab killed Amasa by striking him in the fifth rib and Joab and Abishai pursued after Sheba.

1. The consequences of not paying attention to what is in front of you.

2. The importance of being aware of your surroundings.

1. Proverbs 27:12 - "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished."

2. Proverbs 4:23- "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

2 Samuel 20:11 And one of Joab's men stood by him, and said, He that favoureth Joab, and he that is for David, let him go after Joab.

A man in Joab's army encouraged those who were in favor of either Joab or David to follow Joab.

1. Living in Unity: How to Respectfully Disagree

2. The Strength of Teamwork: Working Together for a Common Goal

1. Philippians 2:3 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."

2. 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe s household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, I follow Paul ; another, I follow Apollos ; another, I follow Cephas ; still another, I follow Christ. Is Christ divided?"

2 Samuel 20:12 And Amasa wallowed in blood in the midst of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a cloth upon him, when he saw that every one that came by him stood still.

Amasa was killed in the midst of a highway and a man removed his body and covered it with a cloth.

1. God's Sovereignty in Tragedy: How God Uses Unexpected Events for His Purposes

2. The Power of Compassion: How We Can Reflect God's Love through Our Actions

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 5:44 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

2 Samuel 20:13 When he was removed out of the highway, all the people went on after Joab, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

After Amasa was killed by Joab, all the people followed Joab to pursue Sheba, son of Bichri.

1. The Danger of Revenge - Matthew 5:38-42

2. The Power of Perseverance - Luke 13:31-35

1. Proverbs 20:22 - Do not say, I will repay evil ; wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.

2. Psalm 37:8-9 - Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

2 Samuel 20:14 And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Bethmaachah, and all the Berites: and they were gathered together, and went also after him.

All of the tribes of Israel were gathered and followed Sheba, son of Bichri, to Abel and Bethmaachah.

1. Following Leaders: Examining the lessons of Sheba, son of Bichri

2. Working Together: The importance of unity among the tribes of Israel

1. Proverbs 11:14: "Without wise leadership, a nation falls; there is safety in having many advisers."

2. Deuteronomy 1:13: "Choose wise, understanding, and knowledgeable men from among your tribes, and I will place them as leaders over you."

2 Samuel 20:15 And they came and besieged him in Abel of Bethmaachah, and they cast up a bank against the city, and it stood in the trench: and all the people that were with Joab battered the wall, to throw it down.

Joab and his people surrounded the city of Abel of Bethmaachah and built a bank to siege it. They then attempted to break down the wall of the city.

1. The Power of Perseverance How Joab and his people were determined to break down the wall of Abel of Bethmaachah.

2. The Strength of Unity How Joab and his people worked together to siege the city.

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

2 Samuel 20:16 Then cried a wise woman out of the city, Hear, hear; say, I pray you, unto Joab, Come near hither, that I may speak with thee.

A wise woman in the city calls out to Joab and requests to speak with him.

1. Be willing to listen to wise advice even if it comes from unexpected sources.

2. Don't be afraid to seek counsel from those who may not fit the mold of what is expected.

1. Proverbs 19:20-21 "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2. James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2 Samuel 20:17 And when he was come near unto her, the woman said, Art thou Joab? And he answered, I am he. Then she said unto him, Hear the words of thine handmaid. And he answered, I do hear.

A woman speaks to Joab and asks him to listen to her words. Joab agrees.

1. When God calls us, we must be ready to answer.

2. The power of listening.

1. Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you

2. James 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath

2 Samuel 20:18 Then she spake, saying, They were wont to speak in old time, saying, They shall surely ask counsel at Abel: and so they ended the matter.

In 2 Samuel 20:18, a woman recounts the tradition of asking advice from Abel in order to settle an issue.

1. God's wisdom is the ultimate counsel - Proverbs 3:5-6

2. Seek counsel and be wise - Proverbs 15:22

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

2 Samuel 20:19 I am one of them that are peaceable and faithful in Israel: thou seekest to destroy a city and a mother in Israel: why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?

A man from Israel speaks to an aggressor, questioning why they would destroy a city and its inhabitants, which is the inheritance of the Lord.

1. The Strength of Peaceful Faith: A lesson from 2 Samuel 20:19

2. The Importance of Protecting God's Inheritance

1. Proverbs 11:29 - He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

2. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

2 Samuel 20:20 And Joab answered and said, Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy.

Joab refused to destroy what was given to him.

1. God calls us to show mercy and kindness, even when it is difficult.

2. We should always strive to choose peace over destruction.

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2 Samuel 20:21 The matter is not so: but a man of mount Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, hath lifted up his hand against the king, even against David: deliver him only, and I will depart from the city. And the woman said unto Joab, Behold, his head shall be thrown to thee over the wall.

Sheba, a man from the region of Mount Ephraim, has lifted his hand against King David. The woman offered that Sheba's head be thrown over the wall to Joab.

1. God is in control and He will vindicate us in the end.

2. We must remain faithful and trust God even when it looks like the odds are stacked against us.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

2 Samuel 20:22 Then the woman went unto all the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and cast it out to Joab. And he blew a trumpet, and they retired from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem unto the king.

Sheba the son of Bichri was beheaded by the people of the city and his head was cast out to Joab. Joab then blew a trumpet and the people returned to their tents, and he returned to Jerusalem to the King.

1. God's wisdom is available to all of us.

2. Even in times of chaos and violence, we must look to God for help.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2 Samuel 20:23 Now Joab was over all the host of Israel: and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and over the Pelethites:

Joab was the leader of the entire Israelite army, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was in charge of the Cherethites and the Pelethites.

1. God has appointed leaders to guide and protect us.

2. Obey and honor those God has placed in authority over you.

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Ephesians 6:5-7 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ,not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

2 Samuel 20:24 And Adoram was over the tribute: and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder:

Adoram was in charge of collecting tribute and Jehoshaphat was the record-keeper.

1. The Importance of Honoring Your Post and Doing Your Duty

2. The Power of Teamwork in achieving a Common Goal

1. Proverbs 3:27 - Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

2 Samuel 20:25 And Sheva was scribe: and Zadok and Abiathar were the priests:

Sheva served as scribe while Zadok and Abiathar were the priests.

1. The Importance of Serving in Ministry

2. The Blessing of Serving God Together

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore."

2. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many."

2 Samuel 20:26 And Ira also the Jairite was a chief ruler about David.

Ira the Jairite was a leader in King David's court.

1. The Power of Leadership - How Ira's Service to King David Encouraged Others to Follow

2. Living a Life of Honor - Ira's Example of Loyalty and Service

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 12:10-13 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2 Samuel chapter 21 recounts a series of events involving famine, the execution of Saul's descendants, and battles against the Philistines.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a severe famine that lasts for three years during David's reign. David seeks guidance from God to understand the cause of the famine (2 Samuel 21:1).

2nd Paragraph: God reveals that the famine is a result of Saul's previous mistreatment of the Gibeonites, a group with whom Israel had made a covenant (2 Samuel 21:2-3). The Gibeonites request retribution against Saul's descendants.

3rd Paragraph: David meets with the Gibeonites and asks how he can make amends. They demand that seven men from Saul's family be handed over to them for execution (2 Samuel 21:4-6).

4th Paragraph: David spares Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, due to his close relationship with Jonathan. However, he hands over two sons of Rizpah and five grandsons of Saul to be hanged by the Gibeonites (2 Samuel 21:7-9).

5th Paragraph: Rizpah mourns over her sons' bodies and guards them from being desecrated by birds or animals until they are given proper burial (2 Samuel 21:10-14).

6th Paragraph: Afterward, there are further battles between Israel and the Philistines. In one encounter, David becomes exhausted and is almost killed by a giant named Ishbi-Benob but is saved by his men (2 Samuel 21:15-17).

7th Paragraph: Another battle takes place in which three mighty warriors Abishai, Sibbecai, and Elhanan display their valor by defeating prominent Philistine warriors (2 Samuel 21:18-22).

In summary, Chapter twenty-one of 2 Samuel portrays a severe famine during David's reign, The cause is revealed as Saul's mistreatment of the Gibeonites. The Gibeonites demand retribution, and seven men from Saul's family are executed, Mephibosheth is spared, while others are hanged. Rizpah mourns over her sons' bodies, guarding them until proper burial, Additional battles occur between Israel and Philistines. David faces danger but is saved, and mighty warriors display their valor, This In summary, Chapter explores themes of justice, consequences, and bravery in warfare.

2 Samuel 21:1 Then there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year; and David enquired of the LORD. And the LORD answered, It is for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he slew the Gibeonites.

A famine occurred during the reign of King David, and he asked the Lord why this was happening. The Lord revealed that it was due to the actions of King Saul and his descendants.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of 2 Samuel 21:1

2. Seeking Guidance in Difficult Times: A Study of 2 Samuel 21:1

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2 Samuel 21:2 And the king called the Gibeonites, and said unto them; (now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites; and the children of Israel had sworn unto them: and Saul sought to slay them in his zeal to the children of Israel and Judah.)

The King of Israel called the Gibeonites, who were not of the Israelites, to discuss an issue. Saul had previously attempted to kill them due to his loyalty to the Israelites and Judahites.

1. The importance of keeping our promises - Genesis 9:15-17

2. The power of loyalty and commitment - 1 Samuel 18:1-4

1. Genesis 9:15-17 - "And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth."

2. 1 Samuel 18:1-4 - "And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house. Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle."

2 Samuel 21:3 Wherefore David said unto the Gibeonites, What shall I do for you? and wherewith shall I make the atonement, that ye may bless the inheritance of the LORD?

David asked the Gibeonites what he could do to make atonement for them so they could bless the inheritance of the Lord.

1. The Power of Atonement: Understanding How to Make Amends

2. Questioning God s Will: When We Don t Understand His Request

1. Leviticus 6:7 And the priest shall make an atonement for him before the Lord: and it shall be forgiven him for any thing of all that he hath done in trespassing therein.

2. Matthew 5:24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

2 Samuel 21:4 And the Gibeonites said unto him, We will have no silver nor gold of Saul, nor of his house; neither for us shalt thou kill any man in Israel. And he said, What ye shall say, that will I do for you.

The Gibeonites asked David not to kill anyone in Israel for them and in exchange they will not take any silver or gold from Saul nor his house. David agreed to whatever they asked of him.

1. God will provide a way out of any difficult situation.

2. Through our faith in God, we can find a resolution to any conflict.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2 Samuel 21:5 And they answered the king, The man that consumed us, and that devised against us that we should be destroyed from remaining in any of the coasts of Israel,

The people of Jabesh-gilead informed the king that someone had plotted to kill them and drive them out of Israel.

1. God's plan for his people: how to live a life of faith and courage in the face of opposition.

2. The power of prayer: how to stand firm and pray for deliverance in difficult times.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

2 Samuel 21:6 Let seven men of his sons be delivered unto us, and we will hang them up unto the LORD in Gibeah of Saul, whom the LORD did choose. And the king said, I will give them.

King David agrees to give seven of Saul's sons to be hanged as a punishment for Saul's sins.

1. God's justice, mercy, and grace: A lesson from 2 Samuel 21:6

2. The importance of repentance and forgiveness as seen in 2 Samuel 21:6

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

2. Isaiah 53:4-6 - Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2 Samuel 21:7 But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the LORD's oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul.

David spared Mephibosheth out of respect for the covenant between him and Jonathan.

1. The importance of honoring covenants made in the Lord's name.

2. The power of loyalty and friendship to keep promises.

1. Ruth 1:16-17 - Ruth's loyalty to Naomi, even when Naomi told her to go back to her own people.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teaching about making and keeping oaths.

2 Samuel 21:8 But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bare unto Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she brought up for Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite:

King David took seven sons of Saul's family to be redeemed from Gibeon.

1. The Redemption of Saul's Sons God's Unending Love and Mercy

2. The Power of Forgiveness Letting Go of the Past

1. Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 21:9 And he delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them in the hill before the LORD: and they fell all seven together, and were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, in the beginning of barley harvest.

The Gibeonites hanged seven of Saul s sons in the hill before the Lord in the first days of harvest.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - How Saul s disobedience to the Lord cost his sons their lives.

2. The Power of Forgiveness - How the Lord used the Gibeonites to demonstrate the power of forgiveness.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2 Samuel 21:10 And Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth, and spread it for her upon the rock, from the beginning of harvest until water dropped upon them out of heaven, and suffered neither the birds of the air to rest on them by day, nor the beasts of the field by night.

Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, protected her deceased family members by spreading sackcloth over them from harvest until the rain fell from the sky, and she did not allow any birds or animals to rest on them.

1. The Faithfulness of Rizpah: A Story of Devotion and Loyalty

2. God's Provision: How God Provides for the Righteous in Times of Need

1. Isaiah 49:25b Those who hope in me will not be disappointed.

2. Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

2 Samuel 21:11 And it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.

Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah and the concubine of Saul, had done something notable, and news of it reached David.

1. The Notable Deeds of the Unsung Heroes

2. Redeeming the Legacy of Those Forgotten

1. Ruth 4:17-22 - Ruth's faith in redeeming the legacy of her dead husband

2. 2 Corinthians 8:1-8 - The example of the Macedonians in their generous giving despite their poverty

2 Samuel 21:12 And David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabeshgilead, which had stolen them from the street of Bethshan, where the Philistines had hanged them, when the Philistines had slain Saul in Gilboa:

After Saul and Jonathan were killed by the Philistines, their bones were stolen by the men of Jabeshgilead from the street of Bethshan. David went and retrieved the bones to give them a proper burial.

1. God's love is so great that even enemies can be loved and given proper respect.

2. We should strive to honor those who have gone before us, even if they were our enemies.

1. Matthew 5:44 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

2. Romans 12:14-20 - Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

2 Samuel 21:13 And he brought up from thence the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son; and they gathered the bones of them that were hanged.

David gathered the bones of Saul and Jonathan to give them a proper burial.

1. Giving proper respect to the dead.

2. Honoring those who have gone before us.

1. Ecclesiastes 12:7 and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

2. Isaiah 57:1-2 The righteous perish, and no one ponders it in his heart; devout men are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous are taken away from calamity; they enter into peace, those who walk uprightly.

2 Samuel 21:14 And the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son buried they in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the sepulchre of Kish his father: and they performed all that the king commanded. And after that God was intreated for the land.

Saul and Jonathan were buried in the country of Benjamin in Zelah in their father's sepulchre, and after that God answered prayers for the land.

1. The Power of the Prayers of God's People

2. The Faithfulness of God to Fulfill His Promises

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, seek, and knock

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen

2 Samuel 21:15 Moreover the Philistines had yet war again with Israel; and David went down, and his servants with him, and fought against the Philistines: and David waxed faint.

David and his servants went down to fight against the Philistines, but David became weak.

1. God s Strength in Weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

2. The Power of Prayer (James 5:16-18)

1. Psalm 18:1-2 - I love you, LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.

2 Samuel 21:16 And Ishbibenob, which was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he being girded with a new sword, thought to have slain David.

Ishbibenob, a descendant of the giant, wielded a spear that weighed 300 shekels of brass and was armed with a new sword. He attempted to kill David.

1. The Dangers of Pride and Arrogance

2. The Power of Faith and Courage in Difficult Times

1. Proverbs 16:18: "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Ephesians 6:10-17: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

2 Samuel 21:17 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah succoured him, and smote the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David sware unto him, saying, Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the light of Israel.

Abishai rescues David from a Philistine and the men of David swear David will no longer go to battle in order to protect the light of Israel.

1. The Power of Rescue: How God Uses People to Save Us.

2. The Courage and Strength of Community: How Others Support Us in Difficult Times.

1. 2 Samuel 21:17

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2 Samuel 21:18 And it came to pass after this, that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob: then Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Saph, which was of the sons of the giant.

There was a battle between the Israelites and Philistines at Gob, and Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Saph, one of the sons of the giant.

1. God's strength is made perfect in our weakness.

2. We can overcome any obstacle through faith, courage, and reliance on God.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9, "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"

2. Isaiah 41:10, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 21:19 And there was again a battle in Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim, a Bethlehemite, slew the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.

Elhanan, a Bethlehemite, fought against the Philistines in Gob and killed Goliath's brother, whose spear was as big as a weaver's beam.

1. We can rise to the challenge and take on difficult tasks that God presents us with.

2. Through faith and trust in God, we can overcome any obstacle.

1. Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Isaiah 41:10, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 21:20 And there was yet a battle in Gath, where was a man of great stature, that had on every hand six fingers, and on every foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to the giant.

In the battle of Gath, a giant with six fingers and six toes on each hand and foot was found.

1. God is the one who created and sustains us all, no matter if we are big or small. 2. We should not be intimidated by those who are different from us but should instead seek to understand them and their stories.

1. Genesis 1:27 - "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." 2. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2 Samuel 21:21 And when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimeah the brother of David slew him.

Jonathan, the brother of David, killed a man who defied Israel.

1. We should always trust in God and remain faithful to Him.

2. We are called to stand up and defend God's people.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15 "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God s."

2 Samuel 21:22 These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

David and his servants killed four giants in Gath.

1. The Strength of Our Faith: Overcoming Giants

2. The Power of God: Achieving Victory Over the Impossible

1. 1 Corinthians 15:57-58 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2 Samuel chapter 22 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving that David composed to celebrate God's deliverance and faithfulness throughout his life.

1st Paragraph: David begins by declaring his love for the Lord, whom he acknowledges as his rock, fortress, and deliverer (2 Samuel 22:1-3). He praises God as his shield and stronghold in whom he takes refuge.

2nd Paragraph: David vividly describes the perils he faced in life, including death, sorrows, floods of destruction, and enemies who threatened him (2 Samuel 22:4-6). In distress, he called upon God for help.

3rd Paragraph: David recounts how God responded to his cries by shaking the earth, parting the heavens with smoke and fire (2 Samuel 22:7-16). The Lord thundered from heaven and delivered him from his enemies.

4th Paragraph: David portrays God's intervention using powerful imagery such as arrows of lightning scattering his foes, the channels of the sea being exposed, and God rescuing him from mighty waters (2 Samuel 22:17-20).

5th Paragraph: David praises God for His righteousness towards him. He acknowledges that it is because of his own righteousness that God has rewarded him accordingly (2 Samuel 22:21-25).

6th Paragraph: David declares that with God's help he can overcome any enemy. He describes how the Lord equips him with strength for battle and enables him to pursue and defeat those who rise against him (2 Samuel 22:26-30).

7th Paragraph: David affirms that it is only through God's guidance that he can achieve victory. He credits the Lord for teaching him skill in warfare and protecting him like a shield (2 Samuel 22:31-37).

8th Paragraph: David praises God as a source of strength who enables him to leap over walls. He attributes all success in battle to the Lord's support (2 Samuel 22:38-46).

9th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with an acknowledgment of divine vengeance against enemies. David expresses gratitude to God for delivering him from foreign nations' oppression (2 Samuel 22:47-51).

In summary, Chapter twenty-two of 2 Samuel presents a psalm of praise composed by King David, David celebrates God's deliverance throughout his life. He depicts various perils faced, and how he called upon God, God responds with mighty acts, shaking earth, parting heavens, and delivering from enemies, David acknowledges divine righteousness and attributes victory to the Lord. He expresses gratitude for protection and guidance in battle, This In summary, Chapter highlights themes of trust, gratitude, divine intervention, and emphasizes reliance on God during times of trouble.

2 Samuel 22:1 And David spake unto the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul:

David offers a song of praise to the Lord after being delivered from his enemies and Saul.

1. Let us give thanks to the Lord for His deliverance.

2. God will always be there to protect us in difficult times.

1. Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2 Samuel 22:2 And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;

The Lord is a Rock to protect us, a Fortress to sustain us, and a Deliverer to save us.

1. God is Our Rock - Psalm 18:2

2. God is Our Deliverer - Psalm 34:17

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

2. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

2 Samuel 22:3 The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.

David expresses his trust in God, who is his shield, salvation, refuge, and savior from all violence.

1. Trust in God During Troubling Times

2. The Proven Protection of God

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 22:4 I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

In 2 Samuel 22:4, David encourages his listeners to call on the Lord, who is worthy of praise, in order to be saved from enemies.

1. The Power of Praise: How to Receive Salvation from Enemies

2. Worthy of Praise: Why We Should Call on the Lord

1. Psalm 18:3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

2. Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2 Samuel 22:5 When the waves of death compassed me, the floods of ungodly men made me afraid;

The Psalmist experienced fear when facing death and ungodly people.

1. Overcoming Fear with Faith in God - 2 Timothy 1:7

2. The Power of Prayer in Troubled Times - James 1:2-4

1. Psalm 18:4-5 - The psalmist trusts in the Lord and finds strength

2. Psalm 34:17-19 - God hears the cries of the righteous and delivers them from their fears

2 Samuel 22:6 The sorrows of hell compassed me about; the snares of death prevented me;

David declares that he was surrounded by the sorrows of hell and prevented by the snares of death.

1. The dangers of sin and how it can bring us to our knees.

2. God's protection and redemption of us from our own destructive ways.

1. Psalm 18:5, The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death confronted me.

2. Romans 8:38-39, For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Samuel 22:7 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears.

In a time of distress, the psalmist called out to God for help and God answered from His temple, hearing the psalmists cry.

1. A Cry for Help: Finding Comfort and Hope in Times of Distress

2. The Lord Hears Our Cries: Reassurance in the Midst of Turmoil

1. Psalm 18:6 - In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried to my God: and he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

2. Isaiah 65:24 - And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

2 Samuel 22:8 Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven moved and shook, because he was wroth.

God's anger caused the earth to shake and tremble, and the foundations of heaven to move and shake.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Respect the Lord's Authority

1. Psalm 18:7, "Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the mountains quaked and were shaken, because he was angry."

2. Isaiah 13:13, "Therefore I will make the heavens tremble; and the earth will shake from its place at the wrath of the Lord Almighty."

2 Samuel 22:9 There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it.

Smoke and fire came out of the Lord's nostrils and mouth, which caused the coals to be set ablaze.

1. The Power of the Lord: Understanding the Strength of Our God

2. The Holiness of God: Experiencing His Majesty

1. Isaiah 66:15-16 - For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many.

2. Exodus 19:18 - And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

2 Samuel 22:10 He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under his feet.

God descended to Earth and darkness was beneath Him.

1. The Power of God's Presence

2. The Wonder of God's Majesty

1. Psalm 18:9 He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under his feet.

2. Isaiah 45:22 Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.

2 Samuel 22:11 And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: and he was seen upon the wings of the wind.

God enabled David to fly on a cherub and be seen on the wings of the wind.

1. The Power of God in Our Lives: How God Enabled David to Fly

2. Experiencing God's Presence: Seeing God on the Wings of the Wind

1. Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 91:4, "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

2 Samuel 22:12 And he made darkness pavilions round about him, dark waters, and thick clouds of the skies.

God surrounded himself with darkness, dark waters, and thick clouds in the sky.

1. How God's darkness can bring us strength and comfort.

2. The power of God's protection through the darkness.

1. Psalm 91:1 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

2. Isaiah 45:3 - I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hidden riches of secret places.

2 Samuel 22:13 Through the brightness before him were coals of fire kindled.

David praises God for His protection and strength, describing the Lord's presence as bright with coals of fire kindled.

1. The Strength of the Lord: How to Find Refuge in God s Shelter

2. The Fire of the Lord: Kindling God s Light in Our Lives

1. Psalm 18:12-14 He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him the dark rain clouds of the sky. Out of the brightness of his presence clouds advanced, with hailstones and bolts of lightning. The Lord thundered from heaven; the voice of the Most High resounded. He shot his arrows and scattered the enemies, with great bolts of lightning he routed them.

2. Isaiah 6:1-4 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory. At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

2 Samuel 22:14 The LORD thundered from heaven, and the most High uttered his voice.

God's voice thundered from heaven with power and authority.

1. "The Voice of the Lord" - Examining the power of God's voice and its impact on our lives.

2. "The Unstoppable Voice" - Looking at 2 Samuel 22:14 to understand the unstoppable nature of God's voice.

1. Psalm 29:3-9 - A psalm praising the voice of God.

2. Job 37:1-5 - A passage describing the power of God's voice.

2 Samuel 22:15 And he sent out arrows, and scattered them; lightning, and discomfited them.

God sent out arrows and lightning to scatter and discomfit his enemies.

1. God's Wrath and Justice: Examining 2 Samuel 22:15

2. The Power of God: Seeing His Miraculous Strength in 2 Samuel 22:15

1. Psalm 18:14 - He shot out arrows and scattered the enemies, great bolts of lightning and routed them.

2. Exodus 15:6 - Your right hand, O Lord, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.

2 Samuel 22:16 And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.

The LORD revealed the depths of the sea and the foundations of the world, showing His power with a rebuke and a blast of His breath.

1: God's Power: Revealing the Depths of the Sea

2: The LORD Reveals: A Blast of His Breath

1: Psalm 18:15-16 - He sent out his arrows and scattered the foes, with great bolts of lightning he routed them. The valleys of the sea were exposed and the foundations of the earth lay uncovered, at your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of breath from your nostrils.

2: Job 26:10 - He marks out the horizon on the face of the waters for a boundary between light and darkness.

2 Samuel 22:17 He sent from above, he took me; he drew me out of many waters;

God protected David from danger and lifted him out of difficult situations.

1. God is Our Protector, Our Refuge, and Our Strength

2. Finding Hope and Comfort During Troubling Times

1. Psalm 18:16-17 - He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

2 Samuel 22:18 He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them that hated me: for they were too strong for me.

God saved David from his strong enemies, who were too powerful for him to defeat on his own.

1. The Power of God's Deliverance

2. Trusting in God's Strength

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2 Samuel 22:19 They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the LORD was my stay.

The LORD was the source of comfort and strength for the writer in times of trouble.

1. All Things Work Together for Good: How God Sustains Us in Times of Trouble

2. The Lord is Our Stay: Finding Strength and Comfort in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2 Samuel 22:20 He brought me forth also into a large place: he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

God rescued the speaker from a difficult situation as He delighted in them.

1. God is always looking out for us and loves us deeply.

2. The Lord is our rescuer when we are in need.

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2 Samuel 22:21 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.

The Lord rewarded the speaker according to their righteousness and the cleanness of their hands.

1. God rewards us for our righteousness and clean hands

2. The Lord promises to recompense us for living a clean life

1. Psalm 18:20-24 - The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2 Samuel 22:22 For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.

The author is declaring that they have kept God's ways and have not strayed from Him.

1. Staying Committed to God's Ways - 2 Samuel 22:22

2. Why We Must Remain Faithful to God - 2 Samuel 22:22

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

2 Samuel 22:23 For all his judgments were before me: and as for his statutes, I did not depart from them.

David praises God for his faithfulness in upholding His judgments and statutes.

1. God's faithfulness in upholding His statutes and judgments.

2. The importance of following God's statutes and judgments.

1. Psalm 119:75-76 I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.

2. Romans 8:28-29 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

2 Samuel 22:24 I was also upright before him, and have kept myself from mine iniquity.

David declared that he had kept himself from sin and was upright before God.

1. "Upright Living Before God"

2. "Staying Away From Sin"

1. Psalm 119:1-2 "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart."

2. Isaiah 33:15-16 "He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking on evil, he will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him; his water will be sure."

2 Samuel 22:25 Therefore the LORD hath recompensed me according to my righteousness; according to my cleanness in his eye sight.

David expresses his gratitude to the LORD for rewarding him according to his faithfulness and righteousness.

1. God is always faithful to His promises and will reward us for our obedience.

2. Our righteousness is not based on our own merits, but on the grace of God.

1. 2 Corinthians 5:21 - For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2. Romans 3:21-22 - But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe.

2 Samuel 22:26 With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful, and with the upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright.

1: God shows mercy and justice to those who are merciful and upright.

2: We can trust God to be faithful to His promises to those who faithfully obey Him.

1: Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

2: James 2:13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

2 Samuel 22:27 With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself unsavoury.

1: We must strive to remain pure and holy, as God will be pure and holy with us.

2: We must be careful in our behavior, as how we act reflects on how God will act towards us.

1: James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

2: 1 John 3:3 - And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

2 Samuel 22:28 And the afflicted people thou wilt save: but thine eyes are upon the haughty, that thou mayest bring them down.

God looks out for the afflicted and brings down the haughty.

1. God is Our Protector and Defender

2. Pride Goes Before a Fall

1. James 4:6 God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2. Psalm 18:27 You save the humble but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

2 Samuel 22:29 For thou art my lamp, O LORD: and the LORD will lighten my darkness.

God is the source of light in the darkness and will not leave his people in the dark.

1. God is the Lamp in the Darkness - 2 Samuel 22:29

2. The Lord Will Lighten Our Darkness - 2 Samuel 22:29

1. Psalm 18:28 - For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

2. Isaiah 60:19 - The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

2 Samuel 22:30 For by thee I have run through a troop: by my God have I leaped over a wall.

David praises God for giving him strength to overcome his enemies and obstacles.

1) Overcoming Obstacles with God's Strength

2) Praising God for Our Victories

1) Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2) Psalm 18:29 - For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall.

2 Samuel 22:31 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all them that trust in him.

God's way is perfect and trustworthy and He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

1. The Perfection of God's Way

2. The Protection of the Lord

1. Psalm 18:30 - As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

2 Samuel 22:32 For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a rock, save our God?

God is the only true Lord and Rock.

1. God is the Highest Authority - 2 Samuel 22:32

2. The Unshakable Foundation of our Faith - 2 Samuel 22:32

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

2. Isaiah 26:4 - Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.

2 Samuel 22:33 God is my strength and power: and he maketh my way perfect.

God is a source of strength and power, and He makes our paths straight.

1. God's Strength and Power in Our Lives

2. Perfecting Our Paths Through God

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

2 Samuel 22:34 He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: and setteth me upon my high places.

God gives strength and guidance to those who are willing to trust in Him, allowing them to reach their highest potential.

1. "The High Places of God's Will"

2. "The Strength of Trusting in the Lord"

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2 Samuel 22:35 He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.

God gives strength to His people to fight and overcome their enemies.

1. The Strength of Faith: How God Gives Us the Strength to Overcome

2. The Power of the Bow: How God Uses His People to Triumph

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. 1 Corinthians 1:27-28 - "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are."

2 Samuel 22:36 Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great.

God's salvation and gentleness have made the speaker great.

1. "God's Shield of Salvation"

2. "The Power of Gentleness"

1. Isaiah 45:24-25 - "Surely, shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. In the Lord shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory."

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

2 Samuel 22:37 Thou hast enlarged my steps under me; so that my feet did not slip.

God has supported and protected the speaker, allowing them to stay steady and make progress.

1. How God's protection and guidance can help us keep our footing.

2. The importance of leaning on God for strength and stability.

1. Psalm 18:36 - You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me, and your gentleness made me great.

2. Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

2 Samuel 22:38 I have pursued mine enemies, and destroyed them; and turned not again until I had consumed them.

David pursued and destroyed his enemies until they were completely consumed.

1. God's Pursuit of the Enemy: 2 Samuel 22:38

2. The Power of God's Wrath: The Davidic Model of Retribution

1. Romans 12:19-21 - Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:30-31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2 Samuel 22:39 And I have consumed them, and wounded them, that they could not arise: yea, they are fallen under my feet.

The Lord has destroyed and defeated His enemies, leaving them powerless and unable to rise up again.

1. God s Power: A Reminder of God s Sovereignty

2. The Defeat of Our Enemies: The Victory of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

2. Psalm 46:9 - He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

2 Samuel 22:40 For thou hast girded me with strength to battle: them that rose up against me hast thou subdued under me.

God has strengthened and enabled David to overcome his enemies.

1. God provides strength to those who rely on him.

2. God's power is greater than any obstacle.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2 Samuel 22:41 Thou hast also given me the necks of mine enemies, that I might destroy them that hate me.

God has given David the strength to defeat his enemies, empowering him to vanquish those who hate him.

1. "The Power of God's Protection"

2. "The Strength of God's Mercy"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 18:39 - "For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me."

2 Samuel 22:42 They looked, but there was none to save; even unto the LORD, but he answered them not.

Despite looking for help, there was no one to save them and even their prayers to the Lord went unanswered.

1. God is Sovereign - Romans 8:28

2. The Power of Prayer - James 5:16

1. Psalm 18:41 - "You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your gentleness made me great."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2 Samuel 22:43 Then did I beat them as small as the dust of the earth, I did stamp them as the mire of the street, and did spread them abroad.

God defeated His enemies and reduced them to dust, trampling them in the streets.

1. Victory in Defeat: How God Overcomes Our Struggles

2. The Power of God in Action: Seeing His Strength in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn.

2. Romans 8:37 - Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

2 Samuel 22:44 Thou also hast delivered me from the strivings of my people, thou hast kept me to be head of the heathen: a people which I knew not shall serve me.

God has saved David from the struggles of his people and has made him the head of the Gentiles, a people he never knew before will now serve him.

1. God's protection and provision for our lives.

2. The power of God's greatness to bring unity between different people.

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

2. Romans 10:12-13 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

2 Samuel 22:45 Strangers shall submit themselves unto me: as soon as they hear, they shall be obedient unto me.

God promises that those who hear of His greatness will be obedient to Him.

1. Obedience to God is a Choice - 2 Samuel 22:45

2. The Power of God's Word - 2 Samuel 22:45

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - Choose life, so that you and your descendants may live and love the Lord your God and obey his voice.

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2 Samuel 22:46 Strangers shall fade away, and they shall be afraid out of their close places.

Strangers will be scared away from their homes.

1. The Power of Fear: How Strangers Will Flee When God Is Present

2. Strength in God: Overcoming Fear of the Unknown

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2 Samuel 22:47 The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.

David praises God for being his rock and salvation.

1. God is Our Rock and Our Salvation

2. The Lord Lives and is Blessed

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation.

2. Psalm 62:7 - My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

2 Samuel 22:48 It is God that avengeth me, and that bringeth down the people under me,

God has avenged and brought down those who have been against David.

1. God's Justice: Understanding God's Avenging Power

2. God's Faithfulness: Experiencing Comfort in His Protection

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 18:47 - The Lord liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

2 Samuel 22:49 And that bringeth me forth from mine enemies: thou also hast lifted me up on high above them that rose up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man.

God delivers the faithful from their enemies and lifts them up on high.

1. God will lift us up in times of trouble

2. We can trust in God's protection from our enemies

1. Psalm 18:2-3 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence."

2. Romans 8:31-32 - "If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?"

2 Samuel 22:50 Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name.

1: We should always be thankful to God, no matter what we are faced with, and give Him praise above all.

2: God's love and goodness should be expressed through our words and actions so that others may benefit from His grace.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: Psalm 95:2 - Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

2 Samuel 22:51 He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed for evermore.

God shows mercy and salvation to King David and his descendants forever.

1. Showing Mercy to the Anointed: A Study on 2 Samuel 22:51

2. God's Unfailing Love and Protection: A Look at 2 Samuel 22:51

1. Psalm 18:2, "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Psalm 89:20, "I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him."

2 Samuel chapter 23 records the last words and mighty deeds of David and highlights the valor of his mighty men.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with an introduction stating that these are the last words of David, the son of Jesse, who was exalted by God as the anointed king of Israel (2 Samuel 23:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: David speaks about his relationship with God, acknowledging that God's covenant with him is secure and everlasting. He describes God as his rock and refuge (2 Samuel 23:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: David reflects on his reign, describing how a ruler who fears God brings about justice and prosperity. He contrasts this with wicked rulers who are like thorns to be discarded (2 Samuel 23:5).

4th Paragraph: The chapter then shifts focus to highlight the exploits of David's mighty men. It lists their names and mentions some of their extraordinary feats in battle (2 Samuel 23:8-39).

5th Paragraph: Three particular warriors Josheb-Basshebeth, Eleazar, and Shammah are singled out for their exceptional acts of bravery in defending Israel against overwhelming odds (2 Samuel 23:8-12).

6th Paragraph: The narrative briefly mentions other notable warriors who displayed courage and loyalty to David. Their feats include facing enemy giants or fighting battles against Philistines (2 Samuel 23:13-17).

7th Paragraph: At one point during a battle against Philistines, David expresses a longing for water from a well near Bethlehem. Three mighty men risk their lives to bring him water from that well (2 Samuel 23:18-19).

8th Paragraph: However, when they present the water to David, he refuses to drink it out of reverence for God since it was obtained at great personal risk by his loyal soldiers (2 Samuel 23:16-17).

9th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by listing additional names of prominent warriors known for their valorous acts during King David's reign (2 Samuel 23;20-39).

In summary, Chapter twenty-three of 2 Samuel presents the last words and mighty deeds of King David, David reflects on his relationship with God, acknowledging His covenant faithfulness. He discusses righteous rule and contrasts it with wickedness, The In summary, Chapter then highlights the heroic exploits of David's mighty men, including Josheb-Basshebeth, Eleazar, Shammah, Other warriors are mentioned, and three risk their lives to fulfill a longing desire. David refuses to drink the water out of reverence for God, The In summary, Chapter concludes by listing additional brave warriors. It emphasizes themes such as loyalty, courage, and divine favor in battle.

2 Samuel 23:1 Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said,

David, son of Jesse and anointed of the God of Jacob, delivered his last words as the psalmist of Israel.

1. The Anointing of David: An Example of God's Faithfulness

2. Giving Voice to God's Will: The Legacy of David

1. Psalm 89:20-21 I have found my servant David; with my holy oil have I anointed him. My hand shall ever be with him; and my arm shall strengthen him.

2. 2 Kings 2:9-11 And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.

2 Samuel 23:2 The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.

The Spirit of the LORD spoke to David and his word was on his tongue.

1. How to Discern God's Will in Our Lives

2. The Power of Speaking God's Word

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

2 Samuel 23:3 The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

God commands that those in authority should rule with justice and righteousness, out of reverence for God.

1. The Responsibility of Leaders to Rule Righteously

2. The Weight of Power and the Fear of God

1. Psalm 2:10-12 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

2. Proverbs 16:12-13 It is an abomination for kings to do evil, for a throne is established on righteousness. Righteous lips are the delight of a king, and he loves him who speaks what is right.

2 Samuel 23:4 And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.

Passage God will be like a morning sunrise, full of light without any clouds, and like the grass that grows after a clear rain.

1. God's love and joy is like a bright morning sunrise.

2. God's grace is like the tender grass after a clear rain.

1. Isaiah 9:2 - The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

2. Psalm 103:5 - Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle s.

2 Samuel 23:5 Although my house be not so with God; yet he hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure: for this is all my salvation, and all my desire, although he make it not to grow.

God has made an everlasting covenant with us that is ordered in all things and sure, which is our salvation and our desire.

1. The Unfailing Promise of an Everlasting Covenant

2. Salvation and Security Through the Covenant of God

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2 Samuel 23:6 But the sons of Belial shall be all of them as thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with hands:

Belial's sons are likened to thorns that cannot be taken with hands.

1. A life without faith cannot be touched by the hand of the Lord.

2. We must protect ourselves from the influences of Belial by clinging to faith.

1. 2 Corinthians 5:7 - For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2. Matthew 11:29 - Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

2 Samuel 23:7 But the man that shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the same place.

David recounts a brave warrior who fought fearlessly against a group of enemies, protected by iron and a spear, and who was ultimately burned alive.

1. Courage and Commitment in the Face of Adversity

2. Standing Firm in Faith Despite Difficult Circumstances

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

2 Samuel 23:8 These be the names of the mighty men whom David had: The Tachmonite that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite: he lift up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time.

Adino the Eznite was a mighty warrior who killed 800 people in one battle.

1. The Power of Faith in God - 2 Chronicles 20:15

2. The Strength of Unity - Psalm 133:1-3

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's."

2. Psalm 133:1-3 -"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

2 Samuel 23:9 And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David, when they defied the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away:

Eleazar, son of Dodo the Ahohite, was one of the three mighty men who were with David when they defied the Philistines in battle.

1. The Strength of Unity: How God Uses a Few People to Accomplish Great Things

2. Courage in the Face of Adversity: The Story of Eleazar and His Faithful Service

1. 1 Chronicles 11:11-12 - And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, which was one of the three mighty men with David when they defied the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle. And they were gathered together to battle, and David was present among the people.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

2 Samuel 23:10 He arose, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword: and the LORD wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to spoil.

David fought against the Philistines and was victorious, and the people followed him only to take the spoils.

1. God rewards those who fight for what is right.

2. We must not be motivated by greed or selfishness.

1. 1 Samuel 17:47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hands.

2. 1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

2 Samuel 23:11 And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people fled from the Philistines.

Shammah, the son of Agee the Hararite, bravely defended his people when the Philistines gathered together into a troop to attack them.

1. Be brave in the face of adversity.

2. Stand firm with courage in the midst of trials.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

2 Samuel 23:12 But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the LORD wrought a great victory.

David stood in the midst of the ground and fought the Philistines, and the Lord provided a great victory.

1. Stand Firm in the Lord and He Will Provide Victory

2. Knowing When to Fight and When to Trust God

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2 Samuel 23:13 And three of the thirty chief went down, and came to David in the harvest time unto the cave of Adullam: and the troop of the Philistines pitched in the valley of Rephaim.

Three of David's thirty chief warriors visited him at the cave of Adullam during the harvest season, while the Philistines were encamped in the valley of Rephaim.

1. The Power of God's Protection: How David's Faithful Warriors Saved Him from the Philistines

2. The Strength of Faith: How David's Devotion to God Saved Him from Danger

1. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

2 Samuel 23:14 And David was then in an hold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem.

David was in an hold and the Philistines were in Bethlehem.

1. The Strength of God's Protection: How to Trust in God Even in Difficult Times

2. The Sovereignty of God in All Circumstances: How to Live in Confidence of God's Plan

1. Psalm 91:1-2, He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2 Samuel 23:15 And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!

David expresses his longing for a drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem.

1. Satisfying Our Longings - How to Find True Fulfillment in God

2. The Well of Bethlehem - A Reflection on David's Longing for Spiritual Refreshment

1. Psalm 42:1 - "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God."

2. John 4:14 - "But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

2 Samuel 23:16 And the three mighty men brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the LORD.

The three mighty men of David's army fought their way through the Philistines and obtained water from the well at Bethlehem. David refused to drink the water, instead pouring it out as an offering to the Lord.

1. "The Obedience of David: An Example for Us All"

2. "The Power of Three: Working Together for the Lord"

1. Ephesians 6:13-18 - "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace."

2. Matthew 6:5-8 - "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

2 Samuel 23:17 And he said, Be it far from me, O LORD, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives? therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mighty men.

1: We must learn to take risks in our lives for the greater good.

2: We must be willing to make sacrifices for the benefit of others.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2: Mark 12:31 - Love your neighbor as yourself.

2 Samuel 23:18 And Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was chief among three. And he lifted up his spear against three hundred, and slew them, and had the name among three.

Abishai, the brother of Joab, killed 300 men with his spear and gained a great reputation.

1. Be Brave and Bold: The Example of Abishai

2. The Power of Faith: Abishai s Story

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2 Samuel 23:19 Was he not most honourable of three? therefore he was their captain: howbeit he attained not unto the first three.

One of the most honorable men of three was named captain, but he was not chosen among the first three.

1. God has a plan for everyone, even if it doesn't seem so at the moment.

2. We can trust in God's plan, even if it doesn't make sense.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2 Samuel 23:20 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man, of Kabzeel, who had done many acts, he slew two lionlike men of Moab: he went down also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow:

Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, performed heroic acts including killing two lion-like men of Moab and a lion in a pit in the midst of snow.

1. God rewards those who bravely serve Him.

2. We can learn from Benaiah's courage and faith.

1. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 31:24 - Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord.

2 Samuel 23:21 And he slew an Egyptian, a goodly man: and the Egyptian had a spear in his hand; but he went down to him with a staff, and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew him with his own spear.

David killed an Egyptian man in battle with a staff and his own spear.

1. The Strength of Faith: How David Overcame an Unbelievable Foe

2. The Power of God: How We Can Reach Beyond Our Fears

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 1 John 4:4 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

2 Samuel 23:22 These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and had the name among three mighty men.

Benaiah, son of Jehoiada, was renowned as one of the three mightiest warriors.

1. The Strength of Faith: Considering the legacy of Benaiah.

2. The Power of Character: Exploring the example of Benaiah.

1. Proverbs 11:16, "A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain knowledge."

2. Jude 1:24, "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

2 Samuel 23:23 He was more honourable than the thirty, but he attained not to the first three. And David set him over his guard.

David assigned a notable man, who was more honorable than the thirty, to lead his guard.

1. The Value of Honor - Exploring the importance of honor in relationships and in leadership.

2. The Power of Loyalty - Emphasizing the importance of loyalty and faithfulness to those in authority.

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - Jesus commissions His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations.

2. 1 Corinthians 11:1 - Follow the example of Christ and be imitators of Him.

2 Samuel 23:24 Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty; Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

Brief Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty, as was Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem.

1. The Benefits of Brotherhood: An Exploration Through 2 Samuel 23:24

2. The Power of Brotherhood: Exploring the Story of Asahel and Joab in 2 Samuel 23:24

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2 Samuel 23:25 Shammah the Harodite, Elika the Harodite,

The passage mentions Shammah and Elika, two Harodites.

1. The power of friendship and loyalty

2. God's provision through unlikely people

1. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

2. Genesis 15:2-3 - But Abram said, Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus? And Abram said, You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.

2 Samuel 23:26 Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite,

This passage mentions two men, Helez the Paltite and Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite.

1. The Faithfulness of God's People - A Study of Helez and Ira

2. The Endurance of Faith - An Examination of Helez and Ira

1. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

2 Samuel 23:27 Abiezer the Anethothite, Mebunnai the Hushathite,

David's Mighty Men were brave and loyal soldiers who fought alongside him in battle.

1. The Importance of Loyalty and Bravery in Life

2. The Power of Unity in Serving God

1. Proverbs 18:24 - "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

2. 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 - "Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God."

2 Samuel 23:28 Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite,

Zalmon and Maharai were two of David's mighty men.

1: David's mighty men were strong and fearless warriors who followed him faithfully.

2: Zalmon and Maharai exemplify the qualities of loyalty and courage.

1: Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 23:29 Heleb the son of Baanah, a Netophathite, Ittai the son of Ribai out of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin,

This passage mentions two men from the tribes of Benjamin and Netophah, Heleb the son of Baanah and Ittai the son of Ribai.

1. The Faithfulness of God's People: The Story of Heleb and Ittai

2. The Strength of Unity: How God Uses Tribal Differences for Good

1. James 2:1-4 - My brothers, showing partiality in your faith is wrong. Do not have the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ with respect of persons. For if a man with gold rings on his fingers and in fine clothing comes into your synagogue, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in; and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothing and say, Come here and sit down in a good place ; and you tell the poor man, Stand there or sit here by my footstool; have you not shown partiality in yourselves and acted unfaithfully?

2. Romans 12:3-5 - For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

2 Samuel 23:30 Benaiah the Pirathonite, Hiddai of the brooks of Gaash,

Benaiah and Hiddai were two heroic warriors from the Bible.

1: Be inspired by the courage of Benaiah and Hiddai as shown in 2 Samuel 23:30.

2: Let us strive to be like the brave men of the Bible, exemplified by Benaiah and Hiddai in 2 Samuel 23:30.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

2 Samuel 23:31 Abialbon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite,

Abialbon the Arbathite and Azmaveth the Barhumite are mentioned in 2 Samuel 23:31.

1. The Faithfulness of Abialbon and Azmaveth: A Look at 2 Samuel 23:31

2. The Power of Dedication: Examples from 2 Samuel 23:31

1. Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

2 Samuel 23:32 Eliahba the Shaalbonite, of the sons of Jashen, Jonathan,

33 Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sharar the Hararite, 34 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maacathite, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite, 35 Hezrai the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite, 36 Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite, 37 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, the armor-bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah, 38 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,

This passage lists the names of the thirty-seven men of David's Mighty Warriors, with their tribal affiliations.

1. Be Brave and Bold: The Courage of David's Mighty Warriors

2. Embrace Your Identity: The Tribes of David's Mighty Warriors

1. Joshua 1:9: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2. Ephesians 2:19-20: So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

2 Samuel 23:33 Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sharar the Hararite,

34 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maacathite, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite,

Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sharar the Hararite, Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite were all listed in 2 Samuel 23:33-34.

1. "The Power of Brotherhood: Lessons from 2 Samuel 23:33-34"

2. "Living Out God's Mission Together: Reflections from 2 Samuel 23:33-34"

1. Acts 2:42-47 - The early church's mission of fellowship and service.

2. Galatians 6:1-5 - Bearing each other's burdens and doing good for one another.

2 Samuel 23:34 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maachathite, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite,

The passage lists four people who were part of David's mighty men.

1. The Mighty Men of David: God's Work Through Ordinary People

2. Being Brave in the Face of Adversity

1. 2 Timothy 2:3, Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

2. Hebrews 11:32-34, And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

2 Samuel 23:35 Hezrai the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite,

Hezrai the Carmelite and Paarai the Arbite are mentioned in 2 Samuel 23:35.

1. The Power of God's Faithful Servants - 2 Samuel 23:35

2. Standing Firm in Faith - 2 Samuel 23:35

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2 Samuel 23:36 Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite,

This passage mentions two men, Igal and Bani, who were warriors from Zobah and Gad respectively.

1. The Courage of Igal and Bani: A Study in Faithful Service to God

2. Trusting in God's Strength: The Example of Igal and Bani

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

2 Samuel 23:37 Zelek the Ammonite, Nahari the Beerothite, armourbearer to Joab the son of Zeruiah,

This passage mentions three people: Zelek the Ammonite, Nahari the Beerothite, and Joab's armorbearer.

1. The Power of Partnership: The Example of Joab and His Armorbearer

2. God's Faithfulness in Providing Support in Difficult Times

1. Ephesians 4:2-3, "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Hebrews 13:6, "So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

2 Samuel 23:38 Ira an Ithrite, Gareb an Ithrite,

Ira and Gareb, both Ithrites, were among David's mighty warriors.

1. The Power of Unity: How Ira and Gareb Demonstrated the Strength in Togetherness

2. The Strength of a Warrior: Why Ira and Gareb Were Among David's Mighty Men

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Psalm 144:1 - "Blessed be the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle."

2 Samuel 23:39 Uriah the Hittite: thirty and seven in all.

This passage states that Uriah the Hittite was part of the thirty-seven mighty warriors.

1. Strength through Unity: The Power of Working Together

2. Examples of Faithfulness and Commitment from the Bible

1. Ephesians 4:1-6 - Unity in the Body of Christ

2. 1 Chronicles 11:41-47 - The Mighty Men of David

2 Samuel chapter 24 recounts David's decision to conduct a census of Israel, the consequences of his action, and the subsequent repentance and intervention by God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel. David, influenced by Satan, decides to count the people in his kingdom (2 Samuel 24:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Joab, David's commander, advises against conducting the census but eventually carries out David's command (2 Samuel 24:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: After nine months and twenty days, Joab returns with the census results. The total number of fighting men in Israel is recorded as 800,000 men capable of bearing arms and 500,000 men in Judah (2 Samuel 24:8).

4th Paragraph: Immediately after receiving the census report, David is struck with guilt for his actions. He confesses to God that he has sinned greatly and pleads for forgiveness (2 Samuel 24:10).

5th Paragraph: God sends Gad the prophet to deliver a message to David. Gad offers him three options for punishment three years of famine, three months fleeing from enemies or three days of pestilence in the land (2 Samuel 24:11-13).

6th Paragraph: David chooses three days of pestilence because he believes it is better to fall into God's hands than into human hands (2 Samuel 24:14).

7th Paragraph: The Lord sends a plague upon Israel from morning until appointed time. It strikes down seventy thousand men throughout the land (2 Samuel 24:15).

8th Paragraph: When the angel reaches Jerusalem about to destroy it, God commands him to cease and tells David through Gad to build an altar on Araunah's threshing floor as an offering for atonement (2 Samuel 24;16-18).

9th Paragraph:The owner Araunah offers his threshing floor and oxen for free as a sacrifice. However, David insists on paying full price so that he can offer burnt offerings without cost (2 Samuel 24;19-25).

In summary, Chapter twenty-four of 2 Samuel presents David's decision to conduct a census, Joab advises against it, but eventually carries out his command. After receiving the results, David feels guilty and confesses his sin, God sends Gad with three options for punishment. David chooses three days of pestilence in which seventy thousand die, When Jerusalem is about to be destroyed, God commands them to stop. David builds an altar on Araunah's threshing floor as an offering for atonement, Araunah offers it for free, but David insists on paying. The In summary, Chapter concludes with burnt offerings made on that altar. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as pride, repentance, divine judgment, and emphasizes seeking forgiveness from God when we err.

2 Samuel 24:1 And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.

The Lord's anger was directed against Israel, prompting him to instruct David to count the people of Israel and Judah.

1. Understanding God's Anger and Its Consequences

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Commands

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 4:10 - Remember the day you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, when he said to me, Assemble the people before me to hear my words so that they may learn to revere me as long as they live in the land and may teach them to their children.

2 Samuel 24:2 For the king said to Joab the captain of the host, which was with him, Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the number of the people.

King David orders Joab to count the people of Israel from Dan to Beersheba.

1. The importance of counting and understanding the size of our community.

2. The importance of fulfilling the orders of our leaders.

1. Numbers 1:2-3 - Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers house, according to the number of names, every male by their polls; from twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

2. Romans 13:1 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Samuel 24:3 And Joab said unto the king, Now the LORD thy God add unto the people, how many soever they be, an hundredfold, and that the eyes of my lord the king may see it: but why doth my lord the king delight in this thing?

Joab questions King David's decision to take a census of the people of Israel.

1. God's Provision: How God Provides for His People

2. Seeking God's Guidance in Decision Making

1. Deuteronomy 7:7-8 The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the Lord loved you.

2. Ephesians 5:10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

2 Samuel 24:4 Notwithstanding the king's word prevailed against Joab, and against the captains of the host. And Joab and the captains of the host went out from the presence of the king, to number the people of Israel.

King David commanded Joab to take a census of Israel, but Joab and the captains of the host reluctantly obeyed.

1. God's commands should be followed, even when they are difficult.

2. Even those in authority must obey God.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Be subject to every human institution, whether it be to the king, as supreme, or to governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right.

2 Samuel 24:5 And they passed over Jordan, and pitched in Aroer, on the right side of the city that lieth in the midst of the river of Gad, and toward Jazer:

The Israelites passed over Jordan and pitched their tents in Aroer, located on the right side of Gad and near Jazer.

1. God's Faithfulness in Our Journey - How God is with us when we cross over from our old life to a new one in Him.

2. The Strength of Our Faith - How our faith can move us forward, even when we are in unfamiliar places.

1. Romans 5:1-2 - Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

2 Samuel 24:6 Then they came to Gilead, and to the land of Tahtimhodshi; and they came to Danjaan, and about to Zidon,

The Israelites traveled to several places including Gilead, the land of Tahtimhodshi, Danjaan, and Zidon.

1. God's Plan is Bigger than Our Problems

2. Going Where God Leads us

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2 Samuel 24:7 And came to the strong hold of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites: and they went out to the south of Judah, even to Beersheba.

This passage describes the journey of David and his army to the stronghold of Tyre and the cities of the Hivites and Canaanites, eventually reaching Beersheba in the south of Judah.

1. The Power of Faith: How David's Faith Led to His Victory Over the Hivites and Canaanites

2. The Power of Perseverance: How David's Commitment to His Cause Led Him to Beersheba

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2 Samuel 24:8 So when they had gone through all the land, they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days.

After nine months and twenty days, the Israelites had completed surveying all of the land and arrived in Jerusalem.

1. God's faithfulness is revealed in his provision of a homeland to His chosen people.

2. We must trust in God's perfect timing and never give up hope.

1. Deuteronomy 11:24 - Every place where you set your foot shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the River Euphrates, even to the Western Sea, shall be your territory.

2. Psalm 105:44 - And He gave them the lands of the nations, and they inherited the labor of the peoples,

2 Samuel 24:9 And Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people unto the king: and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men.

Joab reported to King David that there were a total of 800,000 valiant men in Israel that could fight, and 500,000 of those were from the tribe of Judah.

1. God's Faithfulness in Every Situation - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

2. The Power of Unity in the Body of Christ - Ephesians 4:1-3

1. Numbers 2:1-2 - God commanded the Israelites to organize themselves by tribes and families when traveling.

2. Acts 2:44-45 - The early church shared their resources and possessions in unity with one another.

2 Samuel 24:10 And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

David's repentance after numbering the people.

1: When we make mistakes, God is ready to forgive us if we come to Him in repentance.

2: To make wise decisions, we must always take God's counsel and guidance.

1: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2: Psalm 32:5 - I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

2 Samuel 24:11 For when David was up in the morning, the word of the LORD came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying,

The Word of the Lord came to the prophet Gad in the morning, telling him to tell David something.

1. "The Lord's Timing is Perfect"

2. "God's Word Should Always be Heeded"

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2 Samuel 24:12 Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.

God offers David three things and tells him to choose one of them so He can do it for him.

1. God's Offerings: How God Gives Us Choices to Make in Life.

2. The Power of Choice: How We Can Take Control of Our Lives Through Wise Decisions.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2 Samuel 24:13 So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me.

Gad comes to David and asks him a series of questions about the potential consequences of his actions, seeking advice from David on how to respond.

1: Never make a decision without first consulting God.

2: Seek God's advice in all matters, for He knows the consequences of our actions.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2 Samuel 24:14 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.

David recognizes the Lord's great mercy and decides to put his trust in the Lord rather than in man.

1. Trust God, Not Man - 2 Samuel 24:14

2. God's Mercy is Great - 2 Samuel 24:14

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

2 Samuel 24:15 So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men.

The LORD sent a plague upon Israel from the morning to the evening, resulting in the death of 70,000 people.

1. We must remain humble and obedient to the LORD even in times of distress.

2. God's mercy and justice are both evident in his punishment of Israel.

1. Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

2. Deuteronomy 5:29 Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

2 Samuel 24:16 And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite.

When the angel of the LORD was about to destroy Jerusalem, the LORD intervened and stopped the destruction.

1. God's mercy and compassion towards us even in our darkest moments.

2. God's power to save us from our own destructive tendencies.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 103:8-14 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

2 Samuel 24:17 And David spake unto the LORD when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly: but these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my father's house.

1: We must not forget that our actions have consequences, and that sin is a serious matter.

2: It is important to take responsibility for our own sins and not blame others for our own mistakes.

1: James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2: Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy."

2 Samuel 24:18 And Gad came that day to David, and said unto him, Go up, rear an altar unto the LORD in the threshingfloor of Araunah the Jebusite.

Gad instructed David to build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. The Power of Sacrifice: The Meaning of Giving Up What We Value Most

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Ephesians 5:2 - And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

2 Samuel 24:19 And David, according to the saying of Gad, went up as the LORD commanded.

David followed God's instruction, as told to him by Gad.

1. Obedience to God brings blessings.

2. Heeding the advice of wise counselors is wise.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - Blessings for obedience to God's commandments.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2 Samuel 24:20 And Araunah looked, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him: and Araunah went out, and bowed himself before the king on his face upon the ground.

Araunah saw King David and his servants coming and bowed before them on the ground.

1. The importance of humility and giving honor to those in authority.

2. God's faithfulness in providing for our needs.

1. 1 Peter 2:17 Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

2. Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging bread.

2 Samuel 24:21 And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshingfloor of thee, to build an altar unto the LORD, that the plague may be stayed from the people.

David visits Araunah to purchase his threshing floor in order to build an altar to the LORD in order to stop the plague that has been plaguing the people.

1. How God's Mercy Stopped the Plague - Examining 2 Samuel 24:21 and why David sought to build an altar to the LORD.

2. Sacrifice and Redemption - Exploring the power of sacrifice and how it brings redemption, based on 2 Samuel 24:21.

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

2 Samuel 24:22 And Araunah said unto David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood.

Araunah offers to give his oxen, threshing instruments, and other instruments to King David to offer as a burnt sacrifice.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How to Offer Your Best to God

2. David and Araunah: An Example of Generosity and Obedience

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2 Samuel 24:23 All these things did Araunah, as a king, give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, The LORD thy God accept thee.

Araunah, a king, gave generously to the king of Israel and wished God would accept him.

1. Generous Giving: The Example of Araunah

2. The Blessing of Acceptance: Araunah's Wish

1. 2 Samuel 24:23

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Samuel 24:24 And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

King David bought Araunah's threshingfloor and oxen for fifty shekels of silver, refusing to offer a burnt offering to the Lord without paying for it.

1. The Attitude of Worship - Our attitude towards worship should reflect the attitude of King David, paying for an offering to the Lord and not expecting something for nothing.

2. The Costliness of Obedience - King David was willing to pay a price to obey the Lord, no matter how large or small.

1. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

2 Samuel 24:25 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

David built an altar to the LORD and offered sacrifices, which pleased the LORD and caused the plague to cease in Israel.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Worship

2. God's Mercy in Response to Obedience

1. Psalm 50:14-15 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

2. Jeremiah 33:10-11 Thus says the Lord: In this place of which you say, It is a waste without man or beast, in the cities of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without man or inhabitant or beast, there shall be heard again the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voices of those who sing, as they bring thank offerings to the house of the Lord: Give thanks to the Lord of hosts, for the Lord is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

1 Kings chapter 1 narrates the events surrounding the end of King David's reign and the beginning of Solomon's reign as his successor.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing an aging King David, who is now weak and unable to keep warm. His servants decide to find a young woman named Abishag to care for him (1 Kings 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Adonijah, one of David's sons, decides to proclaim himself king without his father's knowledge. He gathers supporters, including Joab the commander and Abiathar the priest (1 Kings 1:5-10).

3rd Paragraph: Nathan the prophet learns about Adonijah's actions and realizes that this is not God's chosen successor. He advises Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, to inform David and secure Solomon's kingship (1 Kings 1:11-14).

4th Paragraph: Bathsheba enters David's chamber and tells him about Adonijah's self-proclamation as king. She reminds him of his promise that Solomon would be his successor (1 Kings 1:15-21).

5th Paragraph: Nathan confirms Bathsheba's words to David and urges him to act swiftly in appointing Solomon as king before Adonijah consolidates power (1 Kings 1:22-27).

6th Paragraph: David publicly declares Solomon as his chosen successor before all Israel. The people rejoice, blowing trumpets and shouting in celebration (1 Kings 28-40).

7th Paragraph: Adonijah and his guests hear the noise of celebration but are informed about Solomon being anointed king. Fearful for their lives, they disperse (41-53).

In summary, Chapter one of 1 Kings portrays the transition from King David to Solomon, David is old and weak, and Abishag cares for him. Adonijah proclaims himself king, but Nathan advises Bathsheba, Bathsheba informs David, and he publicly declares Solomon as his chosen successor. The people celebrate, Adonijah hears about it and fears for his life. The In summary, Chapter concludes with uncertainty surrounding Adonijah. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as succession, divine choice, loyalty, and highlights the importance of following God-appointed leaders.

1 Kings 1:1 Now king David was old and stricken in years; and they covered him with clothes, but he gat no heat.

King David was old and feeling the effects of aging, yet was still cared for by those around him.

1. Caring for Our Elderly: A Testimony of Devotion

2. Age is Only a Number: The Strength of a Believer

1. Psalm 71:9 - Do not cast me off in the time of old age; do not forsake me when my strength fails.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:1 - Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, I have no pleasure in them.

1 Kings 1:2 Wherefore his servants said unto him, Let there be sought for my lord the king a young virgin: and let her stand before the king, and let her cherish him, and let her lie in thy bosom, that my lord the king may get heat.

King David's servants advise him to find a young virgin to stand in his presence and provide him with physical comfort.

1. The Importance of Physical Comfort and Support in Our Lives

2. The Power of Friendship and Love in Times of Need

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Romans 8:26-27 - Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

1 Kings 1:3 So they sought for a fair damsel throughout all the coasts of Israel, and found Abishag a Shunammite, and brought her to the king.

The court of King David searched for a fair maiden throughout Israel and found Abishag from Shunem to be brought to the king.

1. The Power Of Beauty: Examining Abishag's Journey To King David's Court

2. Finding Strength In Adversity: Abishag's Story As A Guide For Women

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 - An example of a virtuous woman.

2. Ruth 1:16-18 - An example of a woman who was loyal to her family and demonstrated faith in God.

1 Kings 1:4 And the damsel was very fair, and cherished the king, and ministered to him: but the king knew her not.

The damsel was beautiful and served the king faithfully, but the king did not recognize her.

1. Recognizing God's servants - 1 Kings 1:4

2. Serving faithfully despite lack of recognition - 1 Kings 1:4

1. Matthew 25:21 - His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

1 Kings 1:5 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him.

Adonijah proclaimed himself King and assembled a large entourage.

1. The danger of pride and the importance of humility.

2. The danger of selfish ambition and the importance of serving others.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

1 Kings 1:6 And his father had not displeased him at any time in saying, Why hast thou done so? and he also was a very goodly man; and his mother bare him after Absalom.

David's son Absalom was a good looking man and was born after David asked why his mother had done so.

1. The importance of asking questions and seeking understanding.

2. God's grace and mercy, even in the midst of our shortcomings.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

1 Kings 1:7 And he conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah, and with Abiathar the priest: and they following Adonijah helped him.

Adonijah received help from Joab and Abiathar in his plan.

1. We need to be aware of the influences around us and make sure we have godly people in our lives.

2. We must be careful not to be influenced by negative people in our lives.

1. Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

2. James 1:5-6 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

1 Kings 1:8 But Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shimei, and Rei, and the mighty men which belonged to David, were not with Adonijah.

Adonijah attempted to take the throne of Israel, but Zadok the priest, Benaiah, Nathan the prophet, Shimei, Rei, and David's mighty men refused to support him.

1. God will raise up people to oppose evil, even when it is in authority.

2. Standing firm in our faith can be hard, but it is worth it.

1. Proverbs 28:1: "The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9: "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world."

1 Kings 1:9 And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zoheleth, which is by Enrogel, and called all his brethren the king's sons, and all the men of Judah the king's servants:

Adonijah sacrificed animals and invited all the king's sons and all the men of Judah to a feast.

1. "God's Blessing and Provision in Adonijah's Sacrifice"

2. "The Power of Invitation and Fellowship"

1. Psalm 34:8 - "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."

1 Kings 1:10 But Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, and the mighty men, and Solomon his brother, he called not.

King David did not call Nathan the prophet, Benaiah, Solomon his brother, or the mighty men when making an important decision.

1. The importance of consulting wise counsel when making decisions.

2. Listening to the voice of the Lord and not relying on our own understanding.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach.

1 Kings 1:11 Wherefore Nathan spake unto Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, Hast thou not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith doth reign, and David our lord knoweth it not?

Nathan informs Bathsheba that Adonijah, son of Haggith, is attempting to take over the throne, unbeknownst to King David.

1. The Importance of Obedience: A Study of 1 Kings 1:11

2. The Power of Discernment: A Study of 1 Kings 1:11

1. Genesis 17:1 - When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

1 Kings 1:12 Now therefore come, let me, I pray thee, give thee counsel, that thou mayest save thine own life, and the life of thy son Solomon.

David is urging Adonijah to save his own and Solomon's life.

1. The importance of heeding wise counsel.

2. The power of humility in protecting our lives.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 15:33 - The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

1 Kings 1:13 Go and get thee in unto king David, and say unto him, Didst not thou, my lord, O king, swear unto thine handmaid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne? why then doth Adonijah reign?

Adonijah is reigning in place of David's son Solomon, despite David's promise that Solomon would succeed him on the throne.

1. God's Promises Are Always Fulfilled

2. Trusting in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

1 Kings 1:14 Behold, while thou yet talkest there with the king, I also will come in after thee, and confirm thy words.

Adonijah is seeking authority from King David to be the next king, and is asking for Bathsheba's help. Bathsheba agrees to help him, but warns him that she will follow up with the king to confirm his request.

1. God can use anyone, no matter their age or experience, to bring about His plans.

2. We must have faith in God's plan and trust that He will provide what is necessary for us to succeed.

1. 1 Kings 1:14 - Behold, while thou yet talkest there with the king, I also will come in after thee, and confirm thy words.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Kings 1:15 And Bathsheba went in unto the king into the chamber: and the king was very old; and Abishag the Shunammite ministered unto the king.

Bathsheba entered the chamber of the elderly King, where Abishag the Shunammite served him.

1. The importance of serving the elderly with love and care.

2. God's providence in caring for those in need.

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Psalm 71:9 - Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone.

1 Kings 1:16 And Bathsheba bowed, and did obeisance unto the king. And the king said, What wouldest thou?

Passage Bathsheba bows before the king and he asks her what she wants.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Submission to Authority Can Lead to Blessing

2. God's Plan for Our Lives: Learning to Seek His Will

1. Ephesians 5:21-24 - Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

1 Kings 1:17 And she said unto him, My lord, thou swarest by the LORD thy God unto thine handmaid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne.

Bathsheba reminded David of his promise that Solomon would become king after him and would sit on his throne.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2. The importance of honoring our commitments.

1. Galatians 4:4-5 - "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

1 Kings 1:18 And now, behold, Adonijah reigneth; and now, my lord the king, thou knowest it not:

Adonijah has taken the throne without the king's knowledge.

1. God Is Still in Control - Even when it seems like our lives are spinning out of control, God is still in control and can use any situation for our good.

2. Relying on the Lord - In times of confusion and chaos, it's important to trust God and rely on Him for guidance and direction.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

1 Kings 1:19 And he hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the sons of the king, and Abiathar the priest, and Joab the captain of the host: but Solomon thy servant hath he not called.

King David had a lavish feast and invited everyone but Solomon, his son.

1. The importance of humility and obedience in the face of adversity.

2. The value of wisdom and discernment in honoring God's chosen one.

1. Proverbs 15:33 - "The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility."

2. Acts 13:22 - "And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will."

1 Kings 1:20 And thou, my lord, O king, the eyes of all Israel are upon thee, that thou shouldest tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him.

King David is nearing the end of his life and his son Adonijah is attempting to take the throne, but the people of Israel turn to David and ask him to decide who will succeed him.

1. God gives us a chance to decide our destiny, so don't take it for granted.

2. We have a responsibility to make sure our legacy leaves a lasting impact.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:17 - "Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should you die before your time?"

2. Proverbs 13:22 - "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous."

1 Kings 1:21 Otherwise it shall come to pass, when my lord the king shall sleep with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon shall be counted offenders.

Adonijah, the son of King David, fears that if the king should die, he and his son Solomon will be viewed as offenders.

1. God's plan for our lives is greater than our own.

2. We must be humble and accept God's will even if it does not align with our own.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

1 Kings 1:22 And, lo, while she yet talked with the king, Nathan the prophet also came in.

Nathan the prophet arrived while Queen Bathsheba was still speaking with King David.

1. We can depend on the Lord to provide timely answers to our prayers.

2. God will always send us the help we need in our time of need.

1. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Kings 1:23 And they told the king, saying, Behold Nathan the prophet. And when he was come in before the king, he bowed himself before the king with his face to the ground.

Nathan the prophet was summoned to appear before King David and demonstrated humility by bowing to him with his face to the ground.

1. Showing Respect: The Story of Nathan and King David

2. Humility: A Lesson from Nathan and King David

1. Philippians 2:3-8 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

2. Proverbs 15:33 - The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

1 Kings 1:24 And Nathan said, My lord, O king, hast thou said, Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne?

Nathan questioned King David's decision to make Adonijah his successor and ruler after his death.

1. God's will is supreme and it is important to obey and accept it with humility.

2. God's plan for our lives is greater than our own and we need to trust Him with our hearts.

1. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

1 Kings 1:25 For he is gone down this day, and hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the king's sons, and the captains of the host, and Abiathar the priest; and, behold, they eat and drink before him, and say, God save king Adonijah.

Adonijah held a royal feast and invited the king's sons, the captains of the host, and Abiathar the priest to celebrate his kingship.

1. God's sovereignty in the midst of our pride and arrogance

2. The danger of believing we are in control of our own destiny

1. Proverbs 16:18-19 - Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be humble and wise than to be haughty and proud.

2. James 4:13-16 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

1 Kings 1:26 But me, even me thy servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and thy servant Solomon, hath he not called.

King David's servants, including Zadok the priest, Benaiah, and Solomon, were summoned to be with him in his old age.

1. The importance of loyalty and faithfulness in relationships.

2. The importance of honoring our elders.

1. Psalm 71:18 "Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come."

2. Proverbs 16:31 "Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life."

1 Kings 1:27 Is this thing done by my lord the king, and thou hast not shewed it unto thy servant, who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?

King David is about to make his son Solomon the new king of Israel. He has not informed his servant, Adonijah, of his decision, which causes Adonijah to question the king.

1. God's plans are not always what we expect; trust in His will.

2. It is important to follow the commands of the Lord, even when we don't understand the reasoning.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

2. James 4:13-14 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

1 Kings 1:28 Then king David answered and said, Call me Bathsheba. And she came into the king's presence, and stood before the king.

King David called for Bathsheba and she came before him.

1. God's plan is greater than our own.

2. We must always be obedient to God's will.

1. Romans 12:2 "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. Philippians 4:5 "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."

1 Kings 1:29 And the king sware, and said, As the LORD liveth, that hath redeemed my soul out of all distress,

King David swears to God, thanking Him for delivering him out of distress.

1. We should be thankful to God, even in times of distress.

2. God has the power to redeem us from all our troubles.

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 1:30 Even as I sware unto thee by the LORD God of Israel, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead; even so will I certainly do this day.

King David promised that his son Solomon would succeed him as king, and he kept his promise.

1. The Power of a Promise: Keeping Your Word

2. Faithfulness and the Covenant of God

1. Deuteronomy 7:9, "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5, "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay."

1 Kings 1:31 Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the earth, and did reverence to the king, and said, Let my lord king David live for ever.

Bathsheba bowed to King David and asked for him to live forever.

1. The importance of honoring those in authority.

2. God's faithfulness to His promises.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Psalm 89:30-33 - If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

1 Kings 1:32 And king David said, Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came before the king.

King David summoned Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada to come before him.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers Our Prayers

2. The Importance of Being Faithful to God

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 - But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

1 Kings 1:33 The king also said unto them, Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon:

King David ordered his servants to take his son Solomon and ride on his own mule to Gihon.

1. God uses even the most mundane acts to further His purposes.

2. The importance of honoring our fathers and mothers.

1. Ephesians 6:1-2 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" which is the first commandment with a promise.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

1 Kings 1:34 And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there king over Israel: and blow ye with the trumpet, and say, God save king Solomon.

King David is about to die and so he instructs that Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet should anoint his son Solomon as the next king of Israel and proclaim it with a trumpet blast.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the steady succession of kings in Israel.

2. Even in David's last moments, he was devoted to the Lord and His kingdom.

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-15 - God's Covenant with David.

2. Matthew 22:15-22 - Jesus' teaching on Render unto Caesar.

1 Kings 1:35 Then ye shall come up after him, that he may come and sit upon my throne; for he shall be king in my stead: and I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.

King David appoints Solomon to be king of Israel and Judah and to sit on the throne in his stead.

1. The importance of following God's will in leadership

2. God's faithfulness to provide a leader for His people

1. Acts 13:22 - And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

2. 2 Samuel 5:2 - Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel.

1 Kings 1:36 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, and said, Amen: the LORD God of my lord the king say so too.

Benaiah declared Amen, in agreement with the king, saying that the LORD God of the king also agreed.

1. Knowing God's Will and Following it Faithfully

2. Obedience to God's Word and Obeying Those in Authority

1. 1 Kings 1:36

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise "

1 Kings 1:37 As the LORD hath been with my lord the king, even so be he with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord king David.

The passage highlights God's promise to make Solomon's throne greater than David's.

1. Recognizing God's faithfulness and trusting in His promises.

2. Learning to accept change and trusting God's plans for our lives.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 1:38 So Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, went down, and caused Solomon to ride upon king David's mule, and brought him to Gihon.

Solomon was brought to Gihon by Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and Pelethites, who enabled him to ride on King David's mule.

1. The Power of Faithful Friendships - 1 Kings 1:38

2. The Importance of Honoring Our Predecessors - 1 Kings 1:38

1. Hebrews 13:7 - Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

2. Romans 13:7 - Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

1 Kings 1:39 And Zadok the priest took an horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet; and all the people said, God save king Solomon.

Zadok the priest anointed Solomon as king, and the people celebrated with a shout of joy.

1. The Power of anointing and the Joy of Celebrating

2. The Significance of Priesthood and Kingship

1. Mark 5:15 - And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

2. Psalm 2:6-7 - Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

1 Kings 1:40 And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.

All the people followed King David and celebrated by playing pipes and rejoicing loudly, causing the earth to vibrate with the sound.

1. Surround Yourself with Joyous People - 1 Kings 1:40

2. Let God Move You to Celebrate - 1 Kings 1:40

1. Psalm 100:1-2 - "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs."

2. Psalm 150:3-6 - "Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp. Praise him with timbrel and dancing; praise him with the strings and pipe. Praise him with the clash of cymbals; praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!"

1 Kings 1:41 And Adonijah and all the guests that were with him heard it as they had made an end of eating. And when Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, Wherefore is this noise of the city being in an uproar?

Adonijah and his guests had just finished eating when they heard a trumpet noise and Joab asked why there was so much commotion in the city.

1. We should be mindful of the sounds around us and consider what they could mean.

2. God can use unexpected things to accomplish His purposes.

1. Ephesians 5:15-16 - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

16 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2. Psalm 19:14 - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

1 Kings 1:42 And while he yet spake, behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came; and Adonijah said unto him, Come in; for thou art a valiant man, and bringest good tidings.

Adonijah welcomed Jonathan the priest with praise for being a brave man and bringing good news.

1. Be Brave and Bring Good News

2. True Valor is Being a Messenger of Good News

1. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:15-17 - See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Kings 1:43 And Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, Verily our lord king David hath made Solomon king.

Adonijah asked Jonathan about who the king was and Jonathan replied that King David had made Solomon the king.

1. Obey God's appointed leaders

2. God's sovereignty over humans

1. Romans 13:1-5

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17

1 Kings 1:44 And the king hath sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and they have caused him to ride upon the king's mule:

King David has sent Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and Pelethites to anoint Solomon as king of Israel and have him ride on the king's mule.

1. The importance of honoring God's chosen leaders.

2. The importance of faithfulness and obedience to God's commands.

1. 1 Chronicles 28:20 - "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord.

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

1 Kings 1:45 And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king in Gihon: and they are come up from thence rejoicing, so that the city rang again. This is the noise that ye have heard.

Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anointed Solomon king in Gihon and the city rejoiced with a loud noise.

1. God's chosen one: The anointing of Solomon as King

2. Rejoicing in God's plan: Celebrating the anointing of Solomon

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The Anointing of Jesus

2. Psalm 2 - God's Anointed King

1 Kings 1:46 And also Solomon sitteth on the throne of the kingdom.

Solomon has been made king of Israel and has taken his throne.

1. God's faithfulness: Solomon's coronation reminds us of God's faithfulness to His promises.

2. The importance of humility: Solomon's humility and obedience to his father's wishes shows us the importance of humility.

1. Matthew 6:33: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Proverbs 22:4: "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches and honor and life."

1 Kings 1:47 And moreover the king's servants came to bless our lord king David, saying, God make the name of Solomon better than thy name, and make his throne greater than thy throne. And the king bowed himself upon the bed.

King David bows himself on the bed and his servants bless him by wishing for Solomon's name and throne to be greater than David's.

1. The Importance of Blessing Others

2. The Power of Humility

1. Matthew 5:3-12 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2. Proverbs 16:18-19 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

1 Kings 1:48 And also thus said the king, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which hath given one to sit on my throne this day, mine eyes even seeing it.

The LORD God of Israel has blessed King David's throne and his eyes have seen it.

1. God can provide us with unexpected blessings even in times of difficulty.

2. We should remain faithful to the Lord even when times are hard.

1. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

2. Psalm 37:5 - "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

1 Kings 1:49 And all the guests that were with Adonijah were afraid, and rose up, and went every man his way.

Adonijah's guests were afraid and left the gathering.

1. Fear not, for God is with us.

2. Courage in the face of adversity.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 1 John 4:18 - "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love."

1 Kings 1:50 And Adonijah feared because of Solomon, and arose, and went, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.

Adonijah is afraid of Solomon and grasps the horns of the altar for protection.

1. The Power of Fear: What happens when we are afraid of someone?

2. What does it mean to seek refuge in the altar?

1. Psalm 34:4-7 - I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Romans 15:13 - Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

1 Kings 1:51 And it was told Solomon, saying, Behold, Adonijah feareth king Solomon: for, lo, he hath caught hold on the horns of the altar, saying, Let king Solomon swear unto me today that he will not slay his servant with the sword.

Adonijah was afraid of King Solomon and had caught hold of the horns of the altar, asking for a promise that he would not be killed by the sword.

1. The power of God and His protection in times of fear and danger.

2. The importance of seeking refuge in God in difficult times.

1. Psalm 91:2: I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

2. Isaiah 25:4: For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

1 Kings 1:52 And Solomon said, If he will shew himself a worthy man, there shall not an hair of him fall to the earth: but if wickedness shall be found in him, he shall die.

Solomon declared that if a person is found to be worthy, they would be spared, but if found to be wicked, they would be put to death.

1. We are all capable of redemption, no matter how far we have fallen.

2. God's justice is impartial and will not be denied.

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

1 Kings 1:53 So king Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and bowed himself to king Solomon: and Solomon said unto him, Go to thine house.

King Solomon commanded the newly appointed High Priest Adonijah to leave the altar and return to his home.

1. God's commands should always be obeyed, even when it is difficult.

2. God's will is all-powerful, even if it is not always clear to us.

1. Luke 6:46-49 - Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

1 Kings chapter 2 continues the narrative of King David's final instructions to Solomon and the subsequent actions taken by Solomon as he solidifies his reign.

1st Paragraph: As David's death approaches, he instructs Solomon to be strong, observe God's commandments, and act with wisdom. He reminds Solomon of specific individuals who had wronged him and advises him on how to deal with them (1 Kings 2:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: After David's death, Adonijah seeks Bathsheba's help in requesting Abishag as his wife. However, Solomon perceives this as a threat to his reign and orders Adonijah's execution (1 Kings 2:10-25).

3rd Paragraph: Next, Solomon deals with Joab, who had supported Adonijah. Due to Joab's past treachery and murders committed during peacetime, Solomon orders his execution (1 Kings 2:28-35).

4th Paragraph: Shimei, who had previously cursed David during Absalom's rebellion but was spared by David later on, is summoned by Solomon. Shimei violates the terms of his release by leaving Jerusalem without permission. Consequently, he is put to death (1 Kings 2:36-46).

5th Paragraph: The chapter ends with a summary of the kingdom under Solomon's rule. His throne is firmly established; his officials include Benaiah as commander of the army and Zadok as high priest (1 Kings 2:46).

In summary, Chapter two of 1 Kings depicts David's final instructions to Solomon, David advises him on leadership, gives guidance on dealing with specific individuals. After David's death, Solomon executes Adonijah, Solomon also deals with Joab due to past treachery. Shimei is put to death for violating the terms of his release, The In summary, Chapter concludes with a summary of Solomon s reign. His throne is established, and key officials are appointed. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as succession, justice, and establishing authority in a new reign.

1 Kings 2:1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

David, nearing the end of his life, charges his son Solomon with important instructions.

1. "A Legacy of Faith: How We Can Learn from the Charge of David to Solomon"

2. "Preparing Our Hearts and Minds for the Journey Ahead"

1. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding.

1 Kings 2:2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;

Solomon, on the brink of death, encourages his son to be strong and to act like a responsible man.

1. The Power of Encouragement: Embracing the Strength Within

2. Growing in Wisdom and Maturity: The Path to Becoming a Responsible Man

1. Proverbs 3:3-4 "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man."

2. Romans 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

1 Kings 2:3 And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

Solomon is instructed to keep the laws of God in order to prosper in all he does.

1. Walk in God's ways and be blessed.

2. Obey God's commandments and experience His joy.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

2. Romans 2:7-8 - To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life. But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath.

1 Kings 2:4 That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

Solomon requests that the Lord continue His promise of a man on the throne of Israel if his children take heed to their way and walk before the Lord in truth with all their heart and soul.

1: We must all strive to live a life that is pleasing to God.

2: We must always remember that God is faithful and He will keep His promises.

1: James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2: Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

1 Kings 2:5 Moreover thou knowest also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, and what he did to the two captains of the hosts of Israel, unto Abner the son of Ner, and unto Amasa the son of Jether, whom he slew, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle that was about his loins, and in his shoes that were on his feet.

Joab, the son of Zeruiah, killed the two captains of the armies of Israel, Abner and Amasa, in a peaceful setting and wore their blood on his girdle and his shoes.

1. God's justice will prevail in all situations

2. We must remain humble and obedient to God's will

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Kings 2:6 Do therefore according to thy wisdom, and let not his hoar head go down to the grave in peace.

Solomon advises his son Rehoboam to be wise in his decisions so that his father, King David, can die peacefully.

1. God calls us to make wise decisions.

2. Honor your father and mother.

1. Proverbs 1:5 - "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance."

2. Ephesians 6:1-2 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise."

1 Kings 2:7 But shew kindness unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table: for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom thy brother.

King David instructs Solomon to show kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite and to allow them to eat at his table as they provided assistance to him when he was in exile due to Absalom's rebellion.

1. God calls us to be generous and offer hospitality to those who have helped us.

2. We can learn from King David's example of gratitude to those who have aided him in his time of need.

1. Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus instructs his followers to extend hospitality to the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

2. Romans 12:13 - We should share with God's people who are in need. Be hospitable.

1 Kings 2:8 And, behold, thou hast with thee Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite of Bahurim, which cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim: but he came down to meet me at Jordan, and I sware to him by the LORD, saying, I will not put thee to death with the sword.

King David is warning his son Solomon about Shimei, a Benjamite of Bahurim, who had cursed David when he went to Mahanaim but had come down to meet him at the Jordan river. David swore to Shimei by the Lord that he would not put him to death with the sword.

1. The power of forgiveness: How David chose to forgive Shimei's grievous curse.

2. The importance of keeping one's word: How David kept his promise to Shimei despite the circumstances.

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2. Luke 6:37 - Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

1 Kings 2:9 Now therefore hold him not guiltless: for thou art a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood.

King Solomon orders his court to execute a man for an unspecified crime.

1. God is a Just Judge: Romans 2:2-4

2. The Sin of Murder: Exodus 20:13

1. Ecclesiastes 8:12 - Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him.

2. Psalm 106:38 - And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood.

1 Kings 2:10 So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

David passed away and was buried in the city of David.

1. The importance of living a life that will be remembered after our passing.

2. God's faithfulness to David in providing a burial place in the city of David.

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-17 - God's promise to establish a kingdom for David and his descendants.

2. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

1 Kings 2:11 And the days that David reigned over Israel were forty years: seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem.

David reigned as King of Israel for 40 years, seven of which were in Hebron and 33 in Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Faith: The Story of David's Long Reign

2. God's Faithfulness in the Life of David

1. 2 Samuel 5:4-5 - David is anointed King of Israel at Hebron

2. Psalm 89:20-24 - God's promise to David to establish his throne forever

1 Kings 2:12 Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly.

Solomon took his father, David's, throne and his kingdom was greatly established.

1. The importance of honoring our fathers and mothers.

2. The power of an established kingdom.

1. Proverbs 1:8-9, "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck."

2. Psalm 47:8, "God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne."

1 Kings 2:13 And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, Comest thou peaceably? And he said, Peaceably.

Adonijah, the son of Haggith, visited Bathsheba, the mother of Solomon, and asked if he could enter peaceably.

1. The Power of a Peaceful Presence

2. The Importance of Asking Permission

1. Isaiah 2:4 - They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

1 Kings 2:14 He said moreover, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And she said, Say on.

Passage: King David was nearing the end of his life and he called his son Solomon to him. He told Solomon to be strong and courageous, and to be careful to obey the laws of God. He also said to Solomon, "I have something to say to you."

King David calls his son Solomon to him before he passes away and encourages him to be strong and follow God's laws. He then tells Solomon that he has something to say.

1. Living a Life of Obedience - Discussing the importance of following God's laws as King David encouraged his son Solomon to do.

2. Faith and Strength - Exploring how faith in God can give us the strength to do what is right.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

1 Kings 2:15 And he said, Thou knowest that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign: howbeit the kingdom is turned about, and is become my brother's: for it was his from the LORD.

Solomon acknowledges that the kingdom has been taken from him and given to his brother, because it was God's will.

1. Recognizing God's Sovereignty in Life

2. Trusting in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 2:16 And now I ask one petition of thee, deny me not. And she said unto him, Say on.

King David requests a favor from Bathsheba, who agrees to hear him out.

1. God is Always There to Hear Us Out

2. Don't Be Afraid to Ask For Help

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

2. James 4:2-3 - You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

1 Kings 2:17 And he said, Speak, I pray thee, unto Solomon the king, (for he will not say thee nay,) that he give me Abishag the Shunammite to wife.

Adonijah requests King Solomon to give him Abishag the Shunammite as his wife.

1. God's plan is perfect and all-encompassing.

2. Abiding in God's will leads to true prosperity.

1. Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in a person s heart, but it is the Lord s purpose that prevails.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

1 Kings 2:18 And Bathsheba said, Well; I will speak for thee unto the king.

Bathsheba agrees to speak on behalf of someone to the king.

1. Speak up for yourself, even when it is intimidating.

2. Have faith that you will be heard.

1. Proverbs 31:8 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 2:19 Bathsheba therefore went unto king Solomon, to speak unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand.

Bathsheba went to King Solomon to speak on behalf of Adonijah, and the King welcomed her and gave her a seat of honour.

1. The importance of honouring our elders

2. Being a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves

1. Ephesians 6:2 - Honour your father and mother

2. Proverbs 31:8 - Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves

1 Kings 2:20 Then she said, I desire one small petition of thee; I pray thee, say me not nay. And the king said unto her, Ask on, my mother: for I will not say thee nay.

A mother asked the king for a small request and he agreed to fulfill it.

1. God will always fulfill our requests if they are in line with His will.

2. Every request we make should be made with humility and respect.

1. James 4:3 - You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

2. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

1 Kings 2:21 And she said, Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah thy brother to wife.

Solomon grants a request from his mother Bathsheba to give Abishag, the Shunammite, to Adonijah as his wife.

1. The Power of a Mother s Request: A Study of 1 Kings 2:21

2. How God Honors the Requests of Mothers: A Look at 1 Kings 2:21

1. Proverbs 31:28-31 - Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all. Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

2. Luke 1:46-48 - And Mary said: My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me holy is his name.

1 Kings 2:22 And king Solomon answered and said unto his mother, And why dost thou ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? ask for him the kingdom also; for he is mine elder brother; even for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah.

King Solomon responds to his mother's request for Adonijah, asking why she doesn't also ask for the Kingdom, since Adonijah is his elder brother.

1. The Importance of Understanding Your Place in the Family

2. The Need for Humility in Leadership

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaches the importance of not lording it over others, but rather to serve.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall.

1 Kings 2:23 Then king Solomon sware by the LORD, saying, God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah have not spoken this word against his own life.

King Solomon swore an oath in the name of the Lord in response to Adonijah's words.

1. The Power of an Oath - How we should take our words seriously and how our words can have consequences.

2. The Importance of Keeping Promises - The importance of honoring our commitments and not taking them lightly.

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

1 Kings 2:24 Now therefore, as the LORD liveth, which hath established me, and set me on the throne of David my father, and who hath made me an house, as he promised, Adonijah shall be put to death this day.

Solomon orders the death of Adonijah for attempting to usurp the throne.

1. The consequences of flattery and selfish ambition.

2. The power of God to establish His chosen leaders.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Psalm 89:20 - I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.

1 Kings 2:25 And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him that he died.

Passage King Solomon sent Benaiah to execute a man and he died.

1. The Power of Authority: Exploring the Message of 1 Kings 2:25

2. Choosing Obedience: The Impact of 1 Kings 2:25

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

2. Acts 5:29 - Peter and the other apostles replied: We must obey God rather than human beings!

1 Kings 2:26 And unto Abiathar the priest said the king, Get thee to Anathoth, unto thine own fields; for thou art worthy of death: but I will not at this time put thee to death, because thou barest the ark of the LORD God before David my father, and because thou hast been afflicted in all wherein my father was afflicted.

King Solomon orders Abiathar the priest to go to his own fields in Anathoth and informs him that he is worthy of death but will not be put to death at this time because of his service to King David.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Examining the Mercy of King Solomon

2. The Value of Service: Understanding Abiathar's Obedience and Sacrifice

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Hebrews 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Kings 2:27 So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest unto the LORD; that he might fulfil the word of the LORD, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.

Solomon removed Abiathar from being priest of the Lord in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.

1. The Importance of Following God's Word

2. The Strength of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Psalm 119:89 - "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

1 Kings 2:28 Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he turned not after Absalom. And Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.

Joab heard news that caused him to flee to the Tabernacle of the Lord and grasp the horns of the altar.

1. The Power of Refuge in God: Finding Strength in Troubled Times

2. The Power of Repentance: Turning from Wrongdoing and Seeking Redemption

1. Psalm 34:17-20 - "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. "

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. "

1 Kings 2:29 And it was told king Solomon that Joab was fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD; and, behold, he is by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, fall upon him.

King Solomon heard that Joab had fled to the tabernacle of the LORD and was near the altar. He then sent Benaiah to capture him.

1. God's protection is not a shield against consequences of our actions.

2. When we seek God's protection, we must also be ready to accept His will.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

2. Proverbs 26:27 - Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, and a stone will come back on the one who starts it rolling.

1 Kings 2:30 And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me.

Benaiah was sent by the king to bring Joab to the tabernacle of the LORD, but Joab refused and said he would die there.

1. The Power of Our Choices; exploring the consequences of decisions, as seen in Joab's response to Benaiah.

2. Overcoming Fear; how to recognize when our fear is preventing us from standing in our faith, as seen through Joab's response to the king's command.

1. 1 Kings 2:30 - And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

1 Kings 2:31 And the king said unto him, Do as he hath said, and fall upon him, and bury him; that thou mayest take away the innocent blood, which Joab shed, from me, and from the house of my father.

King David orders his son Solomon to execute Joab for the innocent blood he shed.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Sin

2. The Importance of Forgiveness and Reconciliation

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. James 2:13 - For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

1 Kings 2:32 And the LORD shall return his blood upon his own head, who fell upon two men more righteous and better than he, and slew them with the sword, my father David not knowing thereof, to wit, Abner the son of Ner, captain of the host of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the host of Judah.

King David's son Solomon orders the death of two innocent men, Abner and Amasa, without his father's knowledge.

1. The importance of discerning justice in difficult situations.

2. The consequences of making hasty decisions without wisdom.

1. Proverbs 16:9 "In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps."

2. James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

1 Kings 2:33 Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed for ever: but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace for ever from the LORD.

God promised David that his house and throne would have peace forever from the Lord.

1. The Peace Promised to David: A Reminder of God s Faithfulness

2. Joab's Punishment: Consequences for Disobedience

1. Psalm 132:11 - The Lord has sworn an oath to David, a sure oath He will not revoke: One of your own descendants I will place on your throne.

2. 2 Samuel 7:16 - Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

1 Kings 2:34 So Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up, and fell upon him, and slew him: and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness.

Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, killed Solomon's successor and buried him in his own house in the wilderness.

1. The importance of obedience to God's will even if it involves difficult tasks.

2. The consequences of disobedience and sin.

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

1 Kings 2:35 And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his room over the host: and Zadok the priest did the king put in the room of Abiathar.

Passage King Solomon appointed Benaiah as commander of the army and Zadok as high priest, replacing Abiathar.

1. The importance of humility and wisdom in leadership.

2. The power of God to fill our roles and needs.

1. Proverbs 15:33 - The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

1 Kings 2:36 And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Build thee an house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and go not forth thence any whither.

King David commanded Shimei to build a house in Jerusalem and stay there, not leaving for any other place.

1. A life of service must be lived in one s home city.

2. Obeying God s commands brings blessings even in difficult times.

1. Hebrews 13:14 - For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

2. Psalm 46:4 - There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God.

1 Kings 2:37 For it shall be, that on the day thou goest out, and passest over the brook Kidron, thou shalt know for certain that thou shalt surely die: thy blood shall be upon thine own head.

Solomon warns his son, Rehoboam, that if he crosses the Brook Kidron, he will die and be responsible for his own death.

1. The Power of Choice - The consequences of making wrong decisions

2. Taking Responsibility for our Actions - Owning up to our mistakes

1. Proverbs 16:25 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

1 Kings 2:38 And Shimei said unto the king, The saying is good: as my lord the king hath said, so will thy servant do. And Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days.

Shimei agrees to abide by what King Solomon has said and lives in Jerusalem for a long period of time.

1. The importance of keeping promises and commitments.

2. Fulfilling the Lord's will in our lives.

1. Matthew 5:33-37, "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.' But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

2. Romans 12:1-2, Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Kings 2:39 And it came to pass at the end of three years, that two of the servants of Shimei ran away unto Achish son of Maachah king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, Behold, thy servants be in Gath.

Passage Two of Shimei's servants ran away and told him they were in Gath after three years.

1. The importance of faithfulness, even in difficult times

2. The power of perseverance in pursuing our goals

1. Matthew 25:21 - His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1 Kings 2:40 And Shimei arose, and saddled his ass, and went to Gath to Achish to seek his servants: and Shimei went, and brought his servants from Gath.

Shimei saddled his donkey and traveled to Gath to find his servants, and succeeded in bringing them back with him.

1. God will always lead us to our destiny if we seek Him.

2. Our faith in God will help us overcome any obstacle.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

1 Kings 2:41 And it was told Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and was come again.

Solomon is informed that Shimei has gone to Gath and come back to Jerusalem.

1. The importance of faithfulness and loyalty to God.

2. The value of keeping promises.

1. Hebrews 10:23-25 - Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

2. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

1 Kings 2:42 And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Did I not make thee to swear by the LORD, and protested unto thee, saying, Know for a certain, on the day thou goest out, and walkest abroad any whither, that thou shalt surely die? and thou saidst unto me, The word that I have heard is good.

Passage King Solomon called for Shimei and reminded him of the oath he had made to not leave the city and warned him that if he did, he would be killed.

1. How Should We Keep Our Promises?

2. The Seriousness of Oaths.

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.

1 Kings 2:43 Why then hast thou not kept the oath of the LORD, and the commandment that I have charged thee with?

King Solomon asked why his adviser, Joab, had not kept his oath to the Lord and the commandment he had been given.

1. Oaths of Obedience to God: What Does the Bible Teach?

2. Trustworthiness in God's Service: A Biblical Perspective

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple Yes or No. Otherwise you will be condemned.

1 Kings 2:44 The king said moreover to Shimei, Thou knowest all the wickedness which thine heart is privy to, that thou didst to David my father: therefore the LORD shall return thy wickedness upon thine own head;

King Solomon warned Shimei that God would punish him for the wickedness he had committed against King David.

1. We must always remember that God is in control and will ultimately judge us for our wickedness.

2. We must recognize that our actions have consequences, both in this life and the next.

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Matthew 7:2 - For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

1 Kings 2:45 And king Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before the LORD for ever.

King Solomon is blessed and the throne of David will be established before the Lord forever.

1. The Blessed King: A Look at the Legacy of King Solomon

2. Establishing the Throne of David: God's Eternal Covenant

1. 2 Samuel 7:16 - And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

2. Psalm 89:3-4 - I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations.

1 Kings 2:46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; which went out, and fell upon him, that he died. And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

King Solomon commanded Benaiah to kill someone, and in doing so, Solomon's kingdom was established.

1. "The Cost of Establishing a Kingdom"

2. "The Price of Loyalty"

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Acts 5:29 - "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

1 Kings chapter 3 highlights Solomon's wisdom and his famous encounter with God, where he requests wisdom to govern the people of Israel.

1st Paragraph: Solomon forms a marriage alliance with Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, by marrying his daughter. This establishes a political relationship between Israel and Egypt (1 Kings 3:1).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then mentions that there was no suitable place to offer sacrifices since the temple had not yet been built. As a result, the people offered sacrifices on high places (1 Kings 3:2-4).

3rd Paragraph: Solomon travels to Gibeon, where there was a prominent high place used for worship. There he offers a thousand burnt offerings to God (1 Kings 3:4-5).

4th Paragraph: That night, God appears to Solomon in a dream and tells him to ask for whatever he desires. Solomon humbly acknowledges his youth and lack of experience in leading God's chosen people (1 Kings 3:5-7).

5th Paragraph: Despite his youthfulness, Solomon recognizes the weighty responsibility placed upon him as king. He asks for an understanding heart or wisdom to discern between good and evil in order to govern justly (1 Kings 3:9).

6th Paragraph: God is pleased with Solomon's request for wisdom rather than personal gain or power. He grants him exceptional wisdom beyond any other person who has lived before or after him (1 Kings 3:10-14).

7th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with an example of Solomon's wise judgment when two women come before him claiming ownership of a baby. Through keen insight, he determines the true mother by suggesting dividing the child in half but seeing the real mother's selfless love (1 Kings 3;16-28).

In summary, Chapter three of 1 Kings portrays Solomon's encounter with God, Solomon forms alliances, and worship occurs on high places. He offers sacrifices at Gibeon, and God appears to him in a dream, God invites Solomon to ask for anything. Solomon requests wisdom to govern justly, God is pleased with this request and grants exceptional wisdom. The In summary, Chapter concludes with an example of Solomon s wise judgment. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as humility, wisdom, divine guidance, and highlights the importance of seeking godly discernment in leadership roles.

1 Kings 3:1 And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall of Jerusalem round about.

Solomon formed an alliance with Pharaoh, King of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter as his wife. He brought her to Jerusalem where he built a house for her and completed the construction of the House of the Lord and the walls of Jerusalem.

1. The Strength of Divine Alliances

2. The Wisdom of King Solomon

1. Proverbs 11:14 & 14:1 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors, there is safety. Every wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

1 Kings 3:2 Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the LORD, until those days.

In the time of King Solomon, there was no temple that had been built to honor the Lord, so the people were sacrificing in high places.

1. The Importance of Building a House of Worship

2. The Heart of Worship: Where and How We Worship

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - You shall seek the place that the LORD your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there.

2. Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

1 Kings 3:3 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

Solomon loved the LORD and followed the statutes of his father David, but he offered sacrifices and burned incense on high places.

1. The Importance of Following God's Statutes

2. The Temptation to Compromise Our Faith

1. Psalm 119:1-3: Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

2. Romans 12:2: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

1 Kings 3:4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

Passage Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings at the great high place in Gibeon.

1. The Importance of Sacrificial Offerings in Worship

2. The Significance of Gibeon as a Place of Worship

1. Matthew 5:23-24 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

2. Isaiah 1:11-15 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

1 Kings 3:5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

God appeared to Solomon in a dream and asked what he would like to be given.

1. God is faithful and willing to provide for our needs.

2. God's promises are sure and dependable.

1. John 14:13-14 - "Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

2. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

1 Kings 3:6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

God showed great mercy to King David and kept his promise to give him a son to sit on the throne.

1. God's Promise of Mercy is Always True

2. The Power of Keeping Promises

1. Psalm 25:10 - All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

2. James 5:12 - But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

1 Kings 3:7 And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

Solomon, the son of King David, is made king and expresses his humility and lack of understanding.

1. The Strength of Humility - Our greatest strength is in our humility before God.

2. Recognizing Our Limitations - We must recognize our limitations before God that He may provide.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:25 - For the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

1 Kings 3:8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

Solomon asks God for wisdom to lead the people of Israel, a great and innumerable nation.

1. "Living Wisely: What Does it Mean to Lead Wisely?"

2. "The Value of a Multitude: Honoring the Many People We Lead"

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

1 Kings 3:9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

Solomon asks God for an understanding heart to judge God's people, as he is not able to judge them himself.

1. "The Wisdom of Solomon: Seeking Insight from God"

2. "God's Gift of Discernment: How to Judge between Good and Bad"

1. Matthew 7:1-5 "Judge not, that ye be not judged"

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding"

1 Kings 3:10 And the speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing.

Passage Solomon asked the Lord for wisdom and the Lord was pleased.

1. The Power of Praying for Wisdom.

2. God's Blessing of a Wise Heart.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 2:10-11 - "For wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; discretion will watch over you, understanding will guard you."

1 Kings 3:11 And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

Solomon asked for wisdom to govern his kingdom, and God granted it.

1. The Wisdom to Lead: A Study of 1 Kings 3:11

2. Seeking God's Direction: A Reflection on 1 Kings 3:11

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Proverbs 2:6 - "For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding."

1 Kings 3:12 Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

God grants Solomon a wise and understanding heart, making him unlike any other king before or after him.

1. The Power of God's Blessing: How God's Gifts Make Us Unique

2. Wisdom and Understanding from Above: Relying on God's Guidance

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

1 Kings 3:13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

God granted King Solomon riches and honor, making him greater than all other kings.

1. God's Generosity - Recognizing and Appreciating God's Blessings

2. Spiritual Wisdom - The Power of Seeking God's Wisdom

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not;

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

1 Kings 3:14 And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

God promised King Solomon that if he followed God's statutes and commandments just as his father David did, then he would be blessed with a longer life.

1. True blessings come from following God's word.

2. Obedience to God's commandments brings life and joy.

1. Deuteronomy 5:33 - "You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Psalm 119:32 - I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart.

1 Kings 3:15 And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

Solomon had a dream and when he awoke he went to the Ark of the Covenant in Jerusalem to offer burnt and peace offerings and have a feast with all his servants.

1. The Power of Dreams: How to Interpret and Act on Them

2. The Covenant of the Lord: Understanding Its Importance and Our Responsibilities

1. 1 Kings 3:15 - And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

2. Hebrews 9:15 - And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

1 Kings 3:16 Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto the king, and stood before him.

Two women who were prostitutes approached King Solomon for a judgment.

1. The Power of Wise Judgment: Reflections on 1 Kings 3:16

2. The Blessing of Wisdom: How 1 Kings 3:16 Teaches Us to Seek God's Will

1. Proverbs 2:6-8, For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

2. James 1:5, If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

1 Kings 3:17 And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house.

Two women living in the same house gave birth to children in the same house.

1. God brings people together in unexpected ways.

2. God's plans are bigger than our own.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

1 Kings 3:18 And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house.

Two people were in a house together, with no one else present.

1. God's protection is always with us, even in the most isolated places.

2. We can always turn to God in times of need, even when we feel alone.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Kings 3:19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.

A woman inadvertently killed her child by overlaying it in its sleep.

1. The tragedy of carelessness: Lessons from 1 Kings 3:19

2. The importance of attentiveness in parenting: What we can learn from 1 Kings 3:19

1. Proverbs 6:6-8 - Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1 Kings 3:20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.

A woman switched her dead child with King Solomon's son in the middle of the night while the woman was asleep.

1. God's providence is in our darkest moments.

2. We can trust God's sovereignty in our lives and those of our children.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

1 Kings 3:21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear.

A woman's son had died in the night, but upon closer inspection in the morning she realized it was not her own child.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Sorrow

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Job 14:1 "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble."

1 Kings 3:22 And the other woman said, Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son. And this said, No; but the dead is thy son, and the living is my son. Thus they spake before the king.

Two women come before King Solomon with a dispute over a living son and a dead son.

1. Learn the importance of humility and trust in God, as exemplified by King Solomon, in resolving difficult disputes.

2. Understand the power of wise judgement in settling disputes between individuals.

1. Proverbs 16:32 - He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

2. James 1:19-20 - So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1 Kings 3:23 Then said the king, The one saith, This is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead: and the other saith, Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living.

Solomon is presented with two women who both claim to be the mother of a living son, and the other claims her son is dead.

1. The Wisdom of Solomon: How God Gave Us the Gift of Discernment

2. The Power of Faith: How God Gives Us Strength in Difficult Circumstances

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Romans 15:13 - "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

1 Kings 3:24 And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king.

The king asked for a sword to be brought to him.

1. How We Can Learn from the Example of King Solomon

2. The Importance of Being Prepared for the Unknown

1. Proverbs 21:20 - "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."

2. Isaiah 33:6 - "He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure."

1 Kings 3:25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

The king asked for the living child to be divided in two and half to be given to each person.

1. God works in mysterious ways and tests us in times of distress.

2. We must not be tempted to make rash decisions when confronted with difficult situations.

1. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Kings 3:26 Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

A woman with a living child pleaded with the king not to kill her son, while the other woman suggested to divide the child between them.

1. The Power of a Mother's Love

2. Proverbs 3:5-6: Trusting in the Lord's Wisdom

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoicing in Others Joy

2. Psalm 62:5 - Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart

1 Kings 3:27 Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.

The king commanded to give the living child to the mother and not to slay it.

1. The power of love: the importance of loving one's child.

2. Compassion and mercy: why it is important to show mercy.

1. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

1 Kings 3:28 And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment.

King Solomon was known for his wisdom in the eyes of the people of Israel, which was seen in his judgment.

1. The Wisdom of God: Learning to Trust His Judgment

2. The Power of Fear: Respect and Awe for God's Wisdom

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

1 Kings chapter 4 describes the organization and administration of Solomon's kingdom, showcasing his wisdom and the prosperity of Israel during his reign.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by listing Solomon's officials and their respective roles. It mentions key figures such as Azariah as the priest, Zabud as the chief minister, and Ahishar as the palace administrator (1 Kings 4:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative highlights Solomon's wisdom by stating that he surpassed all other kings in knowledge and understanding. It mentions that he spoke proverbs and wrote songs (1 Kings 4:29-34).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter provides details about the extent of Solomon's rule, stating that he reigned over all Israel from Dan to Beersheba. It also lists some of his twelve district governors who provided provisions for his household (1 Kings 4:7-19).

4th Paragraph: The text emphasizes the abundance and prosperity during Solomon's reign. It describes how people throughout Israel enjoyed security, each under their own vine and fig tree, with an abundance of food (1 Kings 4:20-28).

5th Paragraph:The narrative highlights Solomon s wisdom further by describing how people from distant lands came to hear his wisdom firsthand. Queen Sheba is specifically mentioned as one who tests him with difficult questions (1 Kings 4;29-34).

In summary, Chapter four of 1 Kings depicts the organization and administration of Solomon s kingdom, It lists key officials and their roles. Solomon is praised for his surpassing wisdom, and it mentions his proverbs and songs, The extent of Solomon s rule is described, with district governors providing provisions. The In summary, Chapter emphasizes abundance and prosperity in Israel, Solomon s fame attracts visitors, including Queen Sheba, who tests him with difficult questions. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as wise governance, prosperity, and international recognition of Solomon's wisdom.

1 Kings 4:1 So king Solomon was king over all Israel.

King Solomon was made king of Israel.

1. The importance of leadership in the kingdom of God.

2. The faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises.

1. Psalm 72:11 - "May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him."

2. 1 Samuel 8:4-20 - God instructs Samuel to warn the people of Israel about the consequences of having a king.

1 Kings 4:2 And these were the princes which he had; Azariah the son of Zadok the priest,

The passage describes the princes of King Solomon and notes that Azariah was the son of Zadok the priest.

1. The Power of Priesthood: How We Can Follow in the Footsteps of Azariah and Zadok

2. The Relevance of the Bible in Our Lives Today

1. Exodus 28:1-4 Explains the importance of the Priesthood in the Bible

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 Explains how Christ's death changed us and our relationship to God

1 Kings 4:3 Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder.

This passage discusses the servants and scribes who were appointed by King Solomon.

1: God's wisdom is on display when we look to the people He has appointed to serve Him.

2: We too can serve God and His people in the same way King Solomon did, by appointing qualified and trusted individuals.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

1 Kings 4:4 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the host: and Zadok and Abiathar were the priests:

Solomon appointed Benaiah as commander of the army, with Zadok and Abiathar as priests.

1. The Importance of Appointing Leaders with Wisdom

2. The Role of Priests in Ancient Israel

1. Proverbs 14:15-16 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps. One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.

2. Deuteronomy 17:18-20 - And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

1 Kings 4:5 And Azariah the son of Nathan was over the officers: and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal officer, and the king's friend:

Azariah and Zabud were given important positions in King Solomon's court.

1. God rewards those who are faithful to him with positions of power and responsibility.

2. When we choose to serve God, He will use us in powerful ways.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Kings 4:6 And Ahishar was over the household: and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the tribute.

Ahishar was appointed to manage King Solomon's household, and Adoniram was appointed to oversee the tribute.

1. The Importance of Good Stewardship

2. Finding Balance in Serving Others

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - The Parable of the Talents

2. Proverbs 27:23-24 - Know the State of Your Flocks

1 Kings 4:7 And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, which provided victuals for the king and his household: each man his month in a year made provision.

Solomon appointed twelve officers to provide food for him and his household throughout the year.

1. The Importance of Planning Ahead

2. God's Provision of Provision

1. Proverbs 6:6-8, "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest."

2. Matthew 6:25-34, Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

1 Kings 4:8 And these are their names: The son of Hur, in mount Ephraim:

Solomon's success in governing Israel: Solomon had many able leaders to help him administer justice and maintain peace.

Solomon had a number of skilled and capable leaders who assisted him in ruling over Israel and ensuring justice and peace.

1. The Power of Working Together: The importance of collaboration and cooperation in achieving success.

2. The Benefits of Good Leadership: The positive impact that strong leadership can have on a society.

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel, plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

2. Matthew 10:16 - Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

1 Kings 4:9 The son of Dekar, in Makaz, and in Shaalbim, and Bethshemesh, and Elonbethhanan:

Solomon appointed officers to oversee various cities in Israel, including Makaz, Shaalbim, Bethshemesh, and Elonbethhanan.

1. God's Provision Through Appointing Leaders: The Story of Solomon in 1 Kings 4:9

2. The Power of Appointing Leaders: Examples from the Old Testament

1. 2 Chronicles 1:11-13 - And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore. And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

1 Kings 4:10 The son of Hesed, in Aruboth; to him pertained Sochoh, and all the land of Hepher:

Solomon appointed the son of Hesed to govern the land of Aruboth, Sochoh, and Hepher.

1. The Power of Appointment: How God Uses Us to Lead Others

2. The Importance of Recognizing and Serving God's Appointed Leaders

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - "Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

1 Kings 4:11 The son of Abinadab, in all the region of Dor; which had Taphath the daughter of Solomon to wife:

Solomon appointed his daughter Taphath to be the ruler of Dor and its surrounding region, and she was married to Abinadab's son.

1. The Power of Appointment: How Choosing the Right People for the Right Role Can Impact Your Life

2. Making the Most of Your Opportunities: How to Leverage Your Resources and Make the Most of Your Life

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - The Parable of the Talents.

1 Kings 4:12 Baana the son of Ahilud; to him pertained Taanach and Megiddo, and all Bethshean, which is by Zartanah beneath Jezreel, from Bethshean to Abelmeholah, even unto the place that is beyond Jokneam:

Solomon appointed Baana, son of Ahilud, over Taanach, Megiddo, Bethshean, and other cities from Bethshean to Abelmeholah near Jokneam.

1. The Power of Appointing Leaders: How God Uses People to Achieve His Purposes

2. Wisdom in Governance: What We Can Learn from Solomon's Leadership

1. Luke 10:2 - And He said to them, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

2. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rule, the people groan.

1 Kings 4:13 The son of Geber, in Ramothgilead; to him pertained the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead; to him also pertained the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, threescore great cities with walls and brasen bars:

Solomon appointed Geber to rule over the cities of Jair in Gilead, the region of Argob in Bashan, and sixty great cities with walls and bronze bars.

1. How to be a Good Steward of God's Gifts

2. The Power of a Godly Leader

1. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

1 Kings 4:14 Ahinadab the son of Iddo had Mahanaim:

Ahinadab, the son of Iddo, had the city of Mahanaim.

1. God has a plan for each of us, and even if we are born into humble circumstances, he can bless us with great works.

2. No matter where we come from, we can always trust in the Lord and His plans for our lives.

1. Isaiah 55:8-11 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

1 Kings 4:15 Ahimaaz was in Naphtali; he also took Basmath the daughter of Solomon to wife:

Ahimaaz married Basmath, the daughter of Solomon.

1. The Value of Marriage: Learning from Ahimaaz and Basmath

2. The Beauty of Covenant: A Study of the Union of Ahimaaz and Basmath

1. Matthew 19:4-6 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh.

2. Ephesians 5:25-31 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

1 Kings 4:16 Baanah the son of Hushai was in Asher and in Aloth:

The passage mentions Baanah the son of Hushai who lived in Asher and Aloth.

1. The Importance of Having a Godly Heritage

2. Learning to Appreciate Our Roots

1. Exodus 20:12 - Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

1 Kings 4:17 Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar:

Passage Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah was from the tribe of Issachar.

1. A Call To Humility: The Life of Jehoshaphat

2. The Power of God's Selection: Examining the Tribe of Issachar

1. 1 Kings 2:3, "Keep the charge of the LORD your God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn"

2. James 4:10, "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

1 Kings 4:18 Shimei the son of Elah, in Benjamin:

Solomon had 12 district governors over all Israel. Shimei the son of Elah was one of them, governing over the district of Benjamin.

Solomon appointed 12 district governors to rule over Israel, one of them being Shimei the son of Elah who was appointed to govern the district of Benjamin.

1. God has given us all unique gifts and talents to use for His glory.

2. The importance of leadership and the responsibilities that come with it.

1. Psalm 78:72 - So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

2. Ephesians 4:11-13 - And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

1 Kings 4:19 Geber the son of Uri was in the country of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan; and he was the only officer which was in the land.

Geber was the only officer in the country of Gilead which was ruled by Sihon and Og, two Amorite kings.

1. The Power of Having Authority: A Look at Geber's Leadership

2. The Importance of Being the Only Officer: A Study of Geber's Role

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2. 1 Corinthians 12:28 - And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

1 Kings 4:20 Judah and Israel were many, as the sand which is by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking, and making merry.

Judah and Israel were abundant and enjoying life together.

1. Living in Abundance: How to Enjoy Life in Community

2. The Joy of Togetherness: Celebrating Life Through Fellowship

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

1 Kings 4:21 And Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt: they brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life.

Solomon reigned over a vast kingdom from the river to the land of the Philistines and the border of Egypt. These countries brought him presents and served him for the entirety of his life.

1. The Extent of God's Provision for Solomon

2. The Rewards of Faithful Service to God

1. Psalm 72:8-11 - He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

1 Kings 4:22 And Solomon's provision for one day was thirty measures of fine flour, and threescore measures of meal,

Solomon had a large daily food provision.

1. God provides abundantly for us.

2. We should be thankful for God's generous provision.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us about trusting in God's provision.

2. Philippians 4:19 - Our God is the ultimate provider.

1 Kings 4:23 Ten fat oxen, and twenty oxen out of the pastures, and an hundred sheep, beside harts, and roebucks, and fallowdeer, and fatted fowl.

Passage Summarization: Solomon had an abundance of livestock, including 10 fat oxen, 20 oxen from the pastures, 100 sheep, harts, roebucks, fallowdeer, and fatted fowl.

1. Abundance in Christ: Learning to Rejoice in God's Provision

2. Contentment: Finding Satisfaction in God's Blessings

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

1 Kings 4:24 For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphsah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.

Solomon had dominion over all the region from Tiphsah to Azzah and had peace on all sides.

1. The Power of Peace: How to Remain at Peace with Everyone

2. The Power of Dominion: How to Achieve a Place of Leadership

1. Psalm 34:14 - Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

2. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man s ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

1 Kings 4:25 And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.

During the reign of Solomon, Judah and Israel lived in peace and safety, from Dan to Beersheba.

1. Finding peace and safety in God's protection

2. Living in harmony with our neighbors

1. Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

1 Kings 4:26 And Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen.

Solomon had a large army with 40,000 horses for chariots and 12,000 horsemen.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Readiness is Essential to Victory

2. The Blessings of Obedience: How God Rewards His Faithful Followers

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Be strong and courageous; do not be terrified or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

1 Kings 4:27 And those officers provided victual for king Solomon, and for all that came unto king Solomon's table, every man in his month: they lacked nothing.

King Solomon was provided with all the necessary victuals for himself and all who came to his table every month.

1. God's provision is sufficient for all our needs.

2. We can trust that God will provide for us.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on trusting God for our needs.

2. Psalm 23:1-6 - God's provision and care for us.

1 Kings 4:28 Barley also and straw for the horses and dromedaries brought they unto the place where the officers were, every man according to his charge.

Barley and straw were brought to the place where the officers were stationed, with each man in charge of his own supply.

1. God provides for all of our needs, no matter how small.

2. God commands us to work diligently, even in the smallest tasks.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches about not worrying and trusting God for our needs.

2. Philippians 4:10-13 - Paul teaches about contentment in all circumstances.

1 Kings 4:29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore.

God gave Solomon wisdom, understanding, and a large heart, equal to the amount of sand on the sea shore.

1. The Power of Wisdom: Exploring the Wisdom of Solomon

2. The Heart of a Leader: Exploring the Largeness of Heart of Solomon

1. Proverbs 4:7 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

2. 1 Chronicles 22:12 - Only the LORD give thee wisdom and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel, that thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God.

1 Kings 4:30 And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of those living in the east and from Egypt.

1. Wisdom is found in trusting God

2. The power of wisdom in our lives

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

1 Kings 4:31 For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about.

Solomon was renowned for his wisdom, being wiser than all men including Ethan the Ezrahite, Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol.

1. True Wisdom is Found in Seeking God

2. God's Wisdom Transcends Man's

1. Proverbs 2:6-8 - "For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

1 Kings 4:32 And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

Solomon spoke three thousand proverbs and one thousand and five songs.

1. The Wisdom of Solomon: Proverbs and Songs

2. Life Lessons from Solomon's Proverbs

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Psalm 37:30, "The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice."

1 Kings 4:33 And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

Solomon spoke of all aspects of creation, from the cedars of Lebanon to the plants and animals that inhabit the land.

1. The Magnificence of Creation: A Reflection on the Wisdom of Solomon

2. A Call to Stewardship: How We Can Care for the World Around Us

1. Genesis 1:28 - And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:19-20 - For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity. All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

1 Kings 4:34 And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

People from all parts of the world travelled to hear the wisdom of King Solomon.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How wisdom can influence and draw people from all over the world.

2. Following in the Footsteps of Solomon: How to remain humble and wise in the midst of success.

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. James 3:17 - "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

1 Kings chapter 5 focuses on Solomon's preparations for building the temple and his alliance with King Hiram of Tyre.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing how Hiram, the king of Tyre, sent messengers to Solomon after hearing about his reign. Solomon sends a message back, expressing his desire to build a temple for God (1 Kings 5:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Hiram responds favorably to Solomon's request and praises God for choosing him as king over Israel. He agrees to provide cedar and cypress logs from Lebanon for the construction of the temple (1 Kings 5:7-9).

3rd Paragraph: Solomon arranges a deal with Hiram, offering him food supplies in exchange for the timber needed for the temple construction. This agreement is agreed upon and both kings are satisfied (1 Kings 5:10-12).

4th Paragraph: The narrative mentions that Solomon had a massive workforce consisting of thirty thousand laborers from Israel and eighty thousand stonecutters from among the non-Israelite population. They were responsible for quarrying stones and preparing them for building (1 Kings 5:13-18).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by highlighting that all these workers were not slaves but rather skilled craftsmen who worked under careful supervision. They played significant roles in constructing both the temple structure and its furnishings (1 Kings 5;17-18).

In summary, Chapter five of 1 Kings depicts Solomon's preparations for building the temple, Hiram of Tyre responds favorably, providing timber from Lebanon. Solomon arranges an agreement, exchanging food supplies for timber, A large workforce is assembled, including laborers and stonecutters. They work under careful supervision to construct both the temple structure and its furnishings. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as cooperation between nations, the provision of resources, and meticulous planning in carrying out God's instructions.

1 Kings 5:1 And Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants unto Solomon; for he had heard that they had anointed him king in the room of his father: for Hiram was ever a lover of David.

Hiram, the king of Tyre, heard of Solomon's ascension to the throne and sent his servants to congratulate him as he was a great admirer of David.

1. The importance of celebrating the successes of others.

2. The power of admiration and friendship.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

1 Kings 5:2 And Solomon sent to Hiram, saying,

Solomon sends a message to Hiram.

1. The Power of Communication: Solomon's Example

2. The Importance of Friendship: Solomon and Hiram's Relationship

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Kings 5:3 Thou knowest how that David my father could not build an house unto the name of the LORD his God for the wars which were about him on every side, until the LORD put them under the soles of his feet.

David, the father of King Solomon, was unable to build a temple for the Lord due to the wars around him, until the Lord gave him victory over them.

1. Trust in the Lord and He will give you victory in your battles.

2. The Lord will provide strength and guidance in times of adversity.

1. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 28:7, "The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."

1 Kings 5:4 But now the LORD my God hath given me rest on every side, so that there is neither adversary nor evil occurrent.

Solomon has found peace and security from his enemies, and the Lord has given him rest on all sides.

1. God provides rest and peace to those who trust in Him.

2. God can bring security and stability to our lives, even when things seem uncertain.

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

1 Kings 5:5 And, behold, I purpose to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spake unto David my father, saying, Thy son, whom I will set upon thy throne in thy room, he shall build an house unto my name.

Solomon expresses his intention to build a temple to the Lord, as the Lord told his father David he would.

1. God's Plan for a House of Worship

2. Obedience to the Lord's Command

1. 2 Chronicles 6:1-6

2. 1 Chronicles 22:1-19

1 Kings 5:6 Now therefore command thou that they hew me cedar trees out of Lebanon; and my servants shall be with thy servants: and unto thee will I give hire for thy servants according to all that thou shalt appoint: for thou knowest that there is not among us any that can skill to hew timber like unto the Sidonians.

King Solomon requested that cedar trees be cut down from Lebanon and hired Sidonians to do the job.

1. God provides us the resources to do His work.

2. Our abilities and talents are gifts from God to be used for His glory.

1. Romans 12:6-8 - Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

1 Kings 5:7 And it came to pass, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly, and said, Blessed be the LORD this day, which hath given unto David a wise son over this great people.

God has given Solomon wisdom to lead the people.

1: God's blessing is upon us and we must use it to lead others and serve Him faithfully.

2: God's wisdom is an invaluable gift that we must use to glorify Him.

1: James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Proverbs 3:13-14 "Blessed is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold."

1 Kings 5:8 And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, I have considered the things which thou sentest to me for: and I will do all thy desire concerning timber of cedar, and concerning timber of fir.

King Solomon sends a request to King Hiram of Tyre, and Hiram agrees to fulfill Solomon's request for cedar and fir timber.

1. The Power of God-Given Authority: How God uses the authority of kings and rulers to accomplish His purposes.

2. The Value of Friendship: How important it is to foster strong friendships and to honor those relationships.

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Kings 5:9 My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon unto the sea: and I will convey them by sea in floats unto the place that thou shalt appoint me, and will cause them to be discharged there, and thou shalt receive them: and thou shalt accomplish my desire, in giving food for my household.

Solomon requests that cedar and fir trees be brought from Lebanon and transported to the sea, where they will be taken to a location of his choosing.

1. God has given us all resources and abilities to achieve His desires.

2. We must trust in God and His provision to accomplish His will.

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 5:10 So Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees and fir trees according to all his desire.

Solomon desired cedar and fir trees from Hiram, and Hiram complied with his request.

1: God will provide for us even when our requests seem impossible.

2: We should strive to meet the needs of others, even if it requires sacrifice.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: James 2:15-17 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

1 Kings 5:11 And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand measures of wheat for food to his household, and twenty measures of pure oil: thus gave Solomon to Hiram year by year.

Solomon provided Hiram with twenty thousand measures of wheat and twenty measures of oil every year.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Bring Blessing

2. The Benefit of Service: How Doing Right Brings Rewards

1. Romans 12:8 - Whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

2. Proverbs 11:24 25 - One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

1 Kings 5:12 And the LORD gave Solomon wisdom, as he promised him: and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon; and they two made a league together.

God fulfilled his promise to Solomon by blessing him with wisdom and creating a lasting peace between him and Hiram.

1. God is always faithful and will keep his promises

2. The power of peace and unity

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

1 Kings 5:13 And king Solomon raised a levy out of all Israel; and the levy was thirty thousand men.

King Solomon raised a levy of 30,000 men from all of Israel.

1. The Power of Unity - How we can accomplish great things when we are united in purpose.

2. The Calling of God - How we can hear and follow the call of the Lord.

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

1 Kings 5:14 And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month by courses: a month they were in Lebanon, and two months at home: and Adoniram was over the levy.

Solomon sent 10,000 men to Lebanon every month in turn, with Adoniram in charge of the work.

1. The Importance of Work: A Study of 1 Kings 5:14

2. Adoniram's Leadership: A Study of 1 Kings 5:14

1. Proverbs 12:24 - Diligence is the path to success.

2. Philippians 2:12-13 - Work hard and with joy.

1 Kings 5:15 And Solomon had threescore and ten thousand that bare burdens, and fourscore thousand hewers in the mountains;

Solomon had a large workforce of 150,000 people for manual labor.

1. The Power of Strategic Planning - using the example of Solomon's workforce to illustrate the importance of having a plan in place for success.

2. The Blessing of Hard Work - showing how Solomon prospered due to his strong work ethic and the dedication of his workforce.

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

1 Kings 5:16 Beside the chief of Solomon's officers which were over the work, three thousand and three hundred, which ruled over the people that wrought in the work.

Solomon had 3300 officers to oversee the people working on various projects.

1. The Power of Delegation - How Solomon leveraged the help of others to accomplish great works.

2. The Value of Human Relationships - The importance of recognizing the labor and contributions of those around us.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

1 Kings 5:17 And the king commanded, and they brought great stones, costly stones, and hewed stones, to lay the foundation of the house.

King Solomon commanded that large and expensive stones be used to lay the foundation for the house of the Lord.

1. The Foundation of Our Faith: Learning from King Solomon's Example

2. Building on the Rock: Establishing a Solid Foundation for Our Lives

1. Matthew 7:24-27 Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

2. Psalm 118:22-24 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

1 Kings 5:18 And Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders did hew them, and the stonesquarers: so they prepared timber and stones to build the house.

Solomon and Hiram's builders worked together to prepare timber and stones to build the temple.

1. Working together, we can achieve great things.

2. God will provide the resources to build a house of worship.

1. Acts 4:32-35 - Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

1 Kings chapter 6 describes the construction of the temple during Solomon's reign, highlighting its dimensions, materials used, and the intricate details of its interior.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that construction of the temple began in Solomon's fourth year as king, which was 480 years after the Israelites had come out of Egypt. It mentions that this was during the month of Ziv (1 Kings 6:1).

2nd Paragraph: The text provides specific details about the dimensions and structure of the temple. It states that it was built with stone and cedar from Lebanon. The length was sixty cubits, width twenty cubits, and height thirty cubits (1 Kings 6:2-3).

3rd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how skilled craftsmen worked on carving cherubim, palm trees, and flowers into the walls and doors. Additionally, they overlaid the inner walls with gold (1 Kings 6:4-10).

4th Paragraph: The chapter mentions that a smaller room called "the Most Holy Place" was constructed within the temple. This room housed two large cherubim made of olive wood covered in gold (1 Kings 6:16-20).

5th Paragraph:The narrative continues by describing how cedar boards were used to build rooms around the temple complex for various purposes. These rooms included a hallway known as "the nave" (1 Kings 6;15-22).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by stating that it took seven years to complete construction on both Solomon's palace and the temple. It emphasizes how everything was meticulously crafted according to God's instructions (1 Kings 6;37-38).

In summary, Chapter six of 1 Kings depicts the construction of Solomon's temple, It begins in his fourth year as king, using stone and cedar from Lebanon. The dimensions are provided, and skilled craftsmen create intricate designs, Cherubim, palm trees, and flowers adorn its walls. A smaller room called "the Most Holy Place" houses golden cherubim. Rooms are built around the temple complex, including a central hallway. Construction takes seven years, and everything is crafted according to God s instructions. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as reverence for God's dwelling place, attention to detail in worship spaces, and meticulous adherence to divine plans.

1 Kings 6:1 And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.

In the 480th year since the Israelites left Egypt, during the fourth year of Solomon's reign, he began to build the temple of the Lord in the second month, Zif.

1. God's Faithfulness: Building the House of the Lord in the 480th year after the Exodus

2. God's Provision: Constructing the Temple of the Lord in the Fourth Year of Solomon's Reign

1. Exodus 12:40-41 - Now the time that the children of Israel dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt.

2. 2 Chronicles 3:1-2 - Then Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the Lord appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. And he began to build in the second day of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign.

1 Kings 6:2 And the house which king Solomon built for the LORD, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits.

King Solomon built a house for the Lord that was 60 cubits in length, 20 cubits in width, and 30 cubits in height.

1. God's plans are always larger than we can imagine.

2. God's work is greater than anything we can do.

1. Psalms 127:1 (Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.)

2. Ephesians 2:20-21 (built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone...)

1 Kings 6:3 And the porch before the temple of the house, twenty cubits was the length thereof, according to the breadth of the house; and ten cubits was the breadth thereof before the house.

The porch of the temple of the house was 20 cubits long and 10 cubits wide.

1. God desires a place that honors Him.

2. The importance of measuring up to God's standards.

1. Exodus 25:8 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:2 - Then David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, Hear me, my brethren, and my people: As for me, I had in mine heart to build an house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made ready for the building.

1 Kings 6:4 And for the house he made windows of narrow lights.

King Solomon built a temple with small, narrow windows.

1. The Narrow Way: The importance of staying focused on God's plan.

2. Let Your Light Shine: Embracing the narrow windows of opportunity to glorify God.

1. Matthew 7:13-14: Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

2. Revelation 3:7-8: And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens. 8 I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

1 Kings 6:5 And against the wall of the house he built chambers round about, against the walls of the house round about, both of the temple and of the oracle: and he made chambers round about:

Solomon built chambers around the walls of the temple and the oracle.

1. The Importance of Preparation for Worship

2. The beauty of preparing a space for God

1. Exodus 25:8-9, And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

2. Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

1 Kings 6:6 The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad: for without in the wall of the house he made narrowed rests round about, that the beams should not be fastened in the walls of the house.

The house of King Solomon was constructed with walls that featured three different chambers, each increasing in size. Narrowed rests were added to the walls, so the beams could not be fastened.

1. "Building on a Solid Foundation"

2. "The Power of Preparation"

1. Matthew 7:24-25 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

1 Kings 6:7 And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.

The temple of God that King Solomon built was built without the use of hammers, axes or any other tools, only stones that had already been prepared.

1. God's power is infinite and can accomplish anything without the use of tools.

2. The temple of God is a place of reverence and holiness.

1. Isaiah 28:16-17 - Therefore thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, a costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed.

2. Matthew 21:42-44 - Jesus said to them, Did you never read in the Scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, this became the chief cornerstone; this came about from the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes ? Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it.

1 Kings 6:8 The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house: and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.

Solomon built a temple for God and placed a winding stairway inside, leading from the main chamber to the middle chamber and then out to the third.

1) The importance of dedicating our lives to God and building Him a holy home.

2) The symbolism in the winding stairway and how it relates to our spiritual journey.

1) John 14:2-3 - "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

2) Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

1 Kings 6:9 So he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.

Solomon built a temple for God and finished it, covering the structure with cedar beams and boards.

1. The Importance of Dedicating our Work to God

2. The Blessings of Following the Lord's Commandments

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

2. Proverbs 16:3 - "Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."

1 Kings 6:10 And then he built chambers against all the house, five cubits high: and they rested on the house with timber of cedar.

Solomon built a series of chambers on the temple five cubits high, which were connected to the temple by cedar timber.

1. The Importance of Building a Solid Foundation in Faith

2. Applying the Wisdom of Solomon to Our Lives

1. Ephesians 2:20-22 - And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

2. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

1 Kings 6:11 And the word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying,

Passage God gave instructions to Solomon.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. Listening to the Voice of God

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

1 Kings 6:12 Concerning this house which thou art in building, if thou wilt walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with thee, which I spake unto David thy father:

God promised that if Solomon followed His statutes, judgments, and commandments he would fulfill the words he spoke to David, Solomon's father.

1. God's Promise to Solomon: Obedience Brings Blessing

2. What Does It Mean to Follow God's Commandments?

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's Covenant with His People

2. Psalm 119:105 - The Word of God is a Lamp unto Our Feet

1 Kings 6:13 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.

God promised to remain with the Israelites and never abandon them.

1. God's Unfailing Love: A Study on 1 Kings 6:13

2. The Provision of God's Faithfulness: Experiencing God's Presence in Times of Need

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

1 Kings 6:14 So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

Solomon built the Lord's temple and completed it.

1. The Faithfulness of Solomon: Working Hard to Fulfill the Lord's Commandments

2. The Completion of Our Goals: Keeping Faith and Enduring to the End

1. Colossians 3:23-24: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

2. Hebrews 10:36: "For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised."

1 Kings 6:15 And he built the walls of the house within with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house, and the walls of the ceiling: and he covered them on the inside with wood, and covered the floor of the house with planks of fir.

Solomon built the walls of the temple with cedar boards and covered them with wood. The floor was covered with planks of fir.

1. God's power and glory can be seen in the physical temple.

2. We can learn valuable lessons from Solomon's construction of the temple.

1. Psalm 96:6-9 - Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:19 - All this, in writing by the hand of the LORD, he made me understand concerning all the works of the pattern.

1 Kings 6:16 And he built twenty cubits on the sides of the house, both the floor and the walls with boards of cedar: he even built them for it within, even for the oracle, even for the most holy place.

Solomon built a house for the oracle and most holy place, with the sides and walls made of cedar boards.

1. God has Great Plans for Us, Even When We Don't Know It - 1 Kings 6:16

2. The Power of Faith and Obedience - 1 Kings 6:16

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."

1 Kings 6:17 And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long.

The temple in 1 Kings 6:17 was 40 cubits long.

1. The Importance of Building a House of Worship

2. A House of Worship: A Sign of Faith and Commitment

1. Isaiah 56:7 - "For my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

2. 1 Chronicles 22:19 - "Now devote your heart and soul to seeking the Lord your God."

1 Kings 6:18 And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.

The cedar of the house of the Lord was carved with knops and open flowers and was made entirely of cedar and no stone was visible.

1. The Beauty and Majesty of the House of the Lord

2. The Uniqueness of the House of the Lord

1. 1 Chronicles 28:19 - "All this, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern."

2. Exodus 25:9 - "According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

1 Kings 6:19 And the oracle he prepared in the house within, to set there the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

Solomon builds the temple and prepares the inner chamber for the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

1. The Holiness of the Lord: Understanding the Significance of the Ark of the Covenant.

2. Building a Temple for God: Solomon's Model for Dedication and Devotion.

1. Exodus 25:10-22 - God instructs Moses on how to make the ark of the covenant.

2. 2 Chronicles 6:1-11 - Solomon prays for God's blessing on the Temple.

1 Kings 6:20 And the oracle in the forepart was twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in breadth, and twenty cubits in the height thereof: and he overlaid it with pure gold; and so covered the altar which was of cedar.

Solomon built a temple and overlaid the altar within it with pure gold.

1. The importance of worshiping God in a beautiful and holy space.

2. The power of pure gold in honoring and glorifying God.

1. Exodus 25:17-22 - Instructions for building the Tabernacle and its furnishings.

2. Psalm 29:2 - Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

1 Kings 6:21 So Solomon overlaid the house within with pure gold: and he made a partition by the chains of gold before the oracle; and he overlaid it with gold.

Solomon adorned the temple with gold both inside and outside, including a gold partition in front of the oracle.

1. The beauty of faith and the value of adorning ourselves in Jesus.

2. The cost of commitment and the importance of following God's commands.

1. Isaiah 61:10, I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness.

2. Psalm 96:9, O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

1 Kings 6:22 And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house: also the whole altar that was by the oracle he overlaid with gold.

Solomon covered the entire temple and altar with gold.

1. The Importance of Giving Our Best - 1 Kings 6:22

2. Shining for the Lord - 1 Kings 6:22

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Exodus 25:8 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

1 Kings 6:23 And within the oracle he made two cherubims of olive tree, each ten cubits high.

In the oracle of the Temple, two cherubim were made out of olive tree and each was 10 cubits high.

1. The Beauty of God's Temple: How the grandeur of the Temple of Solomon reflects the glory of God.

2. Cherubim: Exploring the significance of these winged creatures in the Bible.

1. Ezekiel 10:1-22 - The description of the cherubim and their significance in the divine presence.

2. 1 Kings 6:1-38 - The account of Solomon's Temple and the cherubim therein.

1 Kings 6:24 And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the other wing of the cherub: from the uttermost part of the one wing unto the uttermost part of the other were ten cubits.

The cherubim's wingspan measured 10 cubits long.

1. God s power is made known through His craftsmanship.

2. Cherubim are a testament to the Lord s greatness.

1. Genesis 3:24 - So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

2. Ezekiel 10:1-2 - Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city.

1 Kings 6:25 And the other cherub was ten cubits: both the cherubims were of one measure and one size.

The two cherubim were of equal size and measure.

1. God's Perfection and Balance in Creation

2. The Importance of Unity in Life

1. Isaiah 40:25-26 - "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth."

2. Ephesians 4:1-6 - "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

1 Kings 6:26 The height of the one cherub was ten cubits, and so was it of the other cherub.

The two cherubs had the same height of ten cubits.

1. Our lives should be built upon a common foundation of faith.

2. We can learn to appreciate the beauty in seeing that we are all equal in God's eyes.

1. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

1 Kings 6:27 And he set the cherubims within the inner house: and they stretched forth the wings of the cherubims, so that the wing of the one touched the one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house.

The wings of two cherubim stretched across the inner house so that the wings of one touched one wall, and the wings of the other touched the other wall, creating a cross in the middle of the house.

1. The Significance of the Cross in the House of God

2. Understanding the Symbolism of the Cherubim

1. Ephesians 2:14-16 - For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

2. Exodus 25:18-20 - And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

1 Kings 6:28 And he overlaid the cherubims with gold.

Solomon built a temple for the Lord and decorated it with cherubim sculptures that he overlaid with gold.

1. The Importance of Putting Your Best Foot Forward for the Lord

2. An Example of Faithful Service: Solomon's Temple Building

1. Exodus 25:18-20 - And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

19 And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof.

20 And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

1 Kings 6:29 And he carved all the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, within and without.

The walls of the house built by King Solomon were decorated with carvings of cherubims, palm trees and open flowers inside and out.

1. How God's beauty and majesty can be seen in all that we do.

2. The importance of honoring God in our lives through our work.

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

1 Kings 6:30 And the floor of the house he overlaid with gold, within and without.

The floor of the temple Solomon built was overlaid with gold inside and out.

1. The Glorious Beauty of God's House: How We Can Create a Place of Worship That Reflects His Majesty

2. The Cost of Dedication: What Are We Willing to Give Up in Commitment to God?

1. Exodus 39:3-4 - And they did beat the gold into thin plates, and cut it into wires, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, with cunning work.

2. 2 Chronicles 3:3-4 - Now these are the things wherein Solomon was instructed for the building of the house of God. The length by cubits after the first measure was threescore cubits, and the breadth twenty cubits.

1 Kings 6:31 And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

Solomon built a temple for the Lord and included a special entrance with olive wood doors.

1. The Significance of the Temple: How Solomon's Temple Reveals God's Plan for His People

2. The Importance of Worship: Understanding the Spiritual Significance of the Temple

1. 1 Kings 6:31 - And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

2. Ezekiel 47:12 - And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

1 Kings 6:32 The two doors also were of olive tree; and he carved upon them carvings of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold, and spread gold upon the cherubims, and upon the palm trees.

This passage describes two doors made from olive tree that were carved with cherubims, palm trees, and open flowers, and were overlaid with gold.

1. "The Beauty of Creation: The Significance of God's Artistry"

2. "The Importance of Investing in the Things of God"

1. Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Psalm 104:1-2 "Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain."

1 Kings 6:33 So also made he for the door of the temple posts of olive tree, a fourth part of the wall.

King Solomon built the door of the temple out of olive tree posts, taking up a quarter of the wall.

1. God's House Should be Built with Lasting Materials

2. The Importance of Being Careful with our Resources

1. 1 Kings 6:33

2. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 - "According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Each one must be careful how he builds upon it, for no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

1 Kings 6:34 And the two doors were of fir tree: the two leaves of the one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding.

The doors of the Temple of the Lord were made of fir tree, and each door had two leaves which could be folded.

1. Seeing God's Temple: A Reflection on the Unfading Glory of the Lord

2. Doors of Faith: Learning to Walk Through Life with the Help of God

1. 2 Corinthians 3:7-18 - The Unfading Glory of the Lord

2. Ephesians 2:18-22 - Walking Through Life with the Help of God

1 Kings 6:35 And he carved thereon cherubims and palm trees and open flowers: and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.

The passage describes the decoration of Solomon's temple, with gold-covered carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers.

1. The Beauty of Dedication: How Worshiping God Requires Our Best Efforts

2. The Significance of Ornamentation: How Our Decorations Reflect Our Devotion

1. Exodus 25:18-20 And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

2. Psalm 92:12-13 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

1 Kings 6:36 And he built the inner court with three rows of hewed stone, and a row of cedar beams.

Solomon built the inner court of the temple with hewed stone and cedar beams.

1. "The Strength of God's House"

2. "The Beauty of the Temple"

1. 1 Chronicles 28:11-12 - Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the portico of the temple, its buildings, its storerooms, its upper parts, its inner rooms, and the place of atonement.

12 He gave him the plans of all that the Spirit had put in his mind for the courts of the temple of the Lord and all the surrounding rooms, for the treasuries of the temple of God and for the treasuries for the dedicated things.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

1 Kings 6:37 In the fourth year was the foundation of the house of the LORD laid, in the month Zif:

The foundation of the Lord's house was laid in the fourth year in the month of Zif.

1. The Lord's House: A Symbol of Our Commitment to God

2. The Power of Faithful Fulfillment

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven"

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

1 Kings 6:38 And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.

The building of the temple in 1 Kings 6:38 took seven years to complete.

1. God's Timing: Patience and Trust in the Lord

2. The Power of Perseverance: A Study on the Building of the Temple

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

1 Kings chapter 7 describes the construction of Solomon's palace and other notable structures, as well as the work of skilled craftsmen during his reign.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the construction of Solomon's palace. It mentions that it took thirteen years to complete, and it was built with cedar from Lebanon. The palace had a grand design with various halls and an elaborate throne made of ivory (1 Kings 7:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to focus on Hiram, a skilled craftsman from Tyre who worked on the bronze furnishings for both the temple and Solomon's palace. He made two bronze pillars named Jachin and Boaz that stood at the entrance of the temple (1 Kings 7:13-22).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter provides details about other structures in Solomon's complex, such as a Hall of Pillars, a Hall of Judgment, and a separate house for Pharaoh's daughter (Solomon's wife). These buildings were also adorned with intricate carvings and decorations (1 Kings 7:23-39).

4th Paragraph:The narrative highlights Hiram's craftsmanship in creating various bronze items such as pots, shovels, basins, and lampstands for use in the temple. It also mentions how these items were cast using clay molds near the Jordan River (1 Kings 7;40-47).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning that everything was made according to precise measurements under Hiram s supervision. There is an emphasis on the abundance of materials used during Solomon s reign (1 Kings 7;48-51).

In summary, Chapter seven of 1 Kings depicts the construction projects during Solomon s reign, It begins with his palace, built over thirteen years. Hiram creates bronze pillars, named Jachin and Boaz, Other structures are described, including halls adorned with carvings. Hiram crafts various bronze items for use in the temple, Everything is made precisely, with an abundance of materials. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as architectural splendor, the contribution of skilled craftsmen, and attention to detail in constructing royal buildings.

1 Kings 7:1 But Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.

Solomon spent thirteen years building his own house and completed it.

1. The time spent on a project is worth it, no matter how long it takes.

2. Take the time to build something that will last.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 (For there is a time for every purpose under heaven)

2. Colossians 3:23 (Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord)

1 Kings 7:2 He built also the house of the forest of Lebanon; the length thereof was an hundred cubits, and the breadth thereof fifty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits, upon four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams upon the pillars.

Solomon built the House of the Forest of Lebanon, which was 100 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high, supported by four rows of cedar pillars and beams.

1. The importance of building strong foundations for our lives.

2. How God provides the resources for us to build.

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

1 Kings 7:3 And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.

The temple of Solomon was built with 45 pillars, with 15 pillars in each row, and the beams were covered with cedar.

1. The Strength of God's Temple: A Study in the Beauty of Unity

2. The Beauty of God's House: A Study in the Grandeur of His Kingdom

1. Psalm 127:1 "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

1 Kings 7:4 And there were windows in three rows, and light was against light in three ranks.

The temple of Solomon had three rows of windows and the light shone between each window.

1. The Light of God Shines Through - Using 1 Kings 7:4 as a basis to discuss how the light of God shines through us and can guide us.

2. Illuminating Our Lives - Using 1 Kings 7:4 as a basis to discuss how we can use the light of God to bring clarity and understanding to our lives.

1. John 8:12 - "When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

1 Kings 7:5 And all the doors and posts were square, with the windows: and light was against light in three ranks.

Solomon built the temple of the Lord with windows and doors arranged in three ranks and with light against light.

1. How our daily lives should reflect the light of God.

2. The importance of building a temple dedicated to the Lord.

1. Ephesians 5:8-10 - For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

2. 2 Chronicles 6:1-2 - Then Solomon said, "The Lord has said that he would dwell in a dark cloud; I have indeed built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell forever."

1 Kings 7:6 And he made a porch of pillars; the length thereof was fifty cubits, and the breadth thereof thirty cubits: and the porch was before them: and the other pillars and the thick beam were before them.

Solomon built a porch of pillars in the temple, which was fifty cubits long and thirty cubits wide.

1. The importance of structure in our lives

2. The beauty of wise architecture

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.

1 Kings 7:7 Then he made a porch for the throne where he might judge, even the porch of judgment: and it was covered with cedar from one side of the floor to the other.

Solomon built a porch for the throne to serve as a place of judgment, which was made of cedar from one side of the floor to the other.

1. The Importance of Justice: A Lesson from Solomon

2. Honouring God Through Righteous Judgement

1. Psalm 101:2 I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.

2. James 1:19-20 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1 Kings 7:8 And his house where he dwelt had another court within the porch, which was of the like work. Solomon made also an house for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken to wife, like unto this porch.

Solomon built a house for his wife, Pharaoh's daughter, that was similar to the structure of his own house.

1. The importance of honoring God in our relationships

2. Building relationships with God-like foundations

1. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ

2. 1 Peter 3:7 - Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way

1 Kings 7:9 All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of hewed stones, sawed with saws, within and without, even from the foundation unto the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.

The temple of Solomon was constructed with costly stones, cut according to precise measurements and from the foundation to the coping.

1. The Perfection of God's Creation: The Temple of Solomon

2. The Beauty of Craftsmanship in God's Service

1. 1 Kings 7:9

2. Psalm 19:1-2 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge."

1 Kings 7:10 And the foundation was of costly stones, even great stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits.

The foundation of Solomon's temple was made of large stones measuring eight to ten cubits each.

1. God is in the details - looking at the craftsmanship of the Solomon's temple to understand God's commitment to excellence and attention to detail.

2. Building a life of faith - learning from the example of Solomon's temple to build a life of faith, strength, and lasting impact.

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - building on a solid foundation.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 - building on the foundation of Jesus Christ.

1 Kings 7:11 And above were costly stones, after the measures of hewed stones, and cedars.

Solomon built his palace using costly stones and cedar wood.

1. Building Your Life on a Firm Foundation: Learning from Solomon's Example

2. The Value of Investing in Quality: What We Can Learn from King Solomon

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

2. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

1 Kings 7:12 And the great court round about was with three rows of hewed stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the LORD, and for the porch of the house.

The great court around the house of the Lord was constructed with three rows of hewn stones and a row of cedar beams.

1. The importance of building a strong foundation for the Lord's work.

2. The beauty and power of a devoted community constructing a holy place.

1. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:1 - "We know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not made with hands."

1 Kings 7:13 And king Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre.

King Solomon sent for Hiram from Tyre.

1. God will provide the right people in our lives to help us achieve our goals.

2. We should always be willing to help others in their time of need.

1. Ephesians 4:16 - from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

1 Kings 7:14 He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to king Solomon, and wrought all his work.

Hiram, the son of a widow from the tribe of Naphtali and a man from Tyre, was a skilled worker in brass. He was wise and came to Solomon to work for him.

1. The Value of Wisdom - How Wisdom Can Help Us in Our Work

2. God's Provision in Difficult Times - How God Provided for Hiram's Need

1. Proverbs 2:1-6 - My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

1 Kings 7:15 For he cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high apiece: and a line of twelve cubits did compass either of them about.

Solomon built two pillars of brass which were eighteen cubits high and were encompassed by a line of twelve cubits.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answered Solomon's Request

2. The Strength of Our Faith: Building on a Solid Foundation

1. 1 Kings 7:15

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

1 Kings 7:16 And he made two chapiters of molten brass, to set upon the tops of the pillars: the height of the one chapiter was five cubits, and the height of the other chapiter was five cubits:

King Solomon constructed two capital pillars of molten brass, each five cubits in height.

1. The Importance of Building a Strong Foundation

2. The Benefits of Working with Different Materials

1. Matthew 7:24-25 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:1-2 - "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven."

1 Kings 7:17 And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the chapiters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapiter, and seven for the other chapiter.

This passage describes how there were nets of checker work and wreaths of chain work for the chapiters on the top of the pillars.

1. God's attention to detail - How every aspect of life is important to God.

2. Beauty in the details - How God creates beauty even in the smallest details.

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on worrying about our needs and trusting God.

1 Kings 7:18 And he made the pillars, and two rows round about upon the one network, to cover the chapiters that were upon the top, with pomegranates: and so did he for the other chapiter.

Solomon constructed two pillars with a network of pomegranates for decoration.

1. The Pillars of the Temple: What God's House Can Teach Us

2. The Beauty of the Lord's House: Appreciating the Details of God's Work

1. 1 Chronicles 28:18 - "And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of the chariot of the cherubims, that spread out their wings, and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD."

2. Exodus 36:35-36 - "And he made a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: with cherubims made he it of cunning work. And he made thereunto four pillars of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold: their hooks were of gold; and he cast for them four sockets of silver."

1 Kings 7:19 And the chapiters that were upon the top of the pillars were of lily work in the porch, four cubits.

Solomon constructed two pillars at the entrance of the temple, and each pillar was topped with a chapter of lily work that was four cubits high.

1. The Beauty of The Temple: Appreciating the craftsmanship and beauty of the temple as a reminder of God's glory.

2. The Significance of the Pillars: Recognizing the importance of the pillars as symbols of strength and stability in God's Kingdom.

1. Exodus 25:31-32 - And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side.

2. Exodus 37:17-18 - And he made the candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft, and his branch, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, were of the same: And six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof.

1 Kings 7:20 And the chapiters upon the two pillars had pomegranates also above, over against the belly which was by the network: and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows round about upon the other chapiter.

The two pillars of the temple of Solomon had chapiters with pomegranates above, two hundred in rows around the chapiter.

1. The beauty of the Lord's temple is a reminder of the great love He has for us.

2. The importance of being surrounded by the Lord's beauty in our lives.

1. Psalm 84:10 - For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

1 Kings 7:21 And he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple: and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof Jachin: and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz.

Passage: Solomon built the pillars of the porch of the temple, naming the right pillar Jachin and the left pillar Boaz.

1. The importance of standing firm in our faith, and the strength we can find from God's promises.

2. The significance of Solomon's building of the temple, and how it speaks to us today.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

1 Kings 7:22 And upon the top of the pillars was lily work: so was the work of the pillars finished.

The work of the pillars was finished and they were decorated with lily work.

1. The Lord's Work is Never Finished Until it is Perfected

2. When We Pursue Perfection, Our Work is Blessed

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

1 Kings 7:23 And he made a molten sea, ten cubits from the one brim to the other: it was round all about, and his height was five cubits: and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.

Solomon made a molten sea in the temple, which was 10 cubits in diameter and 5 cubits in height, with a circumference of 30 cubits.

1. The importance of making the Lord's house beautiful and holy.

2. How the Lord's house is to reflect God's glory.

1. Exodus 25:17-22 - Instructions on the making of the tabernacle and its furnishings.

2. 2 Chronicles 5:1-14 - The bringing of the Ark of the Covenant into the temple.

1 Kings 7:24 And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.

The Sea of Bronze was decorated with knobs around the brim, and each knob was cast in two rows of ten.

1. God's Glory in Creation: Appreciating the Beauty of the World Around Us

2. The Work of Craftsmanship: Understanding the Process of Forming Art

1. Exodus 25:31-38 - Instructions for making the Sea of Bronze

2. Psalm 8:3-4 - Recognizing God's Majesty in Creation

1 Kings 7:25 It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward.

The Sea of Bronze was supported by twelve oxen, with three facing each direction.

1. The Strength of the Lord: How God Provides for Our Needs

2. A Picture of God's Faithfulness: Trusting in His Plan

1. 2 Chronicles 4:3 - And under it was the similitude of oxen, which did compass it round about: ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about.

2. Psalm 66:11 - Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

1 Kings 7:26 And it was an hand breadth thick, and the brim thereof was wrought like the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies: it contained two thousand baths.

This passage describes a large basin that was hand-made and decorated with lilies. It held two thousand baths.

1. The beauty of God s Creation: A on the intricacy and beauty of God s handiwork.

2. Stewardship of God s Resources: A on the responsible use of the gifts God has entrusted to us.

1. Psalm 139:14 - I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

2. Luke 16:10 - Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

1 Kings 7:27 And he made ten bases of brass; four cubits was the length of one base, and four cubits the breadth thereof, and three cubits the height of it.

Solomon built 10 bases of brass for the temple, each one 4 cubits by 4 cubits and 3 cubits high.

1. The Perfection of God's Design: A Study of Solomon's Temple

2. Dedicating Our Lives to God's Purposes: A Reflection on Solomon's Temple

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - We are fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

1 Kings 7:28 And the work of the bases was on this manner: they had borders, and the borders were between the ledges:

Solomon had two pillars with ledges in between them, and the work of the bases was carried out in the same fashion.

1. The Work of the Lord is a Model for Our Lives

2. The Beauty of Following God's Design

1. Isaiah 28:16 - Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: whoever believes will not be in haste.

2. Matthew 7:24-25 - Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

1 Kings 7:29 And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubims: and upon the ledges there was a base above: and beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of thin work.

This passage describes the decorations on the borders of the temple built by King Solomon, which include lions, oxen, and cherubim, with a base above and thin work beneath.

1. The importance of adorning the house of God with glory and splendor.

2. The beauty of the temple built by King Solomon and its significance for believers today.

1. Psalm 96:8 - Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

2. Isaiah 60:7 - All Kedar's flocks will be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth will minister to you; they will come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will glorify my beautiful house.

1 Kings 7:30 And every base had four brasen wheels, and plates of brass: and the four corners thereof had undersetters: under the laver were undersetters molten, at the side of every addition.

Solomon built a large bronze basin to be used for ritual cleansing in the temple of Jerusalem.

1. The symbolic importance of ritual cleansing in the Bible.

2. The importance of following God's instructions with faith and precision.

1. Exodus 30:17-21 - God instructs Moses on the ritual of cleansing.

2. John 13:1-17 - Jesus washing the feet of the disciples as an example of service.

1 Kings 7:31 And the mouth of it within the chapiter and above was a cubit: but the mouth thereof was round after the work of the base, a cubit and an half: and also upon the mouth of it were gravings with their borders, foursquare, not round.

The mouth of the base of the molten sea was a cubit and a half in diameter, with foursquare engravings on the border.

1. How God's creation is perfect, even in its details.

2. The importance of paying attention to the small things that God has made.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in its time.

2. Colossians 1:17 - He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

1 Kings 7:32 And under the borders were four wheels; and the axletrees of the wheels were joined to the base: and the height of a wheel was a cubit and half a cubit.

The Bible passage of 1 Kings 7:32 describes the measurements of the wheels connected to the base of an object.

1. God's Attention to Detail: Appreciating the Craftsmanship of Creation

2. The Significance of Symbols: Understanding the Metaphorical Meaning of Objects

1. Isaiah 40:12-14 - Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

1 Kings 7:33 And the work of the wheels was like the work of a chariot wheel: their axletrees, and their naves, and their felloes, and their spokes, were all molten.

The work of the wheels of the chariot made by Solomon's craftsmen was made of molten metal.

1. The Craftsmanship of the Chariot Wheels: A Lesson in Dedication

2. The Molten Metal of the Chariot Wheels: A Symbol of Commitment

1. Exodus 39:3 - And they did beat the gold into thin sheets, and cut it into wires, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, with cunning work.

2. Psalm 119:73 - Your hands have made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

1 Kings 7:34 And there were four undersetters to the four corners of one base: and the undersetters were of the very base itself.

The base of the structure in 1 Kings 7:34 had four undersetters in each corner that were made of the same material as the base.

1. Faithfulness in All Aspects of Life

2. Building Our Lives on Solid Foundations

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:9-11 - For we are God s fellow workers; you are God s field, God s building. 10 By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Kings 7:35 And in the top of the base was there a round compass of half a cubit high: and on the top of the base the ledges thereof and the borders thereof were of the same.

This passage describes the construction of a base for a temple, which included a round compass that was half a cubit high and had ledges and borders of the same design.

1. "The Perfection of God's Creation: A Study of 1 Kings 7:35"

2. "God's Attention to Detail: A Reflection on 1 Kings 7:35"

1. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2. Isaiah 40:25-26 - To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.

1 Kings 7:36 For on the plates of the ledges thereof, and on the borders thereof, he graved cherubims, lions, and palm trees, according to the proportion of every one, and additions round about.

The ledges and borders of the structure built by King Solomon were decorated with carvings of cherubim, lions, and palm trees according to a specific proportion.

1. God's standard for beauty is higher than ours

2. Put in the extra effort to make something beautiful for God

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.

1 Kings 7:37 After this manner he made the ten bases: all of them had one casting, one measure, and one size.

Solomon built ten bronze stands for the temple, all having the same size and shape.

1. The importance of unity in the body of Christ.

2. The power of consistency and commitment to a cause.

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold."

1 Kings 7:38 Then made he ten lavers of brass: one laver contained forty baths: and every laver was four cubits: and upon every one of the ten bases one laver.

Solomon constructed 10 brass lavers, each containing 40 baths and measuring 4 cubits, and placed them on 10 bases.

1. "The Power of Ten: A Lesson from Solomon"

2. "The Measure of Dedication: Solomon's Construction of the Lavers"

1. Matthew 18:22 Jesus said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged: for as thou hast done unto one of the least of these my brethren, thou hast done it unto me.

2. 2 Peter 1:5-8 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Kings 7:39 And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house: and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward over against the south.

Solomon built five bases on the right side of the house and five on the left side of the house, and placed the sea on the right side facing the south.

1. God's plan is perfect: The example of Solomon's temple in 1 Kings 7:39

2. Working together in faith: The wisdom of Solomon in 1 Kings 7:39

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

2. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

1 Kings 7:40 And Hiram made the lavers, and the shovels, and the basons. So Hiram made an end of doing all the work that he made king Solomon for the house of the LORD:

Hiram completed all the work King Solomon assigned him to do for the House of the Lord.

1. Doing the Work of the Lord: The Responsibility of Serving God

2. The Power of Diligence: Completing the Tasks God Places Before Us

1. Romans 12:11-13 - "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

1 Kings 7:41 The two pillars, and the two bowls of the chapiters that were on the top of the two pillars; and the two networks, to cover the two bowls of the chapiters which were upon the top of the pillars;

This passage describes the two pillars and the two bowls placed on top of them, as well as two networks to cover them.

1. The Importance of Pillars in Our Lives

2. The Symbolic Meaning of Bowls and Networks

1. Proverbs 9:1 - Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars

2. 1 Corinthians 3:11 - For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Kings 7:42 And four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, even two rows of pomegranates for one network, to cover the two bowls of the chapiters that were upon the pillars;

The two pillars of the temple were decorated with two rows of four hundred pomegranates each.

1. The Lord's Temple is a Sign of His Majesty

2. The Beauty of Holiness

1. 1 Kings 7:42

2. Exodus 28:33-34 - "And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about: A golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about.

1 Kings 7:43 And the ten bases, and ten lavers on the bases;

Solomon built ten bronze bases with ten bronze lavers on the bases.

1. The Value of Quality: Solomon's decision to build the bases and lavers with bronze shows the value of quality and how it can be used to express dedication and commitment.

2. The Importance of Perseverance: Despite the cost and complexity of the project, Solomon persevered and created something beautiful and lasting.

1. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 - For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

1 Kings 7:44 And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;

The passage describes a sea with twelve oxen underneath it.

1. Working Together: The Power of Collaboration - How the Lord's work can be accomplished through cooperation and unity.

2. The Strength of the Lord: The True Source of Our Strength - Examining the power of God and how it is greater than any human strength.

1. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

1 Kings 7:45 And the pots, and the shovels, and the basons: and all these vessels, which Hiram made to king Solomon for the house of the LORD, were of bright brass.

Hiram made a variety of vessels out of bright brass for King Solomon to use in the House of the Lord.

1. God's work is beautiful and purposeful - 1 Kings 7:45

2. Put your trust in the Lord to fulfill His plan - 1 Kings 7:45

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Kings 7:46 In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarthan.

King Solomon cast metal objects in the plain of Jordan, between the towns of Succoth and Zarthan.

1. The Lord Provides: God provided King Solomon with the perfect spot to cast metal objects in the plain of Jordan.

2. The Power of Faith: The power of faith can move mountains, and King Solomon had faith that God would provide him with the perfect spot to cast metal objects.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

1 Kings 7:47 And Solomon left all the vessels unweighed, because they were exceeding many: neither was the weight of the brass found out.

Solomon did not weigh the vessels he made because there were too many and the weight of the brass could not be determined.

1. God's blessings often come in such abundance that we cannot fathom them.

2. We must remember to take time to appreciate the blessings God gives us, no matter how great or small.

1. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

2. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

1 Kings 7:48 And Solomon made all the vessels that pertained unto the house of the LORD: the altar of gold, and the table of gold, whereupon the shewbread was,

Solomon constructed all of the implements required for the House of the Lord, including a golden altar and a golden table for the shewbread.

1. The importance of honoring God with our offerings.

2. The value of investing in the House of the Lord.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Kings 7:49 And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

Solomon built a temple for the Lord that included golden candlesticks with five on the right side and five on the left side.

1. The Beauty of the Lord's Temple - 1 Kings 7:49

2. Dedication to Godly Service - 1 Kings 7:49

1. Exodus 25:31-40 - God's instructions for building the tabernacle and its furnishings

2. I Chronicles 28:11-19 - Solomon's charge to build the temple of the Lord

1 Kings 7:50 And the bowls, and the snuffers, and the basons, and the spoons, and the censers of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the house, to wit, of the temple.

The items used to furnish the inner house and temple of the Lord were made of pure gold.

1. The Value of Worship: What Gold Can Teach Us About Our Devotion to God

2. Investing in God's House: Why We Put Our Finest Offerings into the Lord's Service

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Psalm 132:13-14 - For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation: "This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

1 Kings 7:51 So was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the LORD. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the LORD.

Solomon finished all the work he had done for the House of the LORD and he also brought in the items that his father David had dedicated.

1. The importance of completing your work faithfully.

2. The significance of honoring our parents and their dedication.

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

2. Ephesians 6:1-2 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise."

1 Kings chapter 8 portrays the dedication of the temple, Solomon's prayer of dedication, and the manifestation of God's glory in response to Solomon's prayer.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the transfer of the Ark of the Covenant from Zion (the City of David) to the newly completed temple. The priests bring it into the Most Holy Place, where they place it beneath the wings of cherubim (1 Kings 8:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: Solomon assembles all the elders, leaders, and people of Israel for a grand ceremony to dedicate the temple. They bring numerous sacrifices before God as an act of worship (1 Kings 8:10-13).

3rd Paragraph: Solomon addresses the assembly and delivers a prayer to God. He acknowledges God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises and prays for His continued presence among His people in their prayers and supplications (1 Kings 8:14-53).

4th Paragraph:The narrative highlights how Solomon blesses all Israel and praises God for keeping His word. He emphasizes that there is no other god like Yahweh who keeps covenant with His people (1 Kings 8;54-61).

5th Paragraph:The chapter describes how after Solomon finishes his prayer, fire comes down from heaven and consumes the burnt offerings and sacrifices on the altar. The glory of God fills the temple, signifying His acceptance and presence among them (1 Kings 8;62-66).

In summary, Chapter eight of 1 Kings depicts the dedication ceremony of Solomon s temple, The Ark is brought into its place, and sacrifices are offered. Solomon prays a dedicated prayer, acknowledging God s faithfulness, He blesses all Israel and praises Yahweh s covenant. Fire descends from heaven, consuming offerings on the altar, God s glory fills the newly dedicated temple. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as worshipful dedication, God's faithfulness to His promises, and divine presence manifested through fire and glory.

1 Kings 8:1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto king Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.

Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and the heads of the tribes to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from Zion to Jerusalem.

1. The power of unity in God's people

2. The importance of the ark of the covenant as a reminder of God's promises

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Exodus 25:16 - "And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee."

1 Kings 8:2 And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

The men of Israel gathered to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles in the seventh month with King Solomon.

1. Jesus is the ultimate King we should be gathering around.

2. Celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles is a time to remember God's faithfulness.

1. John 12:12-13 - The crowds gathered around Jesus as He entered Jerusalem.

2. Leviticus 23:33-43 - The regulations and instructions of the Feast of Tabernacles.

1 Kings 8:3 And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.

The elders and priests of Israel gathered to take up the Ark of the Covenant.

1. The Power of Covenant: What it Means to Keep Promises

2. The Significance of Unity: Working Together to Fulfill a Purpose

1. Deuteronomy 31:9,25-26 - Moses charges the people of Israel to keep the covenant.

2. Acts 2:42-47 - The early Church of Jerusalem demonstrates the power of fellowship and unity.

1 Kings 8:4 And they brought up the ark of the LORD, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, even those did the priests and the Levites bring up.

The priests and Levites brought up the Ark of the Lord, the tabernacle, and all the holy vessels associated with them.

1. The Holiness of the Lord's House

2. The Importance of Worship

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

2. 1 Chronicles 15:12-15 - And said unto them, Ye are the chief of the fathers of the Levites: sanctify yourselves, both ye and your brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel unto the place that I have prepared for it. For because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, for that we sought him not after the due order. So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel.

1 Kings 8:5 And king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel, that were assembled unto him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

King Solomon and all of the congregation of Israel were present before the ark of the Lord sacrificing many animals for an offering.

1. God's abundance: Recognizing the Gifts We Have Been Given

2. Celebrating Together: The Power of Community

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Trust in God's Will

2. Psalm 107:23-24 - Give Thanks for God's Provision

1 Kings 8:6 And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, into the oracle of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims.

The priests brought the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD to its designated place, the most holy place in the temple, beneath the wings of the cherubim.

1. The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant

2. What Does the Most Holy Place Symbolize?

1. Exodus 37:7-9 - God's instructions for the construction of the Ark of the Covenant

2. Ezekiel 10:1-5 - The description of the cherubim with wings spread above the Ark of the Covenant

1 Kings 8:7 For the cherubims spread forth their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above.

Solomon dedicated the newly built temple in Jerusalem, and the cherubim angels spread their wings to cover the Ark of the Covenant and its poles.

1. How We Can Learn From the Dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem

2. The Significance of the Ark of the Covenant

1. 1 Kings 8:7 - For the cherubims spread forth their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above.

2. Exodus 25:10-22 - And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.

1 Kings 8:8 And they drew out the staves, that the ends of the staves were seen out in the holy place before the oracle, and they were not seen without: and there they are unto this day.

The staves were placed in the holy place of the temple in such a way that their ends were visible in the oracle, and they remain there to this day.

1. God's faithfulness in keeping His promises

2. The importance of temple worship

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Isaiah 66:1 - Thus says the Lord: Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?

1 Kings 8:9 There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

The Ark of the Covenant contained only two stone tablets upon which the Lord established a covenant with the Israelites when they left Egypt.

1. The Power of a Covenant: How God's Promise Transcends Time

2. Reaffirming Our Commitment to God: Keeping the Covenant Alive

1. Jeremiah 31:31-33 The New Covenant

2. Hebrews 8:7-13 The New Covenant in Christ

1 Kings 8:10 And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,

The priests exited the holy place and a cloud filled the House of the Lord.

1. A Heart of Holiness: The Power of the Priesthood.

2. The Cloud of the Lord: A Sign of His Presence.

1. 1 Timothy 3:1-7 - The qualifications of a bishop.

2. Exodus 40:34-35 - The glory of the Lord filling the tabernacle.

1 Kings 8:11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.

The glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord so much that the priests were unable to continue their ministry.

1. The Overwhelming Presence of God: Learning to Live in His Glory

2. Embracing the Gift of God's Glory: Celebrating His Abundance

1. Isaiah 6:1-3 - In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

2. Revelation 21:22-23 - And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

1 Kings 8:12 Then spake Solomon, The LORD said that he would dwell in the thick darkness.

Solomon declared that the Lord said He would dwell in the thick darkness.

1. God's Presence in the Darkest Times

2. The Comfort of the Lord in Unfamiliar Situations

1. Isaiah 45:3 - "I will give you the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the Lord, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel."

2. Psalm 139:11-12 - "If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night, even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you."

1 Kings 8:13 I have surely built thee an house to dwell in, a settled place for thee to abide in for ever.

Solomon builds a house for God so that He can have a permanent place to stay.

1. The Everlasting Covenant of God: How God's Faithfulness Endures

2. The Wisdom of Solomon: Understanding the Gifts of God

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

2. Matthew 7:24-25 - Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

1 Kings 8:14 And the king turned his face about, and blessed all the congregation of Israel: (and all the congregation of Israel stood;)

King Solomon turned his face to bless the congregation of Israel and all the people stood.

1. We are Blessed by God: The Importance of Standing Firm

2. Seeking God's Blessing: The Power of Worship

1. Ephesians 6:11-13 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Luke 4:16-21 Jesus stood in the synagogue and proclaimed the good news of the gospel.

1 Kings 8:15 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which spake with his mouth unto David my father, and hath with his hand fulfilled it, saying,

Passage: King Solomon gave a blessing to the Lord God of Israel for fulfilling his promise to David, his father.

King Solomon praised God for honoring His promise to David.

1. God is Faithful and True

2. The Blessing of Following God's Promises

1. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

1 Kings 8:16 Since the day that I brought forth my people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel to build an house, that my name might be therein; but I chose David to be over my people Israel.

God chose King David to be the ruler of His people Israel, and chose no city out of the tribes of Israel to build a house for His name.

1. The importance of obedience to God's chosen leader.

2. God's special selection of David as king.

1. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Christians are to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

2. Romans 13:1-7 - Christians are to submit to the governing authorities.

1 Kings 8:17 And it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

David had a desire to build a house for the LORD God of Israel.

1. The Heart of David: How We Can Follow His Example of Dedication to God

2. God's House: A Look at the Importance of Building a House for the LORD

1. Psalm 51:10-12 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."

2. Psalm 122:1 "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."

1 Kings 8:18 And the LORD said unto David my father, Whereas it was in thine heart to build an house unto my name, thou didst well that it was in thine heart.

God praised King David for having the desire to build a house for his name.

1. God appreciates our heart-felt desires to serve Him.

2. God rewards us when we have a heart of service to Him.

1. Hebrews 13:16 - And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

1 Kings 8:19 Nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy son that shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house unto my name.

God commands Solomon not to build the temple, but instead to have his son build it in his place.

1. God's Plans Are Not Always Our Own: How To Wait On The Lord's Timing

2. The Power of Parental Blessing: How To Pass On Your Faith

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.

2. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

1 Kings 8:20 And the LORD hath performed his word that he spake, and I am risen up in the room of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

Solomon rose to the throne of Israel in the place of his father David, and kept the promise of God by building a temple for the Lord.

1. Keeping Promises to the Lord

2. Trusting God to Fulfill His Promises

1. Romans 4:20-21 - He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

1 Kings 8:21 And I have set there a place for the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt.

Solomon dedicates the Temple to the Lord and sets aside a place for the Ark of the Covenant, which is a reminder of the Lord's covenant with the Israelites when He brought them out of Egypt.

1. Lord's Faithfulness Through Covenants

2. God's Covenant of Redemption

1. Romans 11:29 - For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

2. Jeremiah 31:31-33 - Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

1 Kings 8:22 And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven:

Solomon spread forth his hands toward heaven in the presence of the congregation of Israel.

1. The Power of Worship: Learning to Worship God with Open Hands

2. The Impact of Posture: Understanding the Significance of Our Posture in Worship

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Psalm 134:2 - "Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord."

1 Kings 8:23 And he said, LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart:

Solomon praised God for His covenant and mercy to those who serve Him faithfully.

1. God is Faithful to Those Who Love Him.

2. The Blessings of Serving the Lord with All of Your Heart.

1. Deuteronomy 4:31 - For the Lord thy God is a merciful God; he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

2. Psalm 119:2 - Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

1 Kings 8:24 Who hast kept with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day.

This passage describes God's faithfulness to King David and how God kept the promise He made to him.

1. God's faithfulness to His followers and how He will fulfill His promises.

2. King David as an example of faith and obedience.

1. Psalm 89:1-2 - I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations. For I have said, Mercy shall be built up forever; thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

1 Kings 8:25 Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me.

Solomon prays for God to keep the promise that a descendant of David will always be on the throne of Israel, and that his children will live a righteous life.

1. God's Promises: Fulfilling His Covenant with David

2. Walking in God's Ways: A Model of Righteousness

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

1 Kings 8:26 And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.

Solomon prays to God asking Him to fulfill the promises made to his father David.

1. God is faithful and will always keep His promises.

2. We must trust in God's Word and rely on His faithfulness.

1. Romans 4:20-21 - "No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

1 Kings 8:27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

Solomon acknowledges that the temple he has built cannot contain God, as the heavens and heavens of heavens cannot contain Him.

1. God is infinitely bigger than anything we can imagine.

2. Our finite attempts to contain God will always fail.

1. Isaiah 66:1 - Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

2. Jeremiah 23:24 - Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord.

1 Kings 8:28 Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day:

Solomon prays to God to hear his prayer and supplication.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Asking Can Lead to Answered Prayers

2. Seeking the Face of God: Intimacy Through Prayer

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

1 Kings 8:29 That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place.

Solomon prays to God that his eyes may be open to the Temple and that He may hear the prayers of His servants that are made to the Temple.

1. The Power of Prayer: How We Can Bring Our Requests to God

2. The Importance of God's Presence: How We Can Rely on His Help

1. Jeremiah 29:12-13 "Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. James 5:16 "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

1 Kings 8:30 And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive.

Solomon prays for God to hear the supplications of His people and to forgive them when they pray.

1. God Hears Our Prayers

2. The Forgiveness of God

1. Matthew 6:12 - And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

2. Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

1 Kings 8:31 If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house:

Solomon reminds the people that if anyone wrongs a neighbor and an oath is taken before the altar of the Temple, then the Lord will hear it and judge accordingly.

1. God will never forget the wrongs done against us; He is always ready to hear and judge.

2. Let us always seek justice for those who have been wronged, and trust in the Lord's righteous judgment.

1. Psalm 103:6 - The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

2. Isaiah 30:18 - Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

1 Kings 8:32 Then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

Solomon prays to God for justice, asking Him to punish the wicked and reward the righteous.

1. "The Power of Prayer: How we can appeal to God for Justice"

2. "God's Judgment: Reaping What We Sow"

1. Isaiah 61:8 "For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them."

2. James 2:13 "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

1 Kings 8:33 When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house:

When the people of Israel are defeated by enemies due to their sins, they will turn to God and confess His name, praying and making supplication in the temple.

1. Salvation Through Confession - Turning to God and confessing His name is the only way to find deliverance.

2. The Power of Prayer - Praying and making supplication to God in the temple is an effective way to seek redemption.

1. Psalm 51:1-2 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

2. 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Kings 8:34 Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.

God promises to forgive the sins of the people of Israel and restore them to their ancestral homeland.

1. God's Mercy: Learning to Forgive and Seek Forgiveness.

2. Restoration Through Repentance: The Power of God's Love.

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

1 Kings 8:35 When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them:

God promises to answer the prayers of his people if they repent of their sin and pray to him from this place.

1. The Power of Repentance: How God Responds to Our Turnaround

2. The Promise of God: Answered Prayers Through Admitting Our Wrongdoing

1. Joel 2:12-13 - "Yet even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.

2. Psalm 50:15 - And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

1 Kings 8:36 Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.

Solomon prays for God to forgive the sins of the people of Israel and to provide them with guidance and abundant rainfall.

1. God's Forgiveness and Guidance: The Need for Humility and Repentance

2. God's Provision: Relying on His Abundance and Generosity

1. Psalm 51:1-2 "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin."

2. Deuteronomy 11:13-15 "So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil."

1 Kings 8:37 If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpiller; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be;

Solomon prays to God for protection from various plagues and disasters.

1. God is our Protector in times of Trouble

2. Trusting in God through Difficult Times

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

1 Kings 8:38 What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house:

People are encouraged to pray and make supplications to the Lord for their own personal needs and those of others.

1. How to Pray and Make Supplications to the Lord

2. The Plague of Our Own Hearts and How to Overcome It

1. Psalm 62:8 - Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

1 Kings 8:39 Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)

God hears prayers in heaven and is able to forgive, do, and give to everyone according to their ways because He knows their hearts.

1. God knows us better than we know ourselves

2. The mercy of God is greater than our sins

1. Jeremiah 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Psalm 139:1-2 O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

1 Kings 8:40 That they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

Solomon prays that all inhabitants of Israel will continually revere and obey God all the days of their lives in the promised land.

1. The Power of Fear in Our Faith

2. Obeying God's Will: Our Duty to the Land He Gave Us

1. Deuteronomy 6:2 that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life

2. Deuteronomy 11:1 Therefore you shall love the Lord your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always.

1 Kings 8:41 Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake;

The passage emphasizes the importance of welcoming strangers for the sake of God's name.

1. "God Calls Us To Welcome Strangers: A Look at 1 Kings 8:41"

2. "The Power of Hospitality: How We Can Honor God's Name"

1. Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

2. Matthew 25:35-36 - "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

1 Kings 8:42 (For they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house;

Solomon prays to God for the people of Israel, asking for them to hear of His great name and power.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Solomon's Prayer to God Changed History

2. Rediscovering the Strength of God: Understanding His Great Name and Strong Hand

1. Psalm 145:13 - "Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations."

2. Isaiah 40:26 - "Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing."

1 Kings 8:43 Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name.

In 1 Kings 8:43, God instructs Israel to obey all requests from strangers so that all the people of the earth may know His name and fear Him, and know that the temple built in His name.

1. The Power of God's Name: Understanding the Importance of God's Name and What it Means for Us

2. The House of the Lord: The Significance of God's Temple and How it Connects Us to Him

1. Psalm 111:9 - He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name.

2. Deuteronomy 6:13 - Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

1 Kings 8:44 If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name:

Solomon prays to God for his people to be victorious in battle when they go to fight their enemies.

1. The Power of Prayer: Relying on God in Times of War

2. The Strength of Unity: Working Together for Victory on the Battlefield

1. Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15b Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God s.

1 Kings 8:45 Then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

God is asking us to pray for others and to help maintain their cause.

1. Prayer is powerful and can be used to make a difference in the world.

2. We should use our power to help our fellow brothers and sisters.

1. James 5:16b - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Philippians 2:4 - Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Kings 8:46 If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near;

Solomon acknowledges that all people sin and if they do, God may become angry and allow them to be taken into captivity.

1. God's Love and Forgiveness Despite Our Sinfulness

2. The Consequences of Our Sins

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

2. Psalm 103:8-12 - The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

1 Kings 8:47 Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness;

God will forgive His people's sins if they repent and make supplication for mercy.

1: Repentance is the key to being forgiven and reconciled with God.

2: Confessing our sins and receiving God's mercy brings freedom and joy.

1: Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 Kings 8:48 And so return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, which led them away captive, and pray unto thee toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name:

Solomon prays for the Israelites to return to the land given to their fathers and to the city and house that was built for God's name.

1. The importance of remembering where we come from and who we owe our blessings to.

2. The power of prayer and its ability to bring us closer to God.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and might.

2. Psalm 122:6 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

1 Kings 8:49 Then hear thou their prayer and their supplication in heaven thy dwelling place, and maintain their cause,

The passage is about God hearing and maintaining the cause of those who pray and supplicate Him.

1. The Power of Prayer: God is always faithful to answer our prayers in His timing.

2. Maintaining Our Cause: We are to trust in God that He will always uphold and maintain our cause.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

1 Kings 8:50 And forgive thy people that have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them:

Solomon prays to God to forgive the Israelites for their sins and to show compassion to them and to those who carried them away into captivity.

1. God's Mercy and Compassion - Exploring how God's mercy and compassion can transform us and our relationships.

2. Forgiveness and Redemption - Understanding the power of forgiveness and how it can lead to redemption.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Luke 6:36 - "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful."

1 Kings 8:51 For they be thy people, and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron:

God reminds Solomon that the Israelites are His people and His inheritance, whom He has freed from slavery in Egypt.

1. God's Redemption: How God Freed His People From Slavery

2. The Faithfulness of God: His Commitment to His People

1. Deuteronomy 7:8 - "But because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the place of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

2. Isaiah 43:1 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. "

1 Kings 8:52 That thine eyes may be open unto the supplication of thy servant, and unto the supplication of thy people Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto thee.

Solomon prays that God will listen to the supplication of the people of Israel.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Pray for Others.

2. God's Faithfulness: How God Hears and Answers Prayers.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. 1 John 5:14-15 - "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of him."

1 Kings 8:53 For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be thine inheritance, as thou spakest by the hand of Moses thy servant, when thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O LORD God.

The Lord separated Israel from all the people of the earth to be his inheritance, as promised through Moses when they were freed from Egypt.

1. The Lord's Promise and Provision: A Study of 1 Kings 8:53

2. The Lord's Faithful Protection: A Study of 1 Kings 8:53

1. Exodus 19:5-6 - "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."

2. Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - "For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

1 Kings 8:54 And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

Solomon ended his prayer to the Lord by kneeling on his knees and stretching his hands to heaven.

1. Learning to Pray to God with Humility and Respect

2. The Power of Prayer to Connect with God

1. Matthew 6:5-15 - Jesus' teaching on how to pray

2. James 5:13-18 - The power of prayer in the life of believers

1 Kings 8:55 And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

Solomon blesses the people of Israel with a loud proclamation.

1. The importance of proclaiming the Lord's blessings.

2. The power of a unified voice of faith and worship.

1. Psalm 29:2 - "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

2. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Kings 8:56 Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.

God has fulfilled all of his promises to his people Israel, as given through Moses.

1. The importance of trusting in God's promises

2. The power of faith in fulfilling God's will

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Hebrews 11:11 - Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

1 Kings 8:57 The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us:

God's presence has been with us in the past, and He will not leave or forsake us now.

1. God's Faithfulness: His Presence Through All Generations

2. Recognizing Dependence on the Lord's Faithfulness

1. Hebrews 13:5 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

1 Kings 8:58 That he may incline our hearts unto him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers.

Solomon prays to God to guide and protect the Israelites in following His laws.

1. God calls us to follow His commandments and live according to His statutes and judgments.

2. God seeks to incline our hearts to Him and to walk in His ways.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

2. Psalm 119:33-34 - Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

1 Kings 8:59 And let these my words, wherewith I have made supplication before the LORD, be nigh unto the LORD our God day and night, that he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel at all times, as the matter shall require:

Solomon prayed to God that he would always maintain the cause of himself and his people.

1. God Will Always Provide for His People

2. The Benefits of Prayer

1. Isaiah 41:10-13 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

1 Kings 8:60 That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, and that there is none else.

Solomon dedicates the newly-built temple to the Lord, and prays that all people of the earth may know that the Lord is the one true God.

1. "The Lord is the One True God"

2. "The Power of Dedication"

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

2. Psalm 24:1 The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

1 Kings 8:61 Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.

Solomon prayed for God to help the people of Israel to be obedient to His laws and commandments.

1. Obedience Brings Blessing - A look at the blessings that come through obedience to God's laws.

2. Perfection in the Lord - A discussion of how to strive for holiness and perfection in our relationship with the Lord.

1. Ezekiel 36:26-27 - A promise from God to give His people a new heart and a new spirit, to put His Spirit within them and to cause them to walk in His statutes.

2. Philippians 4:13 - Paul's assurance that he could do all things through Christ who strengthens him, and his reminder to the readers to always stay in the Lord.

1 Kings 8:62 And the king, and all Israel with him, offered sacrifice before the LORD.

King Solomon and all of Israel offered sacrifice to the Lord.

1. Offerings of Thanks: Giving Thanks for God's Blessings

2. Faithful Obedience: Living a Life that Pleases God

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

1 Kings 8:63 And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered unto the LORD, two and twenty thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD.

Solomon offered a large sacrifice of peace offerings to the Lord and dedicated the temple of the Lord with the help of the people of Israel.

1. The Power of Dedication: How Solomon s Dedication of the Temple Shaped History

2. The Sacrifice of Peace: A Closer Look at Solomon s Offering

1. 1 Kings 8:63 - And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered unto the LORD, two and twenty thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD.

2. 2 Chronicles 5:13b - ...for it was so, that when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD.

1 Kings 8:64 The same day did the king hallow the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD: for there he offered burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings: because the brasen altar that was before the LORD was too little to receive the burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings.

Passage On the same day, King Solomon set aside the open court in front of the Lord's house to offer burnt offerings, meat offerings, and peace offerings because the bronze altar there was too small.

1. The Power of Demonstrative Faith - How King Solomon showed his commitment to the Lord by dedicating the open court to Him and offering sacrifices.

2. The Significance of Sacrifice - How the offering of sacrifices demonstrated obedience to the Lord and showed reverence for His house.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

1 Kings 8:65 And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.

Solomon held a great feast for all of Israel for fourteen days from the entrance of Hamath to the river of Egypt before the Lord.

1. Celebrate the Lord's Presence: A Look at the Feast of Solomon

2. God's Gracious Provision: How the Lord Cares for His People

1. Deuteronomy 16:16 - Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty.

2. Nehemiah 8:17 - And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness.

1 Kings 8:66 On the eighth day he sent the people away: and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had done for David his servant, and for Israel his people.

On the eighth day, the people blessed King Solomon for all the goodness that the LORD had done for David and Israel, and then went home joyful and glad of heart.

1. God's blessings bring joy and gladness to our hearts.

2. We can be thankful and express our gratitude for the goodness of the LORD.

1. Psalm 28:7 - The LORD is my strength and shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

1 Kings chapter 9 describes God's response to Solomon's prayer of dedication and the establishment of a covenant between God and Solomon.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that after Solomon finished building the temple, his own palace, and all other desired structures, the Lord appears to him a second time. The Lord reiterates His promise to establish His presence in the temple if Solomon remains faithful (1 Kings 9:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: God warns Solomon about the consequences of turning away from Him and worshiping other gods. He cautions that if Israel forsakes Him, the temple will be destroyed, and Israel will become a byword among nations (1 Kings 9:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The narrative highlights how Hiram, King of Tyre, sends ships to Solomon with gold, along with cedar and cypress logs as requested. In return, Solomon gives Hiram twenty towns in Galilee (1 Kings 9:10-14).

4th Paragraph:The chapter mentions cities that Solomon built or restored during his reign. These include cities for storage and chariots as well as military outposts. It emphasizes how prosperous and influential Solomon was during this time (1 Kings 9;15-19).

5th Paragraph:The narrative shifts focus to Pharaoh's daughter whom Solomon married. She moves from the City of David to her own palace while construction continues on her house. This is followed by a mention of three annual offerings made by Solomon at the temple (1 Kings 9;24-25).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by stating that King Solomon surpasses all other kings in wealth and wisdom. He reigns for forty years before passing away, succeeded by his son Rehoboam (1 Kings 9;26-28).

In summary, Chapter nine of 1 Kings depicts God s response to Solomon s prayer, The Lord promises His presence if faithfulness is maintained. Warnings are given about turning away from God, Hiram provides materials, and cities are built or restored. Solomon's wife moves into her palace, and annual offerings are made. Solomon's reign is marked by wealth and wisdom. He rules for forty years, and his son Rehoboam succeeds him. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine blessings contingent on faithfulness, the consequences of idolatry, and the prosperity associated with obedience to God's commands.

1 Kings 9:1 And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,

Solomon completed the construction of the Lord's house and his own house according to his own desires.

1. God Will Reward Our Faithful Service

2. Investing in the Kingdom of God

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Luke 12:33 - Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.

1 Kings 9:2 That the LORD appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared unto him at Gibeon.

The Lord appeared to Solomon a second time at Gibeon.

1. God is ever present, ready to guide us in times of need.

2. The Lord is a faithful companion, never leaving our side.

1. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

1 Kings 9:3 And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, that thou hast made before me: I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

God promised King Solomon that the Temple built in Jerusalem would be a place where He would always be present and His eyes and heart would be there perpetually.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Covenant Promises

2. God's Unconditional Love and Mercy

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13

2. Isaiah 55:3-5

1 Kings 9:4 And if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, in integrity of heart, and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded thee, and wilt keep my statutes and my judgments:

God commanded Solomon to walk before Him with integrity and keep His statutes and judgments.

1. The Call to Righteousness: Walking in Integrity Before God

2. Upright Living: God's Commandments in Our Lives

1. Psalm 101:2- I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

1 Kings 9:5 Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel.

God promised David that there would always be a man on the throne of Israel.

1. The Promises of God: Trusting in His Word

2. The Faithfulness of God: Standing on His Covenant

1. Isaiah 54:10 - For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

1 Kings 9:6 But if ye shall at all turn from following me, ye or your children, and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods, and worship them:

God commands His people to remain faithful and keep His commandments and statutes.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness to God

2. The True Meaning of Worship

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. Matthew 4:10 - Then Jesus said to him, Be gone, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.

1 Kings 9:7 Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast out of my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people:

God will remove Israel from the land he has given them and will no longer regard the temple he has consecrated in his name. Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all nations.

1. God is Faithful Even in the Face of Unbelief

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Hebrews 10:23-25 - Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

2. Jeremiah 22:8-9 - But if you do not obey me, and do not observe all these commands, and if you despise my decrees and abhor my laws and fail to carry out all my commands and so violate my covenant, then I will do this to you.

1 Kings 9:8 And at this house, which is high, every one that passeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss; and they shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and to this house?

People who pass by the high house of the Lord in 1 Kings 9:8 are astonished and hiss, wondering why the Lord has done this to the land and the house.

1. The Power of God's Presence - how God's presence can have a lasting effect on the world around us.

2. The Mystery of God's Ways - exploring why God works in mysterious and often unexplainable ways.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor? Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid? For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

1 Kings 9:9 And they shall answer, Because they forsook the LORD their God, who brought forth their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and have taken hold upon other gods, and have worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath the LORD brought upon them all this evil.

The people of Israel have forsaken the Lord and worshipped other gods, and as a result have been afflicted by the Lord.

1. God's faithfulness is a gift we must not take for granted.

2. We must stay true to the Lord and not be tempted by foreign gods.

1. Deuteronomy 6:14-15 - "You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you for the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God lest the anger of the LORD your God be aroused against you, and He destroy you from the face of the earth."

2. Deuteronomy 11:16-17 - "Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them, lest the LORD s anger be aroused against you, and He shut up the heavens so that there be no rain, and the land yield no produce, and you perish quickly from the good land which the LORD is giving you."

1 Kings 9:10 And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD, and the king's house,

After twenty years of building, Solomon had completed the Temple of the Lord and his own palace.

1. Trusting in God's Timing in Building Our Lives

2. Building a Life of Faith in God's Strength

1. Psalm 127:1 - Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

1 Kings 9:11 (Now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and fir trees, and with gold, according to all his desire,) that then king Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

King Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee in exchange for the cedar trees, fir trees, and gold that Hiram provided to him.

1. The importance of gratitude demonstrated in the story of King Solomon and Hiram.

2. The importance of generosity and how it can be a blessing to both the receiver and the giver.

1. Proverbs 19:17 - He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

1 Kings 9:12 And Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him; and they pleased him not.

Hiram visits the cities given to him by Solomon, but he is not satisfied with what he finds.

1. God is always working for our best even when our immediate circumstances don't reflect that.

2. We should be content with the gifts God has given us.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

1 Kings 9:13 And he said, What cities are these which thou hast given me, my brother? And he called them the land of Cabul unto this day.

God gave King Solomon the cities of Cabul, which have been known by this name ever since.

1. God's gifts are always meaningful and special.

2. We can trust in God's provision.

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

1 Kings 9:14 And Hiram sent to the king sixscore talents of gold.

King Hiram sent the King of Israel 60 talents of gold.

1. The Generosity of King Hiram: A Lesson in Kindness

2. The Importance of Material Gifts: A Study of 1 Kings 9:14

1. Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Kings 9:15 And this is the reason of the levy which king Solomon raised; for to build the house of the LORD, and his own house, and Millo, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer.

Passage King Solomon raised a levy to build the House of the Lord, his own house, Millo, the wall of Jerusalem, Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer.

1. The Power of Generosity: Learning from King Solomon's Example

2. The Importance of Building God's House: A Study of 1 Kings 9:15

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

1 Kings 9:16 For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, and taken Gezer, and burnt it with fire, and slain the Canaanites that dwelt in the city, and given it for a present unto his daughter, Solomon's wife.

Pharaoh King of Egypt attacked and destroyed the city of Gezer and killed its inhabitants, giving the city as a present to his daughter, who was married to Solomon.

1. We can learn valuable lessons from the story of Pharaoh King of Egypt and the city of Gezer.

2. We should strive to live in a way that honors God, even when it is difficult to do so.

1. 1 Kings 9:16 - For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, and taken Gezer, and burnt it with fire, and slain the Canaanites that dwelt in the city, and given it for a present unto his daughter, Solomon's wife.

2. Matthew 5:43-44 - You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

1 Kings 9:17 And Solomon built Gezer, and Bethhoron the nether,

The passage speaks of Solomon's building of Gezer and Bethhoron the nether.

1. The Power of Hard Work: Solomon's example of building Gezer and Bethhoron the nether teaches us the power of hard work and dedication.

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Solomon's obedience to God's commands was rewarded with success in building Gezer and Bethhoron the nether.

1. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

1 Kings 9:18 And Baalath, and Tadmor in the wilderness, in the land,

The passage talks about two places mentioned in 1 Kings 9:18: Baalath and Tadmor.

1. The Value of Obedience: A Study on 1 Kings 9:18

2. The Power of Faith: Reflections on Baalath and Tadmor

1. Isaiah 35:1-2 - The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the rose. It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, even with joy and singing.

2. Psalm 23:3 - He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name s sake.

1 Kings 9:19 And all the cities of store that Solomon had, and cities for his chariots, and cities for his horsemen, and that which Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.

Solomon built cities for his chariots, horsemen, and other desires in Jerusalem, Lebanon, and other places in his dominion.

1. Our lives should be devoted to building for God's glory.

2. Seek God's blessing in all places, even in the mundane tasks of life.

1. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 9:20 And all the people that were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, which were not of the children of Israel,

This passage describes the ethnic groups that were left in Israel after the children of Israel had taken possession of the land.

1. God's faithfulness and provision for the children of Israel.

2. The importance of obeying God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 - "When the Lord your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, seven nations larger and stronger than you

2. Joshua 24:11-13 - You came across the Jordan and arrived at Jericho. The citizens of Jericho fought against you, as did also the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites, but I gave them into your hands. I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow.

1 Kings 9:21 Their children that were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel also were not able utterly to destroy, upon those did Solomon levy a tribute of bondservice unto this day.

Solomon levied a tribute of bondservice on the remaining population of the land who had been left after the Israelites had tried to destroy them.

1: God's love and mercy is so great that even those who wrong us are given the opportunity to be redeemed.

2: We can learn from Solomon's example of how to treat those who have wronged us with grace, love and mercy.

1: Romans 12:19-21 19Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

2: Luke 6:27-36 27But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, 28Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. 29And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. 30Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. 31And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. 32For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. 33And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. 34And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. 36Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

1 Kings 9:22 But of the children of Israel did Solomon make no bondmen: but they were men of war, and his servants, and his princes, and his captains, and rulers of his chariots, and his horsemen.

Solomon did not make any Israelites into bondservants, instead he used them as men of war, servants, princes, captains, rulers of chariots, and horsemen.

1. God calls us to serve Him in many different ways.

2. God desires for us to use our gifts to serve Him and others.

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - The parable of the talents.

2. Acts 6:2-4 - Choosing the first deacons.

1 Kings 9:23 These were the chief of the officers that were over Solomon's work, five hundred and fifty, which bare rule over the people that wrought in the work.

Solomon had 550 chief officers who oversaw the people working on his projects.

1. The Value of Good Leadership: Lessons from Solomon

2. Cultivating a Servant s Heart: A Study of 1 Kings 9

1. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. Ephesians 6:7-8 - With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

1 Kings 9:24 But Pharaoh's daughter came up out of the city of David unto her house which Solomon had built for her: then did he build Millo.

Solomon built a house for Pharaoh's daughter in the city of David and also built a structure called Millo.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the life of Solomon as he was obedient to the Lord and built a house for Pharaoh's daughter.

2. God's provision is evident in the life of Solomon as he was able to build Millo for the glory of God.

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - Seek first the kingdom of God and all these things will be added to you.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:9 - For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

1 Kings 9:25 And three times in a year did Solomon offer burnt offerings and peace offerings upon the altar which he built unto the LORD, and he burnt incense upon the altar that was before the LORD. So he finished the house.

Solomon built an altar in the house of the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings three times a year, as well as burning incense.

1. The importance of offering sacrifice to God as an act of worship.

2. Building altars and dedicating ourselves to the Lord.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

2. 1 Chronicles 16:29 - "Give to the Lord the glory due to His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!"

1 Kings 9:26 And king Solomon made a navy of ships in Eziongeber, which is beside Eloth, on the shore of the Red sea, in the land of Edom.

King Solomon built a fleet of ships at Eziongeber, which is located near Eloth on the Red Sea coast in Edom.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How Solomon Followed God's Commands

2. Building in Faith: The Power of Obedience and Fulfillment

1. Matthew 17:20 - He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

1 Kings 9:27 And Hiram sent in the navy his servants, shipmen that had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

Hiram sent his experienced shipmen to help Solomon in his naval endeavors.

1. Obedience Brings Blessings - God blesses those who obey Him.

2. The Value of Experience - Experienced people can provide helpful insight.

1. Ephesians 6:1 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2. Proverbs 1:5 - Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.

1 Kings 9:28 And they came to Ophir, and fetched from thence gold, four hundred and twenty talents, and brought it to king Solomon.

Solomon obtained 420 talents of gold from Ophir.

1. The Wealth of God's People: How Solomon Used His Resources to Serve God

2. The Abundance of God's Provision: How He Supplies Our Needs

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

1 Kings chapter 10 describes the visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, highlighting her admiration for his wisdom, wealth, and the splendor of his kingdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing the Queen of Sheba, who hears about Solomon's fame and wisdom. Intrigued, she embarks on a journey to test Solomon with difficult questions (1 Kings 10:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative depicts the arrival of the Queen of Sheba in Jerusalem with a large entourage. She engages in a conversation with Solomon, questioning him on various topics and witnessing his wisdom firsthand (1 Kings 10:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The Queen is amazed by Solomon's wisdom and wealth. She praises both God and Solomon for their greatness and acknowledges that what she had heard about him was true (1 Kings 10:6-7).

4th Paragraph:The chapter highlights how the Queen presents extravagant gifts to Solomon, including gold, spices, precious stones, and a large quantity of almug wood. Additionally, there had never been such an abundance of spices brought to Israel before (1 Kings 10;10-12).

5th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Solomon reciprocates by giving gifts to the Queen that surpass her expectations. He grants her every desire and sends her back to her own country with great honor (1 Kings 10;13-13).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by emphasizing Solomon's immense wealth his yearly income in gold alone and describing his extensive collection of chariots and horses (1 Kings 10;14-29).

In summary, Chapter ten of 1 Kings depicts the visit of the Queen of Sheba, She tests Solomon s wisdom, amazed by his answers. She praises God and presents lavish gifts, Solomon reciprocates generously, exceeding her expectations. His wealth is highlighted, including gold income and an impressive collection of chariots and horses. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as admiration for wisdom, the impact of reputation on visitors, and displays of opulence associated with royal rulership.

1 Kings 10:1 And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to prove him with hard questions.

The Queen of Sheba heard about Solomon's fame concerning the name of the Lord and came to test him.

1. Seeking Wisdom: The Queen of Sheba's Journey to King Solomon

2. Learning to Seek God: The Queen of Sheba as an Example

1. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

2.1 Corinthians 1:20-21 - Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

1 Kings 10:2 And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

Queen of Sheba visits King Solomon with a great entourage of camels, gold, and precious stones and shared her heart with him.

1. Following God's Will: The Story of Queen of Sheba

2. Wisdom for Life: Learning from the Example of King Solomon

1. Proverbs 2:6-7, "For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly."

2. 1 Chronicles 22:12-13, "Only the LORD give thee wisdom and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel, that thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God. Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed."

1 Kings 10:3 And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not.

King Solomon answered all of the Queen of Sheba's questions, showing his great wisdom.

1. God rewards those who seek wisdom.

2. Even the wise have much to learn.

1. Proverbs 2:3-5 Yes, if you cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

2. James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

1 Kings 10:4 And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built,

The Queen of Sheba was amazed by the wisdom of King Solomon and the house he had built.

1. The Power of Wisdom: Drawing Inspiration from the Story of King Solomon

2. Building a Foundation of Strength: A Look at the House of King Solomon

1. Proverbs 3:13-18 - The importance of wisdom and understanding

2. 1 Chronicles 28:2-10 - David's instructions for Solomon to build the Temple

1 Kings 10:5 And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.

The Queen of Sheba was amazed by King Solomon's wealth, which included his servants, ministers, and cupbearers, and his ascent to the House of the Lord.

1. "Finding Wisdom in Wealth"

2. "God's Wealth in God's House"

1. Proverbs 8:10-11 - "Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Kings 10:6 And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom.

The Queen of Sheba was impressed with the wisdom and accomplishments of King Solomon.

1. Recognizing Gifts from God and Using Them for His Glory

2. The Blessings of Wisdom

1. Proverbs 4:7-9 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1 Kings 10:7 Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.

The fame of Solomon's wisdom and prosperity far exceeded the stories that were told about them.

1. God rewards faithfulness and obedience with blessings beyond our expectations.

2. Our lives can be a witness to others of God's greatness.

1. Psalms 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

1 Kings 10:8 Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom.

Solomon is praised for having an abundance of wisdom and a large number of servants who stand before him and listen to his wisdom.

1. The Value of Wisdom and Obedience

2. The Blessings of Serving God

1. Proverbs 4:7-9 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

2. Psalm 128:1-2 - Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

1 Kings 10:9 Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

The LORD blessed King Solomon, delighted in him, and loved Israel forever, so He made him King to do justice and judgment.

1. God's Love and Blessing: How God's love for us can lead to His blessings in our lives.

2. Justice and Righteousness: Understanding the importance of justice and righteousness in our lives.

1. Romans 8:38-39: For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 37:3: Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

1 Kings 10:10 And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices very great store, and precious stones: there came no more such abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon.

The Queen of Sheba gifted King Solomon with a great abundance of gold, spices, and precious stones.

1. God blesses us with material gifts to be used for His glory.

2. The Queen of Sheba s generous and sacrificial gift to King Solomon shows us the importance of giving with thankfulness and faith.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Proverbs 22:9 - The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

1 Kings 10:11 And the navy also of Hiram, that brought gold from Ophir, brought in from Ophir great plenty of almug trees, and precious stones.

King Solomon received a great abundance of almug trees and precious stones from King Hiram's navy, which had brought gold from Ophir.

1. The Greatness of God's Generosity

2. Finding Abundance in Obedience to God

1. Psalm 37:4, "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart"

2. James 1:17, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change"

1 Kings 10:12 And the king made of the almug trees pillars for the house of the LORD, and for the king's house, harps also and psalteries for singers: there came no such almug trees, nor were seen unto this day.

King Solomon made pillars and musical instruments from almug trees for the Lord's house and his own house. These trees had never been seen before and have not been seen since.

1. The Importance of Faithful Stewardship in the House of the Lord

2. The Wonder of the Lord's Provision for His People

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - "Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals."

2. 1 Chronicles 22:5 - "David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son, saying, Is not the LORD your God with you? and hath he not given you rest on every side? for he hath given the inhabitants of the land into mine hand; and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before his people."

1 Kings 10:13 And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

King Solomon gave the Queen of Sheba all she desired, in addition to gifts from his royal bounty. After receiving these gifts, the Queen returned to her homeland with her servants.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Make a Difference

2. The Grace of God: How God's Generosity is Unconditional

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

2. Psalm 37:21 - The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives.

1 Kings 10:14 Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred threescore and six talents of gold,

The gold that Solomon received in one year was 666 talents.

1. The Number 666 and Its Significance in Scripture

2. The Riches of King Solomon

1. Revelation 13:18 - Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

2. 1 Chronicles 29:1-5 - Moreover David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God. Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for things to be made of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and the brass for things of brass, the iron for things of iron, and wood for things of wood; onyx stones, and stones to be set, glistering stones, and of divers colours, and all manner of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance.

1 Kings 10:15 Beside that he had of the merchantmen, and of the traffick of the spice merchants, and of all the kings of Arabia, and of the governors of the country.

King Solomon was renowned for his wealth, which he acquired from merchantmen, spice traders, kings of Arabia, and governors of the land.

1. True wealth comes from the Lord, and His provision is more valuable than earthly riches.

2. We should use our resources wisely and for the glory of God.

1. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children, but the sinner s wealth is laid up for the righteous.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Kings 10:16 And king Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold: six hundred shekels of gold went to one target.

King Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold, each containing six hundred shekels of gold.

1. The Power of Generosity: What King Solomon Teaches Us About Giving

2. God's Provision: What We Can Learn From King Solomon's Wealth

1. Proverbs 11:24-25 "One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 "Here is what I have seen to be good and fitting: to eat, to drink and enjoy oneself in all one's labor in which he toils under the sun during the few years of his life which God has given him; for this is his reward. Furthermore, as for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, He has also empowered him to eat from them and to receive his reward and rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God."

1 Kings 10:17 And he made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three pound of gold went to one shield: and the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.

The passage describes King Solomon's creation of three hundred shields made of beaten gold, each containing three pounds of gold.

1. God gives us the wisdom and resources to create beautiful things.

2. God's provision is abundant and generous.

1. Proverbs 2:6-8 - For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

1 Kings 10:18 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the best gold.

King Solomon made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with the best gold.

1. The Beauty of Generosity: How King Solomon's Throne of Ivory and Gold Demonstrates True Wealth

2. A Heart of Giving: How King Solomon's Throne of Ivory and Gold Inspires Us to Follow His Example

1. Proverbs 19:17 - "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

1 Kings 10:19 The throne had six steps, and the top of the throne was round behind: and there were stays on either side on the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the stays.

Passage The throne of King Solomon had six steps and was round behind with two lion statues standing on either side.

1. The importance of order in our lives, as represented by the six steps of King Solomon's throne.

2. God's protection of His people, as represented by the lion statues standing on either side of Solomon's throne.

1. Psalm 93:1 - "The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength."

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes."

1 Kings 10:20 And twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other upon the six steps: there was not the like made in any kingdom.

The kingdom of Solomon was so grand and prosperous that twelve lions were placed on either side of his throne, a sight unseen in any other kingdom.

1. The Kingdom of God: What the Kingdom of Solomon Teaches Us

2. Faithfulness to God: The Blessing of Prosperity

1. Luke 12:32, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

2. Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

1 Kings 10:21 And all king Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver: it was nothing accounted of in the days of Solomon.

King Solomon had all of his drinking vessels made of gold, and all of the vessels from the house of the forest of Lebanon were made of pure gold but nothing was made of silver.

1. The Heart of Worship: How Giving God Our Best Leads to True Contentment

2. The Value of Wealth: Learning to Invest Wisely in the Things that Matter Most

1. Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 "Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless. As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owner except to feast his eyes on them?"

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."

1 Kings 10:22 For the king had at sea a navy of Tharshish with the navy of Hiram: once in three years came the navy of Tharshish, bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

This passage describes the trading relationship between King Solomon and King Hiram of Tyre, where Solomon's navy visited Tyre once every three years to bring gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

1. Learning from the wisdom of King Solomon: developing our own relationships of trust and mutual benefit.

2. Seeking the Lord's provision: trusting Him for the best outcome in all of our endeavours.

1. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

2. 1 Chronicles 22:13 - Then you will have success if you are careful to observe the decrees and laws that the Lord gave Moses for Israel.

1 Kings 10:23 So king Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom.

King Solomon was the wealthiest and wisest king of all the kings in the world.

1. The Wisdom and Riches of King Solomon - How God Blessed Him

2. Seeking True Riches and Wisdom - Transcending Earthly Power and Possessions

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Kings 10:24 And all the earth sought to Solomon, to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart.

Solomon's wisdom was renowned throughout the world, and people sought him out to hear it.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How God Can Work Through Us

2. Seeking Wisdom: The Importance of Listening to God

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

1 Kings 10:25 And they brought every man his present, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and garments, and armour, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year.

Solomon received gifts from other rulers, which included silver and gold vessels, garments, spices, horses, and mules, on an annual basis.

1. The Importance of Generosity

2. How to Live a Life of True Riches

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

2. Proverbs 11:24-25 - One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

1 Kings 10:26 And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he bestowed in the cities for chariots, and with the king at Jerusalem.

Solomon gathered a large army of chariots and horsemen, with 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, and spread them out among the cities and with the king in Jerusalem.

1. The importance of a strong military and the power of being well-prepared.

2. The protection and provision that God gives us when we trust in Him.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

1 Kings 10:27 And the king made silver to be in Jerusalem as stones, and cedars made he to be as the sycomore trees that are in the vale, for abundance.

King Solomon made silver to be as abundant in Jerusalem as stones and cedars made to be as sycomore trees.

1. The Abundant Provisions Of God

2. Living In Abundance Despite Adversity

1. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

1 Kings 10:28 And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

King Solomon imported horses and linen yarn from Egypt for his own use.

1. The Importance of Obtaining and Using God-Given Resources

2. How to Utilize Our Finances Wisely

1. Proverbs 21:20 - "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."

2. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

1 Kings 10:29 And a chariot came up and went out of Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty: and so for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, did they bring them out by their means.

The kings of the Hittites and Syria received chariots and horses from Egypt in exchange for silver.

1. The importance of giving and receiving in the Kingdom of God.

2. The power of faithfulness and loyalty to one another.

1. Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

1 Kings chapter 11 portrays the downfall of Solomon due to his many foreign wives and their influence, leading to his turning away from God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting how Solomon loved many foreign women, including Pharaoh's daughter and women from Moab, Ammon, Edom, Sidon, and the Hittites. God had specifically warned against intermarriage with these nations (1 Kings 11:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative reveals that Solomon's wives turned his heart away from the Lord towards their foreign gods. He began building high places for worshiping these deities, which was contrary to God's commands (1 Kings 11:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter mentions that because of Solomon's disobedience, the Lord becomes angry with him and raises adversaries against him. These adversaries include Hadad the Edomite, Rezon son of Eliada, and Jeroboam son of Nebat (1 Kings 11:9-14).

4th Paragraph:The narrative focuses on Jeroboam whom God appoints as king over ten tribes of Israel after tearing the kingdom away from Solomon's descendants. This is done as a consequence of Solomon's idolatry (1 Kings 11;26-40).

5th Paragraph:The chapter describes how Solomon seeks to kill Jeroboam but he flees to Egypt until Solomon dies. It also mentions that during his reign, Solomon reigned over Israel for forty years before passing away and being succeeded by his son Rehoboam (1 Kings 11;40-43).

In summary, Chapter eleven of 1 Kings depicts Solomon s downfall due to foreign wives, He loves many women, contrary to God s commands. They turn his heart astray, leading him into idolatry, God raises adversaries, including Jeroboam. Jeroboam becomes king over ten tribes, Solomon seeks to kill him, but he flees. Solomon reigns for forty years, then passes away. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as the danger of compromise in relationships, the consequences of disobedience, and the divine judgment upon unfaithfulness.

1 Kings 11:1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites;

King Solomon loved many foreign women, including the daughter of Pharaoh and women from Moab, Ammon, Edom, Zidon, and Hittite nations.

1. The Danger of Worldly Love: A on 1 Kings 11:1

2. Choosing Wisely: The Example of King Solomon in 1 Kings 11:1

1. Proverbs 6:27-28 - Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Or can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be seared?

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

1 Kings 11:2 Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.

Solomon disobeyed the Lord's command and loved the foreign gods of the nations surrounding Israel.

1. Learning to Love God Above All Else

2. The Dangers of Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 7:4 - "For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other."

1 Kings 11:3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

King Solomon had seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines, and his many wives led him away from God.

1. Be careful not to let worldly desires overpower your faith in God.

2. Maintaining a strong spiritual life requires keeping our hearts focused on God, not the world.

1. Matthew 6:24, "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

2. 1 John 2:15-17, "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever."

1 Kings 11:4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

Solomon was unfaithful to God in his old age, his heart was not the same as his father's heart, David, who was faithful to God.

1. The importance of remaining faithful to God during times of difficulty.

2. The consequences of following our own passions instead of God's will.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Kings 11:5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

Solomon, the king of Israel, pursued Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Zidonians, and Milcom, the abomination of the Ammonites.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry: 1 Kings 11:5

2. The Temptations of Power: 1 Kings 11:5

1. Deuteronomy 7:25-26 - The consequences of idolatry

2. Romans 12:2 - Renewing our minds and not conforming to the world's standards

1 Kings 11:6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.

Solomon did not follow the Lord as his father David did.

1. The importance of consistently following the Lord.

2. The consequences of not following the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 8:11 14 Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

2. Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

1 Kings 11:7 Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

Solomon built two high places for the gods Chemosh and Molech, which were considered abominations to the Israelites.

1. God calls us to live holy lives, free from false idolatry.

2. Our actions have consequences, and we must carefully consider our choices.

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them."

2. Deuteronomy 7:25-26 - "The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the Lord thy God."

1 Kings 11:8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

Solomon had strange wives who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

1. "Loving God Fully: The Example of Solomon's Faithful Devotion"

2. "The Dangers of Disobedience: Solomon's Apostasy and Its Consequences"

1. Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Kings 11:9 And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,

The LORD was displeased with Solomon for turning away from Him despite having been shown His presence twice.

1) Understanding the Consequences of Turning Away From God

2) The Power of God's Presence in Our Lives

1) Deuteronomy 4:25-31 - When you beget children and grandchildren and have grown old in the land, and you act corruptly and make a carved image in the form of anything, and do evil in the sight of the LORD your God, provoking Him to anger,

2) Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

1 Kings 11:10 And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded.

Solomon disobeyed the Lord's commands and went after other gods.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God's commands

2. The consequences of disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 6:14-15 - "You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you"

2. Romans 6:16 - "Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin leading to death or of obedience leading to righteousness?"

1 Kings 11:11 Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.

The LORD warns Solomon that if he does not keep the covenant and statutes that He commanded, the LORD will take away the kingdom from him and give it to a servant.

1. The Importance of Keeping God's Covenant

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Hebrews 10:26-31 - If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

1 Kings 11:12 Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son.

God promises not to take away the kingdom of Israel from King David's descendants, but instead will take it away from the son of Solomon.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises, and the importance of trusting and honoring Him.

2. The consequences of sin and how it affects future generations.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - "Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations."

2. Exodus 20:5-6 - "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me."

1 Kings 11:13 Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.

God, in His mercy, spared one of Solomon's tribes in order to keep His covenant with David and Jerusalem.

1. The Mercy of God: How God Shows His Love to His People

2. The Faithfulness of God: Keeping His Promises No Matter What

1. Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 13:5: Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

1 Kings 11:14 And the LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom.

The LORD stirred up an adversary for Solomon, Hadad the Edomite, who was of the king's seed in Edom.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty over Human Affairs

2. The Power of God's Protection

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 11:15 For it came to pass, when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the host was gone up to bury the slain, after he had smitten every male in Edom;

Solomon's disobedience to God caused Him to take away the kingdom from him.

1: We should be obedient to God and it is never too late to turn back to Him.

2: Disobedience to God leads to consequences that can be avoided by seeking Him.

1: James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

2: Hebrews 4:11-13 - Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

1 Kings 11:16 (For six months did Joab remain there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom:)

Joab remained in Edom for six months with all Israel to cut off every male in the land.

1. The Power of Persistence: Lessons From Joab

2. The Faithfulness of Joab: Serving God in Difficult Times

1. 1 Samuel 18:14 - David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name became very great.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Kings 11:17 That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child.

The passage describes how Hadad, still a young child, fled to Egypt with some of his father's servants.

1. God always has a plan for us, even if we are too young to understand it.

2. Even in difficult times, God provides us with the strength and courage to move forward.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

1 Kings 11:18 And they arose out of Midian, and came to Paran: and they took men with them out of Paran, and they came to Egypt, unto Pharaoh king of Egypt; which gave him an house, and appointed him victuals, and gave him land.

The Midianites journeyed to Egypt and were welcomed by Pharaoh who gave them a house, land, and food.

1. Taking risks for our dreams pays off!

2. God provides for us even in the midst of uncertainty.

1. Exodus 3:7-10 - And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

1 Kings 11:19 And Hadad found great favour in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him to wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.

Pharaoh gave Hadad his sister-in-law, Tahpenes the queen, as a wife.

1. God uses our relationships to bring us favor and blessing.

2. Never underestimate the power of relationships to bring about God's will.

1. Ruth 2:10 - And she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

1 Kings 11:20 And the sister of Tahpenes bare him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house: and Genubath was in Pharaoh's household among the sons of Pharaoh.

Tahpenes had a son named Genubath who she weaned in Pharaoh's house and he was part of the Pharaoh's household.

1. The Power of Education in the Bible

2. The Impact of Family on Our Lives

1. 1 Kings 11:20

2. Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

1 Kings 11:21 And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country.

Hadad heard of the death of King David and Joab, and requested permission from Pharaoh to leave Egypt to return to his homeland.

1. The importance of having a homeland and returning to it.

2. The fragility of life and death, and how quickly our lives can be taken away.

1. Psalm 39:4-5 "Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee."

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days."

1 Kings 11:22 Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country? And he answered, Nothing: howbeit let me go in any wise.

Pharaoh asked Solomon why he wanted to return to his own country, and Solomon replied that he had nothing to lack in Egypt.

1. God will always provide for us, even when it may seem like we have nothing.

2. Even when we are far away from home, God will provide us with all that we need.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Matthew 6:26 - Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

1 Kings 11:23 And God stirred him up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, which fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah:

God sent an adversary to King Solomon, Rezon the son of Eliadah, who had fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah.

1. How to Overcome Adversity with Faith

2. Finding Strength in the Lord's Protection

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Chronicles 32:7-8 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.

1 Kings 11:24 And he gathered men unto him, and became captain over a band, when David slew them of Zobah: and they went to Damascus, and dwelt therein, and reigned in Damascus.

Hadad joined forces with men from the region of Zobah and they moved to Damascus where they reigned.

1. God can use any situation for His purposes.

2. In times of adversity we must seek the Lord for guidance.

1. Psalm 91:2 "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

1 Kings 11:25 And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

Solomon's reign was threatened by Hadad, a foreign prince who abhored Israel and reigned over Syria.

1. We must remain vigilant and mindful of the temptations of our foreign enemies.

2. God is ever watching and providing protection from those who seek to do us harm.

1. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

2. Psalm 91:9-11 - Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

1 Kings 11:26 And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his hand against the king.

Jeroboam, a servant of King Solomon, attempted to overthrow the King.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Sovereignty of God in Our Lives

2. God's Faithfulness: Trusting God in All Circumstances

1. Exodus 15:2 - The Lord is my strength and my song; he has given me victory.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

1 Kings 11:27 And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father.

Solomon built Millo and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father, which was the cause of his hand being lifted up against the king.

1. God is the ultimate source of justice and will bring consequences to those who disrespect authority.

2. Obedience to authority is essential for the health of a nation.

1. Romans 13:1-2: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:2-4: I say: Keep the king s command, because of God s oath to him. Be not hasty to go from his presence. Do not take your stand in an evil cause, for he does whatever he pleases. For the word of the king is supreme, and who may say to him, What are you doing?

1 Kings 11:28 And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph.

Jeroboam was a hardworking, brave man who Solomon noticed and appointed him to oversee the house of Joseph.

1. God rewards hard work and courage 1 Kings 11:28.

2. God notices and rewards those who are diligent and brave 1 Kings 11:28.

1. Proverbs 12:24 - "The hand of the diligent will rule, while the slothful will be put to forced labor."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going."

1 Kings 11:29 And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field:

Ahijah the Shilonite found Jeroboam in the field while he was travelling from Jerusalem.

1. God's Providence in our Lives: How God Guides us on our Journeys

2. The Power of Coincidence: How the Unexpected can Lead us to God's Will

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do Not Worry

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart

1 Kings 11:30 And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces:

Ahijah ripped a garment into twelve pieces.

1. The Power of Obedience: How to Live a Life of Faithfulness

2. God's Providence: How We Can Trust in His Plans

1. Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

1 Kings 11:31 And he said to Jeroboam, Take thee ten pieces: for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee:

The Lord God of Israel tells Jeroboam that He will take away the kingdom from Solomon and give it to him with ten tribes.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Promises

2. The Power of God to Fulfill His Purposes

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

1 Kings 11:32 (But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:)

God chose one out of the 12 tribes of Israel to be loyal to Him and to His chosen city, Jerusalem.

1. God's Unconditional Love for His Chosen People

2. The Faithfulness of God to His Covenant

1. Jeremiah 7:23 (But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.)

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 (Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;)

1 Kings 11:33 Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father.

Solomon had forsaken God and worshipped false gods, not following God's commands in his actions.

1. God's Covenant: Following God's Ways to Achieve His Will

2. The Impact of Unfaithfulness: Turning from God and Attracting His Wrath

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - Warnings of Blessings and Curses for Following or Disobeying God's Commands

2. Jeremiah 7:23 - Punishment for Disobeying God and Not Walking in His Ways

1 Kings 11:34 Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes:

God chose David to remain as king and promised to uphold his dynasty for as long as he kept His commandments and statutes.

1. God rewards those who remain obedient to Him.

2. The rewards of God are everlasting.

1. Romans 2:7 - To those who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life.

2. Psalm 25:10 - All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

1 Kings 11:35 But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes.

God promised to give the kingdom of Israel to Solomon's servant Jeroboam, taking it away from Solomon's son.

1. God is faithful to keep His promises.

2. God uses unexpected vessels to do His will.

1. Romans 4:20-21 - He did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

1 Kings 11:36 And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.

God promised to give David's son a tribe, so that he would have a light before God in Jerusalem, the city chosen by God to put his name.

1. God's Promise to David: Remembering the Faithfulness of God

2. The Blessing of Light: God's Guidance in His Chosen City

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-16

2. Isaiah 9:2-7

1 Kings 11:37 And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel.

God promised Solomon that he would be king over Israel and would receive all that his soul desired.

1. The Power of Faithful Prayer: How God Answered Solomon's Request

2. God's Promise of Abundant Provision: Receiving All that Your Soul Desires

1. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

2. James 4:3 - Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

1 Kings 11:38 And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee.

God promises to be with Solomon and build him a sure house if he obeys God's commandments like David did.

1. God Fulfills His Promises: Trusting in God's Faithfulness

2. Obedience Rewarded: A Look at the Life of David

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

1 Kings 11:39 And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever.

God will punish the descendants of David, but not forever.

1. God is Just and Merciful - reflecting on God's love and mercy even in the face of judgement.

2. Restoration and Redemption - reflecting on the hope and promise of restoration through God's grace.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 - For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

1 Kings 11:40 Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

Jeroboam fled to Egypt to escape Solomon's attempt to kill him, and remained there until Solomon died.

1. God's protection is a refuge in times of danger.

2. God's plan is greater than our own.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.

1 Kings 11:41 And the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon?

The book of 1 Kings records the acts and wisdom of Solomon.

1. The Wisdom of Solomon: Learning from the Greatest King of Israel

2. The Life and Legacy of Solomon: Modeling our Lives after his

1. Proverbs 4:5-7 - Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

1 Kings 11:42 And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.

Solomon reigned over Israel in Jerusalem for forty years.

1. God's Plan: Even the Most Unlikely of People Can Be Used by God

2. Obedience to God Results in Blessing

1. Romans 8:28 (And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.)

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 (And Samuel said, Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.)

1 Kings 11:43 And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

Solomon, the son of David, died and was buried in the city of David, and his son Rehoboam reigned in his stead.

1. The Death of a King: What Can We Learn from Solomon?

2. The Legacy of Leadership: Passing the Torch from Father to Son.

1. 2 Samuel 7:12-13 - When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2. Psalm 132:11 - The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.

1 Kings chapter 12 describes the division of the kingdom of Israel after the death of Solomon, with Rehoboam becoming king and facing a rebellion led by Jeroboam.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Rehoboam, Solomon's son, traveling to Shechem to be crowned as king. Jeroboam, who had fled to Egypt, returns from exile and leads a delegation of Israelites to present their grievances and request lighter burdens (1 Kings 12:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Rehoboam seeks counsel from his father's advisors on how to respond to the people's request. The older advisors advise him to listen and speak kindly, while the younger counselors suggest exerting greater authority over the people (1 Kings 12:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: Rehoboam rejects the advice of the elders and instead follows the counsel of his peers. He responds harshly to the people, threatening heavier burdens rather than granting their requests (1 Kings 12:8-11).

4th Paragraph:The narrative reveals that as a result of Rehoboam's response, ten tribes led by Jeroboam rebel against him. They refuse allegiance to David's dynasty and declare Jeroboam as their king (1 Kings 12;16-20).

5th Paragraph:The chapter mentions that only Judah remains loyal to Rehoboam while Israel is divided between him in Judah and Jeroboam in Israel. Rehoboam gathers an army intending to restore his rule over Israel but is instructed by God not to fight against his own brothers (1 Kings 12;21-24).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by describing how both kings fortify their respective territories Jerusalem for Rehoboam and Shechem for Jeroboam and how this division remains until this day (1 Kings 12;25-33).

In summary, Chapter twelve of 1 Kings depicts the division of Israel s kingdom, Rehoboam becomes king, but faces rebellion. Jeroboam leads ten tribes, declaring himself king, Rehoboam rejects advice, responds harshly. The kingdom splits, with Judah remaining loyal, Both kings fortify their lands, and division persists. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as leadership decisions affecting national unity, the consequences of prideful actions, and God's sovereignty in shaping historical events.

1 Kings 12:1 And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him king.

All of Israel gathered in Shechem to make Rehoboam their king.

1. Rehoboam's coronation: A lesson in humility and obedience.

2. The importance of coming together in unity.

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

2. 1 Corinthians 1:10 - "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

1 Kings 12:2 And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was yet in Egypt, heard of it, (for he was fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt;)

Jeroboam fled from the presence of King Solomon and was living in Egypt when he heard news of Solomon's death.

1. We can learn from Jeroboam's example of fleeing from the presence of God.

2. God is sovereign and He will accomplish His purposes despite our attempts to prevent Him.

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - "And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. 14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."

2. Proverbs 19:21 - "There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand."

1 Kings 12:3 That they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying,

Rehoboam's decision to seek advice from the older advisers instead of the younger ones led to the division of Israel.

1. We all need to be careful of who we seek advice from and how we act on that advice.

2. We need to be mindful of our decisions and how they can affect our lives and those around us.

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1 Kings 12:4 Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.

The people of Israel asked King Rehoboam to ease the heavy yoke of labor imposed upon them by his father, King Solomon.

1. "The Lord Calls Us to Serve Others"

2. "The Power of God to Lighten Burdens"

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

2. Galatians 5:13 - "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

1 Kings 12:5 And he said unto them, Depart yet for three days, then come again to me. And the people departed.

King Rehoboam asked the people to leave and return in three days for a decision.

1. Taking Time to Make Wise Decisions

2. The Importance of Listening to Advice

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

6 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

1 Kings 12:6 And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people?

Rehoboam seeks advice from the old men who were present during his father's reign on how to respond to the people's inquiry.

1. The Power of Seeking Wise Counsel

2. The Importance of Listening to Advice

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

1 Kings 12:7 And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.

The people asked Rehoboam to be their servant and promised to serve him in return if he would answer them and speak kindly to them.

1. The Power of Kind Words: How being kind can create a lasting bond with those around us.

2. Serving Others: What it means to put the needs of others before our own.

1. Matthew 7:12 - "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

1 Kings 12:8 But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:

King Rehoboam disregarded the advice of the older men and instead sought advice from the younger men who had grown up with him.

1. How to Remember the Wisdom of Those Who Came Before Us

2. The Danger of Failing to Seek Out and Heed Wise Council

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Proverbs 20:18 - "Plans are established by counsel; by wise guidance wage war."

1 Kings 12:9 And he said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which thy father did put upon us lighter?

King Rehoboam asked the elders of Israel for advice on how to respond to the people's request to reduce the burden of taxation.

1. "The Power of Wisdom" - utilizing the wisdom of the elders to make insightful and beneficial decisions.

2. "The Strength of Unity" - understanding the importance of working together for the greater good.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. James 3:17-18 - "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

1 Kings 12:10 And the young men that were grown up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou speak unto this people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins.

The young men that had grown up with the king asked him to make their yoke lighter than that of his father. The king replied that even his "little finger" would be thicker than his father's loins.

1. The Strength We Receive From Our Ancestors - How our legacy gives us strength to carry on during difficult times.

2. The Power of Small Things - How even small actions can have profound impacts.

1. Romans 8:15-17 - For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1 Kings 12:11 And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

King Rehoboam, son of King Solomon, plans to give the people of Israel a heavier burden than his father had imposed.

1. The Lord can turn our trials into tests of our faith.

2. When life gets hard, we can trust God to be our strength.

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

1 Kings 12:12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day.

Jeroboam and the people came to Rehoboam on the third day as requested by the king.

1. Obeying Authority: The Example of Rehoboam

2. The Power of Following Through: Jeroboam and the People

1. Ephesians 5:21 - "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

2. Proverbs 19:20 - "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future."

1 Kings 12:13 And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him;

The people of Israel asked King Rehoboam for advice, but he rejected the counsel of the elders and responded harshly.

1. Rejecting Wise Advice: Learning from the Mistakes of Rehoboam

2. Following Godly Counsel: An Example from 1 Kings 12

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

2. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

1 Kings 12:14 And spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

The young men advised the people that the yoke of the father had been heavy, and the chastisement with whips was going to be replaced with chastisement with scorpions.

1. The Importance of Heeding Advice from Wise Counselors

2. Chastisement and the Necessity of Discipline

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Hebrews 12:11 - Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

1 Kings 12:15 Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the LORD, that he might perform his saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

The king did not listen to the people because it was the Lord's will.

1. How God's will can be greater than our own plans.

2. Understanding when the Lord's will should be followed.

1. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2. Isaiah 46:10 - "My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please."

1 Kings 12:16 So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents.

The people of Israel protested to King Rehoboam not listening to them, and then declared that they had no part in David or his descendant. They then left to go to their own tents.

1. The Importance of Listening to Others

2. Understanding the Value of Our Heritage

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Psalm 78:1-7 - Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

1 Kings 12:17 But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

Rehoboam reigned over the children of Israel who lived in the cities of Judah.

1. The Importance of Respecting Authority

2. God's Plan for His People

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

1 Kings 12:18 Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. Therefore king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

King Rehoboam sent Adoram to collect tribute from Israel, but the people stoned him, killing him. King Rehoboam quickly fled to Jerusalem in his chariot.

1. God is in control of all things and can work through us in difficult times.

2. We must be careful and humble to listen to the will of the people.

1. 1 Peter 5:5-6 "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time."

2. Daniel 6:1-3 "It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm."

1 Kings 12:19 So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

Israel rebelled against the house of David, and this rebellion has continued until the present day.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Unending Faithfulness of God in the Face of Israel's Rebellion

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: The Legacy of Israel's Rebellion

1. Isaiah 9:7 - "Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore"

2. 2 Samuel 7:14 - "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men"

1 Kings 12:20 And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was come again, that they sent and called him unto the congregation, and made him king over all Israel: there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

Jeroboam is made king of all Israel, except for the tribe of Judah.

1. The importance of loyalty to the house of David

2. The power of unity among all of Israel

1. 2 Chronicles 10:19 - So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

2. Romans 15:5-6 - May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Kings 12:21 And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, with the tribe of Benjamin, an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men, which were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.

Rehoboam gathered an army of 180,000 men to fight the house of Israel.

1. God uses us to bring about His plans and purposes.

2. We must be faithful and obedient to God's commands.

1. Isaiah 55:8-11 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 12:22 But the word of God came unto Shemaiah the man of God, saying,

The passage tells of a word of God coming to Shemaiah the man of God.

1. "God's Guidance in Uncertain Times"

2. "The Importance of Listening to God's Voice"

1. John 14:26 - "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

1 Kings 12:23 Speak unto Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the remnant of the people, saying,

This passage from 1 Kings 12:23 instructs the people of Judah and Benjamin to speak to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions to Rehoboam

2. God's Sovereignty: God's Kingship and Rehoboam's Rule

1. 2 Chronicles 10:16-17 - "And when all Israel saw that the king would not hearken unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents. But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them."

2. Psalm 72:11 - "Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him."

1 Kings 12:24 Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; for this thing is from me. They hearkened therefore to the word of the LORD, and returned to depart, according to the word of the LORD.

The Lord commanded the people of Israel not to fight against their own brethren, and the people hearkened to the Lord's word and returned home.

1. We must always obey God's commands, no matter the cost.

2. We should not take sides in disputes between our own people, but instead remain neutral.

1. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 - You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

2. Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

1 Kings 12:25 Then Jeroboam built Shechem in mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and went out from thence, and built Penuel.

Jeroboam built the cities of Shechem and Penuel in the region of mount Ephraim.

1. The Value of Building: Understanding Jeroboam's decision to build two cities in 1 Kings 12:25.

2. Working Together: How Jeroboam's example of building two cities in 1 Kings 12:25 can inform collaboration.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor.

2. Haggai 1:4-7 - Consider your ways and build the house of the Lord.

1 Kings 12:26 And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David:

Jeroboam feared the kingdom of Israel would be reunified under David's house.

1: God's plan is always fulfilled, and we must trust in Him.

2: Fear of the unknown can be overcome by faith in God.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 12:27 If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah.

This passage is about Rehoboam's fear that the people of Israel will return to him if they go to Jerusalem to sacrifice in the house of the Lord.

1. The Power of Faith: Rehoboam's Fear of the People's Belief in God

2. God's Sovereignty: Rehoboam's Recognition of God's Authority

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

2. Psalm 62:11-12 Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.

1 Kings 12:28 Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

King Rehoboam decides to create two golden calves to be worshipped as gods instead of going up to Jerusalem.

1. The importance of trusting in God instead of idols.

2. The consequences of rejecting God's will.

1. Exodus 20:4-5 - You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Romans 1:22-23 - Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

1 Kings 12:29 And he set the one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan.

King Jeroboam II set up two golden calves to serve as religious idols, one in Bethel and one in Dan.

1. Do not put your trust in idols, but in the Lord.

2. Idolatry is a dangerous practice that leads to destruction and false worship.

1. Isaiah 44:15-20

2. Exodus 20:3-5

1 Kings 12:30 And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan.

The people of Israel committed a sin by worshipping idols at the temple in Dan.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Why We Should Not Follow False Gods

2. The Power of Repentance: How We Can Overcome Sin

1. Exodus 20:3-4 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 Kings 12:31 And he made an house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi.

Jeroboam instituted a new priesthood, composed of people who were not descendants of Levi.

1. God Calls Us to Serve, Regardless of Our Background

2. Appreciating the Gifts and Talents of All People

1. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 - There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.

2. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 12:32 And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Bethel, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places which he had made.

Jeroboam established a feast that was similar to the one in Judah and offered sacrifices to the golden calves he had made in Bethel, appointing priests to the high places.

1. God has always had a plan for us and it is up to us to make sure we seek it out and follow it.

2. The importance of faithfully accepting God's plan and following it without question.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

1 Kings 12:33 So he offered upon the altar which he had made in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised of his own heart; and ordained a feast unto the children of Israel: and he offered upon the altar, and burnt incense.

King Jeroboam of Israel devised a feast and offered burnt incense on the altar he had made in Bethel on the fifteenth day of the eighth month.

1. The faithfulness of God despite our unfaithfulness.

2. The power of God to transform even our own hearts.

1. Romans 3:3-4 - "What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God s faithfulness? Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

1 Kings chapter 13 tells the story of a prophet sent by God to deliver a message to King Jeroboam, as well as the tragic consequences that unfold due to disobedience and deception.

1st Paragraph: The chapter introduces an unnamed prophet from Judah who is sent by God with a specific message for King Jeroboam. The prophet travels to Bethel, where Jeroboam is offering sacrifices at an altar he had set up (1 Kings 13:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative reveals that the prophet boldly confronts Jeroboam, proclaiming a prophecy from God. He foretells the destruction of the altar and predicts that Josiah, a future king of Judah, will offer pagan priests on it as sacrifice (1 Kings 13:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: In response to the prophet's words, King Jeroboam stretches out his hand and orders his officials to seize him. However, his hand withers and becomes paralyzed until the prophet intercedes on his behalf (1 Kings 13:6-7).

4th Paragraph:The chapter mentions how King Jeroboam invites the prophet into his house for refreshments and offers him rewards. However, the prophet refuses these offers in obedience to God's command not to eat or drink anything in Bethel (1 Kings 13;8-10).

5th Paragraph:The narrative focuses on an old prophet living in Bethel who hears about what transpired between Jeroboam and the unnamed prophet. He seeks out the young man and lies to him by claiming that an angel told him it was okay for him to come eat at his house (1 Kings 13;11-19).

6th Paragraph:The chapter describes how despite being warned by God through His true messenger about eating or drinking anything in Bethel, the young prophet is deceived by the old prophet's lie and goes with him. As they eat together, a prophetic word comes against both of them (1 Kings 13;20-32).

In summary, Chapter thirteen of 1 Kings depicts a prophetic encounter between an unnamed messenger and King Jeroboam, The messenger delivers a prophecy of judgment. Jeroboam attempts to seize him but fails, The old lying prophet deceives the young messenger, leading them both astray. Tragic consequences follow, This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as obedience versus deception, the danger of false prophets, and divine judgment for disobedience.

1 Kings 13:1 And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.

A man of God from Judah came to Bethel as commanded by the Lord and Jeroboam was standing by the altar ready to burn incense.

1. The Power of Obedience to God

2. The Importance of Following God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;

2. Ezekiel 2:3-5 - And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.

1 Kings 13:2 And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee.

A man prophesied against an altar that a child named Josiah will be born and he will offer the priests of the high places to the altar and men's bones will be burnt upon it.

1. The Power of Prophesy: How God's Words Can Change Our Lives

2. Josiah's Story: Learning From A Young Leader's Faith

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 - And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

1 Kings 13:3 And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.

A prophet gave a sign from the Lord to show that the altar should be destroyed and the ashes poured out.

1. The Lord's Signs Should Be Taken Seriously

2. The Lord's Commands Should Be Obeyed

1. Jeremiah 1:11-12 - The Lord gave Jeremiah a sign to show that his words will come true.

2. Hebrews 11:17-19 - Abraham obeyed the Lord and was willing to offer up Isaac to show his faith.

1 Kings 13:4 And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him.

A man of God prophesied against the altar in Bethel, and when King Jeroboam heard the prophecy he attempted to seize the man but his hand became paralyzed.

1. Faith in God is stronger than any earthly power.

2. God's power is more powerful than any human's.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The Lord foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations."

1 Kings 13:5 The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

A man of God had given a sign from the Lord to the altar in 1 Kings 13:5 and the altar was rent and the ashes were poured out from it.

1. God's Power and Authority as Revealed Through Signs

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Word

1. Ezekiel 3:17-19 - Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. 18 When I say to the wicked, You wicked person, you will surely die, and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. 19 But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

2. James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

1 Kings 13:6 And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Intreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

The man of God interceded on behalf of the king and the king's hand was restored to him.

1. God is always willing to answer our prayers when we seek Him.

2. Even the smallest prayers can receive miraculous answers.

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

2. James 5:16 - The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

1 Kings 13:7 And the king said unto the man of God, Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward.

The king asked the man of God to come and stay with him so he could give him a reward.

1. The Power of Hospitality - How our generosity can be a blessing to others.

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness - How following God's will brings true reward.

1. Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

2. Hebrews 6:10 - For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

1 Kings 13:8 And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place:

A man of God told the king that he would not enter the king's house or eat bread or drink water in the place unless the king gave him half his house.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Will No Matter the Cost

2. Choosing God Over Wealth and Comfort

1. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

2. Philippians 3:7-8 - But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

1 Kings 13:9 For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest.

A man of God received a command from the Lord to eat no bread, nor drink water, nor return the same way he came.

1: When God speaks, listen and obey.

2: God's plans are greater than our own.

1: Acts 5:29 - Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Kings 13:10 So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Bethel.

A man disobeyed God's instructions and went a different way than what he was instructed to go.

1. Disobedience Leads to Trouble

2. Listen and Obey God's Instructions

1. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Ezekiel 33:33 - When all this comes true and it surely will then they will know that a prophet has been among them.

1 Kings 13:11 Now there dwelt an old prophet in Bethel; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father.

An old prophet in Bethel heard from his sons about the words spoken by the man of God to the king.

1. How our words can have a lasting impact

2. The importance of listening to wise counsel

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. James 3:2-5 - For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

1 Kings 13:12 And their father said unto them, What way went he? For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah.

The father of two young men asked them which way the man of God had gone, as they had seen him come from Judah.

1. The Power of Observation: Learning from the Father of the Two Young Men.

2. Following in the Footsteps of the Man of God: Finding Strength in Faith.

1. Proverbs 22:3: A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Matthew 6:33: But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

1 Kings 13:13 And he said unto his sons, Saddle me the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon,

The prophet of God rode on an ass to the place of his prophetic mission.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's commands despite our doubts and fears.

2. Discerning God's Will: How to recognize God's leading in our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

2. Isaiah 6:8 "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me.

1 Kings 13:14 And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah? And he said, I am.

A man of God from Judah was found sitting under an oak, and was asked if he was the man of God from Judah. He responded affirmatively.

1. God's plans are often found in unexpected places.

2. God's presence can be found in even the most humble places.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 139:7-8 "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there."

1 Kings 13:15 Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

A man invited someone to share a meal with him.

1. The Power of Invitation: Opening Our Hearts to Others

2. Cultivating Hospitality: Welcoming Others into Our Lives

1. Hebrews 13:2 - Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

2. Luke 14:12-14 - Then Jesus said to his host, When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.

1 Kings 13:16 And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

A prophet of God refuses to accompany a man of God and refuses to eat or drink with him in that place.

1. The Obedience of the Prophet of God: How We Should Follow God's Commands Without Question

2. God's Provision: How We Should Rely on God For All Our Needs

1. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 13:17 For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

The prophet was instructed by the Lord not to eat, drink, or return the same way he came while on his journey to Bethel.

1. Trusting God's Word Above All Else

2. Obeying God's Commands Without Question

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Deuteronomy 8:3 - And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

1 Kings 13:18 He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him.

A prophet lied to another prophet when he told him that an angel had spoken to him from the LORD and instructed him to bring the other prophet back to his house.

1. The importance of truth-telling and the consequences of lying.

2. The power of God's word and the ways in which we can discern His will.

1. 1 Kings 13:18 - He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him.

2. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.

1 Kings 13:19 So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water.

A man of God went with a prophet and ate bread and drank water in his house.

1. God's faithfulness is unchanging, even in difficult circumstances.

2. We should always seek guidance from God in all decisions.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

1 Kings 13:20 And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet that brought him back:

A prophet was brought back to his city and while he was sitting at a table, the word of the Lord came to him.

1. The Power of God in Unexpected Ways

2. God's Timing is Perfect

1. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Kings 13:21 And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,

A man of God from Judah was disobedient to God's commandment and was rebuked for it.

1. "A Call for Obedience: The Consequences of Disobedience to God's Commandments"

2. "The Power of God's Word: Learning to Listen and Obey"

1. Deuteronomy 30:11-14 - For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.

2. Joshua 1:8 - This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

1 Kings 13:22 But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which the Lord did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.

A man disobeyed the Lord's command and ate bread and drank water from a place he was told not to.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessings

2. Remembering the Consequences of Disobedience: Why We Should Heed the Lord's Warnings

1. Luke 11:28 - But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

2. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

1 Kings 13:23 And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

After the prophet was brought back, he was provided with food and drink and was given an ass to ride on.

1. God provides for our needs.

2. We should show kindness to those in need.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear.

2. Luke 10:25-37 - The parable of the Good Samaritan.

1 Kings 13:24 And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his carcase was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcase.

A man was travelling and was killed by a lion. His body was left in the road and the donkey he was riding stood nearby.

1. God's plans are greater than our own.

2. We have all been given a mission to serve God.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord s favor.

1 Kings 13:25 And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcase cast in the way, and the lion standing by the carcase: and they came and told it in the city where the old prophet dwelt.

An old prophet lived in a city and men passing by saw a dead body with a lion standing by it and reported it.

1. God's Providence in Unexpected Places

2. The Warning of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Kings 13:26 And when the prophet that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, It is the man of God, who was disobedient unto the word of the LORD: therefore the LORD hath delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake unto him.

A prophet brings a man of God back from his journey, only to learn that he was disobedient to the Word of the Lord and has been killed by a lion.

1. Obeying the Word of the Lord brings blessings, but disobedience brings consequences.

2. Be humble and obedient to the Lord s will, and He will be faithful to protect you.

1. Proverbs 28:14 Blessed is the one who fears the Lord always, but whoever hardens their heart will fall into calamity.

2. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Kings 13:27 And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him.

A man instructed his sons to saddle an ass for him.

1. How God's Will Is Achieved Through Obedience

2. The Power of Serving God With Faithful Action

1. Genesis 22:3-4 - Abraham's obedience to God in preparing to sacrifice his son

2. John 2:5 - Jesus' mother's instruction to the servants to do whatever he said

1 Kings 13:28 And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

A man was found dead in the road with a donkey and a lion standing beside him. The lion had not touched either the man or the donkey.

1. "The Power of Faith: How a Man's Faith in God Protected Him"

2. "The Faithfulness of God: How God's Protection Extends to All"

1. Psalm 91:11 "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

2. Proverbs 18:10 "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

1 Kings 13:29 And the prophet took up the carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back: and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.

A prophet takes the body of a man of God and brings it back to the city for mourning and burial.

1. The Power of a Good Example - How one person's faithfulness can impact many.

2. The Cost of Standing for God - The sacrifices we make to follow His will.

1. Matthew 16:24-26 - Jesus' words to the disciples about denying oneself and taking up one's cross.

2. 1 Peter 2:21-24 - Jesus' example of suffering for righteousness' sake.

1 Kings 13:30 And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, Alas, my brother!

A man died and those mourning for him expressed their grief.

1. The Power of Grief: Learning to Express Our Feelings in a Healthy Way

2. The Comfort of Community: Experiencing Comfort in Times of Loss

1. James 4:14 - What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

1 Kings 13:31 And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones:

After burying the man of God, the man spoke to his sons, instructing them to bury him in the same sepulchre as the man of God and lay his bones beside his bones.

1. Seeking the company of the Righteous: An Example from 1 Kings 13:31

2. Honoring the Faithful: A Lesson from 1 Kings 13:31

1. Proverbs 13:20 - He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

2. Hebrews 11:4 - By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.

1 Kings 13:32 For the saying which he cried by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.

A prophecy from God will come to pass, condemning the altars of Bethel and all other high places in the cities of Samaria.

1. The Lord is Faithful and True: A Study of God's Promises in 1 Kings 13:32

2. The Power of Prophecy: How God's Word Can Transform Our Lives

1. Jeremiah 1:12 - "Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it."

2. Matthew 24:35 - "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

1 Kings 13:33 After this thing Jeroboam returned not from his evil way, but made again of the lowest of the people priests of the high places: whosoever would, he consecrated him, and he became one of the priests of the high places.

Jeroboam continued to do evil and made anyone he wanted a priest of the high places, regardless of their qualifications.

1. The Danger of Choosing Evil: The Consequences of Jeroboam's Wrong Choices

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting God Despite Circumstances

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

2. Proverbs 21:4 - Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, are sin.

1 Kings 13:34 And this thing became sin unto the house of Jeroboam, even to cut it off, and to destroy it from off the face of the earth.

The house of Jeroboam committed a sin which resulted in its destruction from the face of the earth.

1. The Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Obedience

Cross-

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Peter 2:16 - Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God s slaves.

1 Kings chapter 14 portrays the judgment of God upon the house of Jeroboam, as well as the reign and death of Rehoboam.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that Abijah, the son of Jeroboam, becomes ill. Jeroboam sends his wife in disguise to consult the prophet Ahijah about their son's fate (1 Kings 14:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Ahijah reveals God's message to Jeroboam's wife. He foretells the demise of Jeroboam's entire household due to their idolatry and disobedience. The child will die upon her return home, but he will be buried with honor because he is "the only one in whom the Lord, the God of Israel, has found anything good" (1 Kings 14:5-13).

3rd Paragraph: The narrative shifts focus to Rehoboam, who succeeds Solomon as king over Judah. It mentions how Rehoboam reigns for seventeen years in Jerusalem and continues to lead his people into idolatry (1 Kings 14:21-24).

4th Paragraph:The chapter describes how there is constant hostility between Rehoboam and Jeroboam throughout their reigns. It mentions that when Rehoboam dies, he is succeeded by his son Abijah (also known as Abijam) (1 Kings 14;29-31).

In summary, Chapter fourteen of 1 Kings depicts God s judgment upon Jeroboam s house, Jeroboams wife seeks a prophet, he predicts disaster. Rehoboams reign continues, marked by idolatry, Hostility persists between two kingdoms. Rehobaom passes away, succeeded by his son. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine judgment for disobedience, the consequences of idolatry, and succession within ruling dynasties.

1 Kings 14:1 At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick.

Abijah, the son of Jeroboam, became ill.

1. God is in control of all things, even sickness.

2. Seek God's help in times of sickness and trial.

1. Psalm 34:19 "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all."

2. James 5:14-15 "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."

1 Kings 14:2 And Jeroboam said to his wife, Arise, I pray thee, and disguise thyself, that thou be not known to be the wife of Jeroboam; and get thee to Shiloh: behold, there is Ahijah the prophet, which told me that I should be king over this people.

Jeroboam told his wife to disguise herself and go to Shiloh to meet with Ahijah the prophet, who had told him he would be king of Israel.

1. God's Prophecy Fulfilled: The Story of Jeroboam

2. How to Respond to God's Calling: The Example of Jeroboam

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Jeremiah 1:5 - Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

1 Kings 14:3 And take with thee ten loaves, and cracknels, and a cruse of honey, and go to him: he shall tell thee what shall become of the child.

The Lord tells the prophet to take ten loaves, cracknels, and a cruse of honey to a man who will tell him what will happen to the child.

1. God's Wisdom and Guidance in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Prophecy and God's Intervention

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 14:4 And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah could not see; for his eyes were set by reason of his age.

Jeroboam's wife went to visit the prophet Ahijah, but he was unable to see due to old age.

1. We can always rely on God s guidance, even when things don t look like they should.

2. Put your faith in God even when life doesn t make sense.

1. Psalm 73:26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Kings 14:5 And the LORD said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be another woman.

God instructs the prophet Ahijah to give a message to Jeroboam's wife, who is coming to ask for help for her son who is ill.

1. God's Promises: When We Face Difficulty

2. God's Guidance in Unexpected Places

1. Matthew 6:26-33 - Be careful not to worry about life's needs, for God will provide

2. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

1 Kings 14:6 And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to thee with heavy tidings.

Passage Ahijah heard the sound of a woman's feet as she entered the door and addressed her as Jeroboam's wife, telling her that he was sent to her with bad news.

1. God knows our hearts and our true identity.

2. We must be prepared for the consequences of our actions.

1. Psalm 139:1-3 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

1 Kings 14:7 Go, tell Jeroboam, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Forasmuch as I exalted thee from among the people, and made thee prince over my people Israel,

Passage God exalted Jeroboam from the people and made him prince over Israel.

1. God has the power to exalt us, and we must use it for His glory.

2. We are called to be faithful stewards of the power God gives us.

1. Philippians 2:3 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."

2. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

1 Kings 14:8 And rent the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it thee: and yet thou hast not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments, and who followed me with all his heart, to do that only which was right in mine eyes;

Jeroboam was given the kingdom of Israel, but he did not follow God's commandments like David did.

1. God rewards those who faithfully obey Him.

2. Sin has consequences and can lead to a loss of blessings.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

1 Kings 14:9 But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back:

King Jeroboam I of Israel has committed more evil than any of his predecessors, going so far as to create other gods and molten images, and provoking the anger of God.

1. Turning Away from God: The Consequences of Idolatry

2. Repentance: Heeding the Call of God

1. Jeremiah 7:9-10 "Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not; And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations?

2. Acts 17:22-23 So Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

1 Kings 14:10 Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam, as a man taketh away dung, till it be all gone.

God will punish the house of Jeroboam by taking away all of its members, no matter how insignificant.

1. God Has No Favorites: All are Called to Account

2. Dung or Gold, God Sees the Heart

1. Matthew 10:29-31 - Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

2. Romans 14:12 - So then each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

1 Kings 14:11 Him that dieth of Jeroboam in the city shall the dogs eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat: for the LORD hath spoken it.

God's punishment is absolute and just.

1: God's justice is certain, no matter the circumstance.

2: God's punishment is always deserved and just.

1: Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."

2: Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."

1 Kings 14:12 Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: and when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die.

God tells the prophet to return home, and when he reaches the city, the child will die.

1. The Sovereignty of God - No matter what we do, God is in control.

2. The Power of Prayer - Even when God's answer isn't what we expect, He still hears us.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 14:13 And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the LORD God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam.

Jeroboam is the only one from his household who will be remembered fondly by the people of Israel, as he did something good in the eyes of the Lord.

1. How Doing Good Can Bring Blessings to Our Lives

2. The Importance of Living a Life That Pleases the Lord

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil."

2. Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

1 Kings 14:14 Moreover the LORD shall raise him up a king over Israel, who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam that day: but what? even now.

God will raise up a king to cut off the house of Jeroboam, and it will happen soon.

1. God has the power to bring about change.

2. When God makes a promise, He will keep it.

1. Isaiah 46:9-10 "Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come."

2. Isaiah 55:11 "so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

1 Kings 14:15 For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the LORD to anger.

The LORD will punish Israel by uprooting them from the good land he gave to their fathers and scattering them beyond the river because of their idolatry.

1. God's Judgment on Idolatry: A Warning from 1 Kings 14:15

2. The Consequences of Disobedience and Rebellion: A Look at 1 Kings 14:15

1. Jeremiah 9:14 - But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them.

2. Isaiah 17:10 - Because thou hast forgotten the God of thy salvation, and hast not been mindful of the rock of thy strength, therefore shalt thou plant pleasant plants, and shalt set it with strange slips.

1 Kings 14:16 And he shall give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel to sin.

The sins of Jeroboam led to the downfall of Israel.

1. The Consequences of Sins: A Study on the Downfall of Israel.

2. The Power of Sin: A Reflection on the Legacy of Jeroboam.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

1 Kings 14:17 And Jeroboam's wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah: and when she came to the threshold of the door, the child died;

Jeroboam's wife left to visit Tirzah, and upon arriving at the threshold of the door, her child died.

1. The Power of Faith: Jeroboam's wife's faith in God remained strong even in the face of tragedy.

2. The Importance of Family: The death of a child is an unimaginable tragedy, yet Jeroboam's wife continued to move forward with faith and family.

1. 1 Kings 14:17

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

1 Kings 14:18 And they buried him; and all Israel mourned for him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by the hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet.

The death of King Jeroboam was mourned by all of Israel as per the word of the LORD through His prophet Ahijah.

1. The Power of Prophecy: How God's Word Can Change Lives

2. Living a Life of Obedience: The Legacy of King Jeroboam

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

1 Kings 14:19 And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he warred, and how he reigned, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Jeroboam's war and reign are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: 1 John 1:9

2. The Value of Working Hard: Proverbs 13:4

1. John 12:48 and Isaiah 55:11

2. Ephesians 4:32 and Colossians 3:13

1 Kings 14:20 And the days which Jeroboam reigned were two and twenty years: and he slept with his fathers, and Nadab his son reigned in his stead.

Jeroboam reigned as king for 22 years before he died and his son Nadab took over.

1. God's plan for succession: Understanding the importance of passing down wisdom and knowledge to our next generation.

2. Living a life of legacy: The impact of investing in our lives and leaving behind a lasting legacy.

1. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

2. Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

1 Kings 14:21 And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD did choose out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess.

Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, began to reign over Judah at the age of forty-one and ruled for seventeen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Naamah, an Ammonitess.

1) Rehoboam's Reign: Finding Strength in Uncertain Times

2) The Faithfulness of God: The Story of Rehoboam

1) 2 Chronicles 12:13 - So king Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam was one and forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there.

2) 1 Chronicles 28:5 - And of all my sons, (for the Lord hath given me many sons,) he hath chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel.

1 Kings 14:22 And Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they had committed, above all that their fathers had done.

Judah sinned against God and committed more sins than their ancestors.

1. Being mindful of our past and the mistakes our ancestors have made will help us to make better decisions in the present.

2. Failing to honor God will bring about consequences in our lives.

1. Jeremiah 17:10 I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

1 Kings 14:23 For they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree.

The people of Israel built high places, images, and groves on every high hill and under every green tree.

1. The danger of idolatry and how it can lead us away from God.

2. How we can learn from the mistakes of the people of Israel and trust in God as our only source of hope and strength.

1. 2 Chronicles 33:7 - He set a carved image, the idol which he had made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name forever.

2. Deuteronomy 4:19 - And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the Lord thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

1 Kings 14:24 And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

This passage from 1 Kings describes the presence of sodomites in the land and the abominations they committed according to the nations the Lord had cast out before the Israelites.

1. "Living A Life Of Purity: A Study Of Abominations In The Bible"

2. "Love Your Neighbor: A Reflection On Mercy And Judgment From 1 Kings 14"

1. Leviticus 18:22-23 - "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination. Nor shall you mate with any animal, to defile yourself with it. Nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it. It is perversion."

2. Romans 1:26-28 - "For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due."

1 Kings 14:25 And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem:

Shishak, the king of Egypt, attacked Jerusalem in the fifth year of King Rehoboam.

1. God uses trials to refine and strengthen us.

2. When we are faced with challenges, we must rely on God's strength and wisdom.

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I [am] with thee: be not dismayed; for I [am] thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

1 Kings 14:26 And he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he even took away all: and he took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

Jeroboam took away all the treasures from the House of the LORD and the King's house, including the gold shields that Solomon had made.

1. The Power of Greed: How Jeroboam's Covetousness Led to His Downfall

2. The Value of Contentment: Finding Joy in What We Have

1. Proverbs 15:16 - Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 - He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity. When goods increase, they are increased that eat them: and what good is there to the owners thereof, saving the beholding of them with their eyes?

1 Kings 14:27 And king Rehoboam made in their stead brasen shields, and committed them unto the hands of the chief of the guard, which kept the door of the king's house.

King Rehoboam replaced the shields of gold with bronze shields and entrusted them to the chief of the guard that watched over the palace.

1. The importance of trust in leadership.

2. The power of commitment to tasks, no matter how small.

1. Matthew 25:21 - His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things.

2. Proverbs 22:29 - Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

1 Kings 14:28 And it was so, when the king went into the house of the LORD, that the guard bare them, and brought them back into the guard chamber.

The king went into the house of the LORD and was escorted by the guard.

1. God's Protection - How God Provides Safety for His People

2. God's House - The Significance of the House of the Lord

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

1 Kings 14:29 Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

Rehoboam's acts are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God Works Through Human Agency in History

2. The Importance of Recording God's Work: Why We Must Record Our Lives for His Glory

1. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

1 Kings 14:30 And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days.

Rehoboam and Jeroboam were in constant battle with each other.

1. The importance of peace among brothers.

2. The consequences of conflict.

1. Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

2. Proverbs 17:14 "Starting a quarrel is like opening a floodgate, so stop before a dispute breaks out."

1 Kings 14:31 And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess. And Abijam his son reigned in his stead.

Rehoboam died and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. His mother was Naamah an Ammonitess, and his son Abijam succeeded him.

1. God's sovereignty in the face of death: How to accept God's will when life and death are out of our control.

2. The legacy of a parent: How to live a life that will be remembered by future generations.

1. Ecclesiastes 7:2 - It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart.

2. Proverbs 22:6 - Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

1 Kings chapter 15 focuses on the reigns of Abijam (also known as Abijah) in Judah and Asa in Judah, highlighting their actions and the state of the divided kingdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Abijam, Rehoboam's son, who becomes king over Judah. It mentions that his reign is marked by continued idolatry and warfare between him and Jeroboam (1 Kings 15:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to Asa, who succeeds his father Abijam as king of Judah. It highlights how Asa does what is right in the eyes of the Lord, removing idols from the land and renewing worship of God (1 Kings 15:9-15).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter mentions a conflict between Baasha, king of Israel, and Asa. Baasha begins building Ramah to prevent people from going to Jerusalem. In response, Asa takes silver and gold from the treasuries of God's temple to hire Ben-Hadad, king of Aram, to break his alliance with Baasha (1 Kings 15:16-22).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Hanani the prophet confronts Asa for relying on a foreign king rather than trusting in God alone. Hanani delivers a rebuke, warning that because of this action, there will be ongoing wars during Asa's reign (1 Kings 15;23-24).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes by mentioning other details about Asa's reign his good deeds in removing male cult prostitutes from the land and recording his genealogy and noting that he dies after reigning for forty-one years (1 Kings 15;25-24).

In summary, Chapter fifteen of 1 Kings depicts the reigns of Abijam and Asa, Abijam continues idolatry, wars with Jeroboam. Asa follows God s ways, removes idols, He hires foreign help, rebuked by a prophet. Asa rules for forty-one years, leaving behind a record. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as faithfulness versus idolatry, the consequences of seeking alliances outside God's guidance, and prophetic rebuke for unfaithfulness.

1 Kings 15:1 Now in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam the son of Nebat reigned Abijam over Judah.

King Abijam succeeded his father Jeroboam as ruler of Judah during the eighteenth year of his reign.

1. The Importance of a Godly Succession

2. The Unchanging Nature of God's Covenant

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's promises to the Israelites for obedience to His covenant

2. 2 Chronicles 13:3-4 - Abijam's success as King of Judah through God's help

1 Kings 15:2 Three years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom.

King Abijam's reign lasted three years in Jerusalem.

1. God's timeline is perfect and unique to each individual.

2. Learn to make the most of the time you are given.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Psalm 90:12

1 Kings 15:3 And he walked in all the sins of his father, which he had done before him: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father.

Asa, the son of King Abijah, followed in his father's footsteps and did not remain loyal to the Lord as his father David had done.

1. The Danger of Following Bad Examples

2. The Power of a Good Example

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. Psalm 78:5-8 - For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

1 Kings 15:4 Nevertheless for David's sake did the LORD his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem:

The LORD gave David a lamp in Jerusalem to set up his son after him and to establish Jerusalem.

1: God rewards those who are faithful and devoted to Him.

2: God is a faithful protector and provider.

1: Psalm 33:18-19 Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

2: Psalm 37:28 For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.

1 Kings 15:5 Because David did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and turned not aside from any thing that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.

David obeyed the Lord and did what was right throughout his life, except for his involvement in the death of Uriah the Hittite.

1. The Power of Obedience - How Obeying God's Commandments Leads to Blessing

2. The Consequences of Sin - How Disobeying God's Commandments Leads to Judgment

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments.

1 Kings 15:6 And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

Rehoboam and Jeroboam were in a continuous state of war throughout Rehoboam's life.

1. The Danger of Conflict: How to Resolve Disputes Biblically.

2. The Fruit of Disobedience: Learning From Rehoboam's Mistakes.

1. Proverbs 15:1, A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. James 4:1-3, What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.

1 Kings 15:7 Now the rest of the acts of Abijam, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam.

Abijam's deeds are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah, and he waged war against Jeroboam.

1. The Power of a Legacy: How God Uses Our Deeds to Impact Future Generations

2. The Cost of War: Understanding Conflict in the Light of Scripture

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Kings 15:8 And Abijam slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David: and Asa his son reigned in his stead.

Abijam died and was buried in the city of David, and Asa succeeded him as king.

1. The importance of honoring our ancestors and upholding tradition.

2. The significance of succession in leadership and the need for order.

1. Psalm 122:5 - For there standeth a house of the Lord, even the house of the God of Jacob.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

1 Kings 15:9 And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah.

Asa became king of Judah in the twentieth year of Jeroboam's reign over Israel.

1. The importance of obedience to God and the consequences of disobedience.

2. The importance of recognizing and accepting God's timing.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Be very careful, then, how you live not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord s will is.

1 Kings 15:10 And forty and one years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom.

King Rehoboam reigned in Jerusalem for 41 years. His mother's name was Maachah, daughter of Abishalom.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises even through difficult times - 1 Kings 15:10

2. Learning to listen to wise counsel - 1 Kings 12:8-15

1. Psalm 146:6 - "He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them He remains faithful forever."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

1 Kings 15:11 And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father.

King Asa followed the example of his father, King David, by doing what was right in the eyes of the Lord.

1. The Legacy of Faith: Following the Example of King David and King Asa

2. Keeping God's Law: Following the Example of King Asa

1. Psalm 119:1-2: "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart."

2. 1 John 2:3-4: "And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says I know him but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

1 Kings 15:12 And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

King Asa of Judah removed all of the sodomites and idols from Judah which had been created by his ancestors.

1. The importance of being obedient to God and His commands.

2. The consequences of idolatry and why we must avoid it.

1. Exodus 20:4-5 - "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - "Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry."

1 Kings 15:13 And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron.

Asa, the king of Judah, removed his mother Maachah from her position as queen because she had made an idol in a grove. He then destroyed the idol and burned it by the brook Kidron.

1. The importance of obedience to God over loyalty to family.

2. The danger of allowing idols into our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 5:8-9 - "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Exodus 20:4-5 - You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them.

1 Kings 15:14 But the high places were not removed: nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days.

Asa, the King of Judah, maintained a perfect heart towards the Lord all his days, despite not removing the high places.

1. "The Perfect Heart: Embracing God's Love"

2. "When We Fall Short: Learning to Rely on God's Mercy"

1. Philippians 4:19: "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Psalm 37:3-4: "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

1 Kings 15:15 And he brought in the things which his father had dedicated, and the things which himself had dedicated, into the house of the LORD, silver, and gold, and vessels.

Asa, the king of Judah, brought to the temple of the Lord items that his father had dedicated, as well as items he himself had dedicated, including silver, gold, and vessels.

1. Consecrating Ourselves and Our Possessions to God

2. Dedicating Our Lives to Serving the Lord

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

1 Kings 15:16 And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

There was continual war between King Asa of Judah and King Baasha of Israel.

1. The Cost of War: Examining the conflict between Asa and Baasha.

2. The Power of Love: Looking at how peace can triumph over war.

1. Luke 6:27-28 "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you."

2. Romans 12:18-19 "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

1 Kings 15:17 And Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not suffer any to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

Baasha king of Israel attacked Judah and built the city of Ramah in order to block off Asa king of Judah from his enemies.

1. God will always provide a way for his people to stand strong against the enemy.

2. We must rely on God to be our source of strength in times of adversity.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Kings 15:18 Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and delivered them into the hand of his servants: and king Asa sent them to Benhadad, the son of Tabrimon, the son of Hezion, king of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, saying,

King Asa took the silver and gold that remained in the Lord's and the king's house and sent them to King Benhadad of Syria.

1. The importance of giving back to God.

2. The power of generosity in a kingdom.

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

2. Proverbs 11:25 - "The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself."

1 Kings 15:19 There is a league between me and thee, and between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent unto thee a present of silver and gold; come and break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me.

King Asa of Judah made a league with Ben-Hadad king of Syria, and sent him a present of silver and gold in order to break his league with Baasha, King of Israel.

1. The Power of Reconciliation: How Asa Used Diplomacy to Resolve Conflict

2. What Can We Learn from Asa's Leadership?

1. Ephesians 4:3 - "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

2. Proverbs 15:1 - "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

1 Kings 15:20 So Benhadad hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of the hosts which he had against the cities of Israel, and smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelbethmaachah, and all Cinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali.

King Asa asked Benhadad to send his army to attack the cities of Israel, and Benhadad complied, attacking Ijon, Dan, Abelbethmaachah, and all Cinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali.

1. The importance of obedience in our response to God's commands.

2. The consequences of disobeying the Lord's commands.

1. Joshua 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2. Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

1 Kings 15:21 And it came to pass, when Baasha heard thereof, that he left off building of Ramah, and dwelt in Tirzah.

When Baasha heard news of the building of Ramah, he ceased building and moved to Tirzah.

1. Change of Plans: Learning to Adapt to God's Will

2. Contentment in New Situations

1. Philippians 4:11-13 (Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.)

2. James 4:13-15 (Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.)

1 Kings 15:22 Then king Asa made a proclamation throughout all Judah; none was exempted: and they took away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha had builded; and king Asa built with them Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah.

King Asa issued a proclamation throughout all of Judah to demolish the stones and timber that Baasha had built and instead to build Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah.

1. Proclaiming the Lord's plans: Following God's leading, even when it might seem difficult.

2. Building God's kingdom: Working together to do God's will.

1. Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed.

2. Matthew 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

1 Kings 15:23 The rest of all the acts of Asa, and all his might, and all that he did, and the cities which he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? Nevertheless in the time of his old age he was diseased in his feet.

Asa was a powerful king of Judah who built many cities but in his later years he became diseased in his feet.

1. God's power and strength is often revealed through difficult times.

2. We can still be faithful to God even in physical weakness.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - God is the everlasting strength of those who trust Him.

2. James 1:2-4 - Finding joy in trials and trusting in God's strength.

1 Kings 15:24 And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead.

Asa, king of Judah, passed away and was buried in the city of David. His son, Jehoshaphat, then became king in his place.

1. God's sovereignty: Understanding God's plans for our lives.

2. Faith and courage: Growing in faith and courage to face life's challenges.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

1 Kings 15:25 And Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned over Israel two years.

Nadab, son of Jeroboam, became king of Israel in the second year of Asa's reign over Judah. He ruled Israel for two years.

1. The importance of living a life of obedience to the Lord

2. The power of legacy and inheritance

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5, " Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Proverbs 13:22, " A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous."

1 Kings 15:26 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

King Baasha of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and followed the way of his father, leading the people of Israel into sin.

1. "Choosing to Follow God or Following the Ways of Others"

2. "The Dangers of Following in Sinful Paths"

1. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

2. 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 Kings 15:27 And Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him; and Baasha smote him at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines; for Nadab and all Israel laid siege to Gibbethon.

King Nadab of Israel was killed by Baasha, who was from the house of Issachar, when he besieged the Philistine city of Gibbethon.

1. The Danger of Conspiring Against God's Anointed

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Psalm 118:8-9 - It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

2. 2 Samuel 11:14-15 - In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

1 Kings 15:28 Even in the third year of Asa king of Judah did Baasha slay him, and reigned in his stead.

King Asa of Judah was slain by Baasha in the third year of his reign and Baasha took his place.

1. We must be prepared to face consequences for our actions.

2. The Lord will always be there to be our guiding light.

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way.

1 Kings 15:29 And it came to pass, when he reigned, that he smote all the house of Jeroboam; he left not to Jeroboam any that breathed, until he had destroyed him, according unto the saying of the LORD, which he spake by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite:

King Asa of Judah destroyed the house of Jeroboam in accordance with what the Lord had spoken through the prophet Ahijah.

1. God's Word is Absolute - 1 Kings 15:29

2. Obedience Brings Blessing - 1 Kings 15:29

1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. - Psalm 111:10

2. If you love me, you will keep my commandments. - John 14:15

1 Kings 15:30 Because of the sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and which he made Israel sin, by his provocation wherewith he provoked the LORD God of Israel to anger.

Jeroboam sinned and made Israel sin, provoking God's anger.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Jeroboam's Reign

2. The Danger of Provoking God's Wrath

1. Isaiah 59:2 "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

2. Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

1 Kings 15:31 Now the rest of the acts of Nadab, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

This passage mentions that the acts of Nadab, king of Israel, were recorded in a book of chronicles.

1. The Power of Legacy: How Our Actions Today Shape Our Tomorrow

2. The Importance of Recording History: How We Can Learn From the Past

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

2. Proverbs 10:7 - The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.

1 Kings 15:32 And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

Asa and Baasha, kings of Judah and Israel, were in a state of war throughout their reigns.

1. The Dangers of Conflict: How to Avoid War and Live in Peace.

2. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Overcome Animosity and Resolve Conflict.

1. Matthew 5:43-45 - You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

1 Kings 15:33 In the third year of Asa king of Judah began Baasha the son of Ahijah to reign over all Israel in Tirzah, twenty and four years.

Baasha, the son of Ahijah, began to reign over all Israel in Tirzah in the third year of Asa's reign as king of Judah.

1. Overcoming Adversity: The Story of Baasha

2. How to Lead Like a King: Lessons from Asa

1. 1 Kings 15:33

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

1 Kings 15:34 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

King Asa of Judah disobeyed God by walking in the way of Jeroboam and making Israel sin.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: A Study of 1 Kings 15:34

2. Keeping Faith: Living in Righteousness and Obedience to God

1. Psalm 18:21 - For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 Kings chapter 16 portrays a series of wicked kings who rule over Israel, their sinful actions, and the prophecies against them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by mentioning that Baasha, the king of Israel, dies and is succeeded by his son Elah. However, Elah's reign is short-lived as he is assassinated by Zimri, one of his officials (1 Kings 16:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The narrative shifts to Zimri's brief reign as king over Israel. He rules for only seven days before the people rebel against him. In response to the rebellion, Zimri sets fire to the royal palace and dies in the flames (1 Kings 16:15-20).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter introduces Omri as the next king of Israel. It describes how Omri becomes more powerful than his predecessors and moves the capital from Tirzah to Samaria (1 Kings 16:21-28).

4th Paragraph:The narrative mentions that during Omri's reign, Ahab becomes king after him. It highlights Ahab's wickedness how he surpasses all previous kings in evil deeds and specifically mentions his marriage to Jezebel, a Sidonian princess who leads him into idolatry (1 Kings 16;29-34).

5th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with a prophecy delivered by Elijah against Ahab. Elijah predicts that there will be severe consequences for Ahab's actions his descendants will be wiped out and dogs will devour Jezebel at Jezreel (1 Kings 16;35-34).

In summary, Chapter sixteen of 1 Kings depicts a succession of wicked kings, Baasha is succeeded by Elah, who is assassinated. Zimri briefly takes power, but meets a fiery end. Omri rises to power, moves capital to Samaria. Ahab follows him, marries Jezebel, Their evil deeds increase, leading to divine judgment. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as consequences of wicked leadership, the corrupting influence of alliances and marriages, and prophetic warnings against unrighteousness.

1 Kings 16:1 Then the word of the LORD came to Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha, saying,

Passage: Baasha, king of Israel, was warned by God to repent of his wickedness through the prophet Jehu.

1: Repent of your sins now, before it is too late.

2: We all must be obedient to God's Word.

1: Acts 3:19 - Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

2: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel?

1 Kings 16:2 Forasmuch as I exalted thee out of the dust, and made thee prince over my people Israel; and thou hast walked in the way of Jeroboam, and hast made my people Israel to sin, to provoke me to anger with their sins;

God raised a man from the dust to be a prince over His people Israel, but the man walked in the way of Jeroboam and caused His people to sin, angering God.

1. God's Grace and Mercy Despite Our Transgressions

2. Following God's Path to True Blessing

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

2. Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

1 Kings 16:3 Behold, I will take away the posterity of Baasha, and the posterity of his house; and will make thy house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

God declares that he will remove the descendants of King Baasha and replace them with the descendants of Jeroboam.

1. God is in control and can restore the fortunes of the faithful.

2. Our actions have consequences and God is the ultimate judge.

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Matthew 7:1-2 - Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

1 Kings 16:4 Him that dieth of Baasha in the city shall the dogs eat; and him that dieth of his in the fields shall the fowls of the air eat.

Passage Baasha and his people will be punished by death, and their bodies will be eaten by dogs and birds.

1. God's justice is certain and His punishment severe.

2. We must remain obedient and humble before God.

1. Jeremiah 15:3 - "Thou shalt be with me in trouble; I will deliver thee, and honour thee."

2. Psalm 18:6 - "In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears."

1 Kings 16:5 Now the rest of the acts of Baasha, and what he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Baasha was a king of Israel whose feats and accomplishments are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Power of Faithful Record Keeping: A Study of 1 Kings 16:5

2. The Cultural Legacy of Baasha: Making a Lasting Impact for the Kingdom of Israel

1. Psalm 78:4 - We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 - And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

1 Kings 16:6 So Baasha slept with his fathers, and was buried in Tirzah: and Elah his son reigned in his stead.

Baasha, the King of Israel passed away and his son Elah reigned in his stead.

1: We can learn from King Baasha that death is inevitable and we should be ready for it.

2: We should be thankful for the people who have been a part of our lives and remember them fondly.

1: Ecclesiastes 8:8 - No one has power over the spirit to retain the breath, and no one has power over the day of death.

2: Psalm 90:12 - Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

1 Kings 16:7 And also by the hand of the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani came the word of the LORD against Baasha, and against his house, even for all the evil that he did in the sight of the LORD, in provoking him to anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam; and because he killed him.

The prophet Jehu gave a message from the Lord against Baasha and his house for the evil that he had done to anger the Lord by following in the footsteps of Jeroboam.

1. The Danger of Following in the Footsteps of Sinful People

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

1 Kings 16:8 In the twenty and sixth year of Asa king of Judah began Elah the son of Baasha to reign over Israel in Tirzah, two years.

Elah, the son of Baasha, began to reign over Israel in the 26th year of Asa's reign as king of Judah in Tirzah.

1. The power of succession: understanding the importance of leadership in God's kingdom.

2. The providence of God: how God works through the generations to bring about his will.

1. 2 Chronicles 15:17 - "But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days."

2. 1 Chronicles 22:13 - "Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfill the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed."

1 Kings 16:9 And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him, as he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza steward of his house in Tirzah.

Zimri, a servant of King Elah, conspired against the king while he was drinking in the house of Arza in Tirzah.

1. The Danger Of Sinning While Intoxicated

2. The Pitfalls Of Putting Too Much Trust In Others

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Romans 13:13 - "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying."

1 Kings 16:10 And Zimri went in and smote him, and killed him, in the twenty and seventh year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned in his stead.

Zimri assassinated Elah, the king of Israel, and he became the new king in the 27th year of Asa's reign in Judah.

1. The Consequences of Sin and Unrighteousness

2. The Power of Ambition and Desire

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 John 1:8-9 - If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Kings 16:11 And it came to pass, when he began to reign, as soon as he sat on his throne, that he slew all the house of Baasha: he left him not one that pisseth against a wall, neither of his kinsfolks, nor of his friends.

King Asa of Judah begins his reign by slaughtering the house of Baasha, leaving no one alive.

1. God's justice is swift and unwavering.

2. We must be careful to steward our positions of power with righteousness.

1. 2 Chronicles 19:6-7 - And he said to the judges, Consider what you do, for you judge not for man but for the Lord. He is with you in giving judgment. Now then, let the fear of the Lord be upon you. Be careful what you do, for there is no injustice with the Lord our God, or partiality or taking bribes.

2. Proverbs 31:5 - Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the justice of any of the afflicted.

1 Kings 16:12 Thus did Zimri destroy all the house of Baasha, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake against Baasha by Jehu the prophet,

Zimri destroyed the house of Baasha according to God's word.

1: We must be obedient to God's word, for it will be fulfilled no matter what.

2: We must be careful of our actions, for we will be held accountable for them.

1: Deuteronomy 6:3-4 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.

2: Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

1 Kings 16:13 For all the sins of Baasha, and the sins of Elah his son, by which they sinned, and by which they made Israel to sin, in provoking the LORD God of Israel to anger with their vanities.

Baasha and Elah committed sins that caused Israel to sin and anger God.

1. God takes sin seriously and we should be careful to not provoke Him.

2. Repentance and faithfulness are essential to pleasing God.

1. Hebrews 10:26-31 - If we sin willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Kings 16:14 Now the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Elah's acts are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. Remembering the Good Works of Elah

2. Achieving Lasting Significance Through Righteous Deeds

1. Psalm 112:3 - Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

2. Hebrews 11:4 - By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts.

1 Kings 16:15 In the twenty and seventh year of Asa king of Judah did Zimri reign seven days in Tirzah. And the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.

In the 27th year of Asa's reign, Zimri took the throne for 7 days before the people encamped against Gibbethon, a city belonging to the Philistines.

1. The Power of the People: Exploring God's Plan for a Nation

2. From Asa to Zimri: The Value of Righteous Leadership

1. Psalm 33:12 "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance."

2. Proverbs 29:2 "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."

1 Kings 16:16 And the people that were encamped heard say, Zimri hath conspired, and hath also slain the king: wherefore all Israel made Omri, the captain of the host, king over Israel that day in the camp.

Zimri assassinated King Elah and the people of Israel made Omri, the captain of the host, the new king.

1. God is sovereign and His will can never be thwarted.

2. God can use anyone, even the least likely, to bring about His will.

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

2. Esther 4:14 For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?

1 Kings 16:17 And Omri went up from Gibbethon, and all Israel with him, and they besieged Tirzah.

Omri and the Israelites besieged Tirzah.

1. God's People: Upholding His Justice - A Study of Omri and the Israelites

2. Faithful Obedience - A Study of Omri and the Israelites

1. Joshua 6:1-27 - The Israelites' faithfulness in taking Jericho

2. Isaiah 1:17 - God's call for justice to be upheld in His name

1 Kings 16:18 And it came to pass, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the palace of the king's house, and burnt the king's house over him with fire, and died,

Zimri burned down the palace when he saw the city was taken, and died in the fire.

1. The Danger of Pride: A Study in 1 Kings 16:18

2. The Consequences of Rebellion: A Lesson from 1 Kings 16:18

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

1 Kings 16:19 For his sins which he sinned in doing evil in the sight of the LORD, in walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he did, to make Israel to sin.

This passage from 1 Kings 16:19 discusses the sins of King Baasha and how he followed the sinful ways of Jeroboam, leading Israel astray.

1. The Danger of Following Wrong Paths: A Study of King Baasha and Jeroboam

2. Learning from King Baasha's Mistakes: The Value of Righteousness and Integrity

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

1 Kings 16:20 Now the rest of the acts of Zimri, and his treason that he wrought, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Zimri was a wicked king of Israel who committed treason.

1. Wickedness does not pay; God will judge all wickedness.

2. We must be careful to avoid any form of betrayal or treason.

1. Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Prov. 10:9 He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.

1 Kings 16:21 Then were the people of Israel divided into two parts: half of the people followed Tibni the son of Ginath, to make him king; and half followed Omri.

The people of Israel were divided in two, with half of the people following Tibni the son of Ginath to be king and the other half following Omri.

1. The Power of Division: How a Disunited People can Lead to Destruction.

2. Uniting Despite Difference: How to Come Together Despite Different Ideas.

1. Romans 12:16-18 - "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

1 Kings 16:22 But the people that followed Omri prevailed against the people that followed Tibni the son of Ginath: so Tibni died, and Omri reigned.

Omri was victorious over Tibni in a power struggle, allowing Omri to become King.

1. God's sovereignty is evident in the events of our lives, no matter how chaotic they may seem.

2. We must trust in God's plans for our lives and be patient in the midst of uncertainty.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

1 Kings 16:23 In the thirty and first year of Asa king of Judah began Omri to reign over Israel, twelve years: six years reigned he in Tirzah.

Omri began to reign over Israel in the thirty-first year of Asa's reign as king of Judah, and he reigned for twelve years, six of them in Tirzah.

1. The Importance of Faithful Leadership - 1 Kings 16:23

2. How God Works Through Kings - 1 Kings 16:23

1. 1 Chronicles 22:10 - Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 - And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

1 Kings 16:24 And he bought the hill Samaria of Shemer for two talents of silver, and built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, after the name of Shemer, owner of the hill, Samaria.

King Omri of Israel bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver and established the city of Samaria.

1. God's plans for us are greater than what we can imagine.

2. The power of a name - how it can affect the world around us.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 22:1 "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold."

1 Kings 16:25 But Omri wrought evil in the eyes of the LORD, and did worse than all that were before him.

Omri was a wicked ruler who did more evil than any of his predecessors.

1. God's standards for our behavior are absolute and unchanging.

2. We are accountable to God for our actions.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

2. Romans 14:12 - So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

1 Kings 16:26 For he walked in all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin, to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger with their vanities.

Passage King Omri was sinful, following in the footsteps of Jeroboam and leading the people of Israel to do the same.

1.The Danger of Following in the Footsteps of Sinners

2.Following After God, Not After the World

1.2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

2.Ephesians 5:15-17 - "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

1 Kings 16:27 Now the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and his might that he shewed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Omri, a king of Israel, was known for his acts of strength and power, which are recorded in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

1. The Power of Righteous Leadership: A Study of Omri

2. Living a Life of Strength and Courage: The Example of Omri

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. Psalm 37:39 - The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

1 Kings 16:28 So Omri slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria: and Ahab his son reigned in his stead.

Omri died and was buried in Samaria, and his son Ahab reigned in his place.

1. God is sovereign in all matters and works all things according to His will.

2. We can trust in God's plans for our lives, even when it doesn't make sense to us.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1 Kings 16:29 And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years.

Ahab began to reign over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Asa's reign in Judah.

1. God is sovereign and no one reigns outside of His will.

2. We must be mindful of how our actions affect the kingdom of God.

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

2. Romans 13:1 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

1 Kings 16:30 And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him.

Ahab, the son of Omri, was the most evil king before him.

1. The Danger of Sin: Ahab's Story

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning from Ahab's Reign

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:12 - Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

1 Kings 16:31 And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

King Ahab married Jezebel, daughter of King Ethbaal, and began worshipping Baal.

1. The Danger of Following in the Footsteps of Others

2. How to Avoid Sinful Entanglements

1. Ephesians 5:25-26 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

1 Kings 16:32 And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.

King Ahab of Israel built a temple to the Canaanite god Baal in Samaria.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Warning from Ahab's Story

2. The Power of Influence: How Ahab's Actions Affected an Entire Nation

1. Exodus 20:4-6 - "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments."

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - "Their idols are silver and gold, made by human hands. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see. They have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but cannot smell. They have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but cannot walk, nor can they utter a sound with their throats. Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them."

1 Kings 16:33 And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

Ahab was the king of Israel and he did more to provoke the Lord than any other king before him.

1. The Danger of Provoking God s Wrath

2. Learning from the Example of Ahab

1. Deuteronomy 4:25-31 - When you beget children and children's children, and have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the Lord your God, to provoke him to anger:

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

1 Kings 16:34 In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun.

Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho according to the word of the LORD as spoken by Joshua the son of Nun.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Hiel's Story

2. From Faith to Action: Following in Hiel's Footsteps

1. Joshua 6:26 - "And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it."

2. Hebrews 11:30 - "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days."

1 Kings chapter 17 highlights the prophet Elijah and his encounters during a time of drought and famine in Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter introduces Elijah, a prophet from Tishbe. He proclaims to King Ahab that there will be no rain or dew in the land until he declares it (1 Kings 17:1).

2nd Paragraph: Following God's command, Elijah goes into hiding by the Brook Cherith. There, he is fed by ravens who bring him bread and meat each morning and evening (1 Kings 17:2-7).

3rd Paragraph: Eventually, the brook dries up due to the prolonged drought. God instructs Elijah to go to Zarephath, where a widow will provide for him (1 Kings 17:8-10).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how Elijah encounters a widow gathering sticks outside the city gate of Zarephath. He asks her for some water and bread. The widow explains that she only has a handful of flour and oil left, which she plans to use for one last meal before she and her son die from starvation (1 Kings 17;11-12).

5th Paragraph:Elijah assures the widow that if she follows his instructions to make him a small cake first, then her jar of flour and jug of oil will not run out until the drought ends. The widow trusts his words, prepares food for Elijah, herself, and her son. Miraculously, their supplies never run dry as promised (1 Kings 17;13-16).

6th Paragraph:The chapter takes a tragic turn when the widow's son becomes ill and stops breathing. Distraught with grief, she blames Elijah for bringing God's judgment upon her household because of her sins (1 Kings 17;17-18).

7th Paragraph:Elijah takes action by taking the boy from his mother's arms into an upper room where he prays fervently to God three times for restoration of life. In response to his prayers, God revives the child back to life (1 Kings 17;19-24).

In summary, Chapter seventeen of 1 Kings depicts Elijah s proclamation of drought, He is fed by ravens, then sent to Zarephath. A widow provides him food, her supplies miraculously sustained. The widow s son dies, but is brought back to life through prayer. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine provision in times of scarcity, the power of faith in challenging circumstances, and miraculous interventions through prayer.

1 Kings 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

Elijah, a resident of Gilead, tells King Ahab that there will be no rain or dew in the land for the years to come, as God has commanded.

1. God is in Control: The Power of Elijah's Prophecy

2. Faithful Obedience: Elijah's Trust in God

1. James 5:17-18 - Elijah was a man just like us, yet he prayed and God answered his prayer.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

1 Kings 17:2 And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

The Lord spoke to Elijah, giving him instructions.

1. Faith in the Lord: Learning to Trust and Obey God

2. The Power and Presence of God: Experiencing and Responding to His Word

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. James 1:22 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

1 Kings 17:3 Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

The passage instructs Elijah to leave and hide by the brook Cherith that is before the Jordan river.

1. The importance of following God's instructions no matter how difficult they may seem.

2. Knowing when it is time to step out of our comfort zone and trust God.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

1 Kings 17:4 And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

God commanded the ravens to provide food for Elijah from a brook.

1. God's provision for his people is miraculous, even in the most unexpected ways.

2. We can trust that God will provide for us, no matter what situation we find ourselves in.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear.

2. Psalm 23:1-6 - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul.

1 Kings 17:5 So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

Elijah obeyed God's instruction to go and live by the brook Cherith, which was located east of the Jordan River.

1. The importance of obeying God's word, even when it is hard.

2. Trusting in God's provision, even when our circumstances change.

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; 27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day: 28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

1 Kings 17:6 And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

Elijah was miraculously provided with food by ravens, and he drank from the brook.

1. God is our Provider: We can trust that God will provide for our needs.

2. Miracles Still Happen: Even in a world of science and reason, God can still perform miracles.

1. Luke 12:22-34 - The Parable of the Rich Fool

2. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my Shepherd

1 Kings 17:7 And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

After a period of time, the brook that Elijah had been using for sustenance dried up, due to a lack of rain in the land.

1. How God Provides in Times of Need

2. Persevere in Faith in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry, seek first the kingdom of God

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy when you face trials of many kinds

1 Kings 17:8 And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

The passage describes how the Lord spoke to Elijah and gave him instructions.

1: God speaks to us in many ways, and it is important to be open to his voice.

2: We can all learn from Elijah's example of faith and obedience to God's word.

1: Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

2: Hebrews 11:8 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

1 Kings 17:9 Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

God commanded Elijah to go to Zarephath and be sustained by a widow woman.

1: God's faithfulness and provision in times of extreme need.

2: God's ability to use those who are considered least in society.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry, for God will provide.

2: James 1:2-4 - Consider it joy when you encounter trials, for God will provide.

1 Kings 17:10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

Elijah meets a widow woman at the gate of the city of Zarephath, and asks her for a little water in a vessel.

1. "God Provides Through Others"

2. "The Power of Small Gestures"

1. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 Kings 17:11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

A prophet of God asked a woman for a morsel of bread.

1. God's kindness and provision through unexpected means.

2. How to respond to God's call in our lives.

1. Matthew 6:26 - Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

1 Kings 17:12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

A widow tells Elijah that she only has a handful of meal and a little oil, and is gathering two sticks in order to make a meal for her and her son so that they can eat it and die.

1. God's Provision in Times of Need

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Circumstances

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on worry and trusting in God's provision

2. James 1:2-4 - The testing of faith and perseverance in the face of trials

1 Kings 17:13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

Elijah asked the widow to make him a small cake before she prepared food for her and her son.

1) God often provides for us in unexpected ways.

2) We should always trust God and obey his commands.

1) Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about what you will eat or drink.

2) James 1:2-4 - Consider it joy when you face trials of many kinds.

1 Kings 17:14 For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

The Lord promises that a widow's barrel of flour and cruse of oil will not be depleted until He sends rain to the earth.

1. God's faithfulness and provision in times of need.

2. The power of God's promises.

1. Deuteronomy 28:12 - The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in due season, and to bless all the work of thine hand.

2. Jeremiah 33:25-26 - Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

1 Kings 17:15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

Elijah helped a widow and her son by providing food during a drought.

1. God provides for us in times of need.

2. It is our responsibility to help those in need.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. James 2:15-16 - If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and be filled, and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?

1 Kings 17:16 And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.

The Lord provided Elijah with never-ending supplies of meal and oil through His word.

1. God is always faithful and provides for our needs.

2. Trusting in the Lord is the only source of true abundance.

1. Matthew 6:25-34; Do not worry, seek first the kingdom of God.

2. Philippians 4:19; My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 17:17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

A woman and her son had a misfortune when the son became very ill and eventually died.

1. The Unfathomable Reality of Death

2. Learning to Live with Unanswered Questions

1. John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

1 Kings 17:18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

The widow of Zarephath questions Elijah, asking why he has come to her to remind her of her sin and kill her son.

1. God uses people to bring about His will and His mercy, even when we don't understand.

2. God's love for us is greater than we can fathom, and He is always looking out for us.

1. Romans 8:31-39 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2. Psalm 33:4-5 - "For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord."

1 Kings 17:19 And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

The prophet Elijah asked a widow for her son, and the widow gave the boy to Elijah, who took him to a loft and put him on his own bed.

1. The importance of faith in times of need.

2. God's provision in our lives.

1. Matthew 17:20 - "He said to them, Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

1 Kings 17:20 And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

Elijah prayed to the Lord, asking why he had caused the widow's son to die.

1. God's love is not always seen in the way we think it should be.

2. We must have faith in God, even when things seem difficult.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

1 Kings 17:21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

Elijah prayed to the Lord to revive a dead child.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Elijah's Faith Restored a Child's Life

2. The Miraculous Nature of God's Love: How God Answered Elijah's Prayer

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Mark 10:27 - Jesus looked at them and said, With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.

1 Kings 17:22 And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

Elijah prayed to the Lord and was able to revive a child.

1. Miracles are Possible Through Prayer

2. The Power of Faith

1. Mark 11:23-24 - Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, Go, throw yourself into the sea, and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.

2. James 5:16-18 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

1 Kings 17:23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth.

The prophet Elijah revives a dead child.

1: God is capable of the miraculous and has the power to bring life back from death.

2: Even when faced with death, we can trust that God will give us hope and bring life.

1: John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

2: Matthew 9:18-19 - While he was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live. And Jesus rose and followed him, with his disciples.

1 Kings 17:24 And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.

A woman acknowledges Elijah as a man of God when she sees the truth of the word of the LORD come true through him.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Elijah Showed Us the Strength of the Lord's Truth

2. Trusting God's Faithfulness: How Elijah Demonstrated the Fidelity of the Lord's Promises

1. Luke 17:5-6 - "The apostles said to the Lord, Increase our faith! He replied, If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, Be uprooted and planted in the sea, and it will obey you."

2. 2 Timothy 3:16 - "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."

1 Kings chapter 18 recounts the dramatic confrontation between the prophet Elijah and the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel, showcasing God's power and exposing the falsehood of idolatry.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing a severe drought that has plagued the land for three years. Elijah meets Obadiah, a devout servant of God who secretly hides and provides for prophets during this time (1 Kings 18:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Elijah challenges Obadiah to bring King Ahab to him. When Ahab arrives, Elijah accuses him of causing trouble in Israel by worshiping Baal instead of God (1 Kings 18:16-18).

3rd Paragraph: Elijah proposes a contest on Mount Carmel between himself as the representative of God and the prophets of Baal. The people gather to witness this showdown (1 Kings 18:19-20).

4th Paragraph:The narrative depicts how Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal to prepare an offering and call upon their god to send fire upon it. Despite their fervent efforts, nothing happens (1 Kings 18;21-29).

5th Paragraph:Elijah then rebuilds an altar dedicated to God that had been destroyed. He places his offering on it, saturates it with water three times, and prays for fire from heaven. In response, God sends a consuming fire that consumes not only the sacrifice but also licks up all the water in a display of His power (1 Kings 18;30-39).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with Elijah commanding the people to seize all the false prophets present at Mount Carmel. They are taken down to Kishon Valley where they are executed (1 Kings 18;40).

7th Paragraph:Elijah informs Ahab that rain is coming after years of drought, prompting him to eat and drink before going up to pray on Mount Carmel. Meanwhile, Elijah climbs up Mount Carmel where he bows down in prayer seven times before seeing a small cloud signaling rain is imminent (1 Kings 18;41-46).

In summary, Chapter eighteen of 1 Kings depicts Elijah s confrontation with prophets of Baal, A severe drought persists, Elijah accuses Ahab. A contest is proposed, Baal's prophets fail, Elijah calls upon God, fire consumes his offering. The false prophets are executed, rain finally returns. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine intervention versus false gods, the powerlessness of idols, and faithfulness rewarded through miraculous signs.

1 Kings 18:1 And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth.

After many days, God's word came to Elijah and told him to go show himself to Ahab, as God would send rain upon the earth.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Faithful

2. Obedience Brings Blessing

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

1 Kings 18:2 And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore famine in Samaria.

Elijah went to Ahab during a time of severe famine in Samaria.

1. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

2. God Will Provide in Times of Need

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 18:3 And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly:

)

Ahab called Obadiah, who was the governor of his house, to serve him as Obadiah feared the Lord greatly.

1. Living in Fear of the Lord: Obadiah's Example

2. The Power of Fear: Overcoming Our Fears with Faith

1. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Proverbs 19:23 - "The fear of the Lord leads to life, and whoever has it rests satisfied; he will not be visited by harm."

1 Kings 18:4 For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)

Obadiah hid 100 prophets from Jezebel's wrath and provided them with food and water.

1. The Power of Protection: Obadiah's Story of Faith and Compassion

2. Obadiah's Courage in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. Hebrews 13:6 - So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

1 Kings 18:5 And Ahab said unto Obadiah, Go into the land, unto all fountains of water, and unto all brooks: peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts.

Ahab instructed Obadiah to search for grass to save the horses, mules, and other beasts from starvation.

1. The importance of providing for the needs of others.

2. The importance of being prepared for the future.

1. Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 27:12 A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.

1 Kings 18:6 So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

Ahab and Obadiah decided to split up and search for water in different directions.

1. God can do amazing things when we put our trust in Him and work together.

2. God will provide for us when we seek Him in earnest.

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

1 Kings 18:7 And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art thou that my lord Elijah?

Obadiah meets Elijah while on a journey and greets him with reverence.

1. God's presence can be unexpected and overwhelming.

2. We should show respect and reverence to those who serve God.

1. Isaiah 6:5 - "Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

2. Matthew 17:5-6 - "While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

1 Kings 18:8 And he answered him, I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

Elijah boldly confronts King Ahab and reveals his identity as a messenger of God.

1. God's messengers are fearless and bold in proclaiming truth.

2. Trusting in God's power gives us the courage to face any challenge.

1. 1 Kings 18:8 - "Behold, Elijah is here."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

1 Kings 18:9 And he said, What have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me?

Passage Elijah expresses confusion and frustration at being delivered into the hands of Ahab to be slain.

1. The Power of Faith in the Face of Fear

2. Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

1 Kings 18:10 As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not.

The LORD sent a search for Elijah to many nations and kingdoms, but he was never found.

1. God is always searching for us, even when we feel lost.

2. God's faithfulness is evident even when our faith falters.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 139:7-10 - "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

1 Kings 18:11 And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

Elijah was present and was being asked to go and tell the king.

1. God will provide when we trust in Him.

2. Trusting in God can help us in times of need.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry and trust in God for provision.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord and He will provide.

1 Kings 18:12 And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth.

Elijah foretold to Obadiah that the Spirit of the LORD would carry him away, and if Ahab could not find him, then Elijah would be killed.

1. Elijah's Faithful Obedience Despite His Fear

2. The Blessings of Fearing the LORD from Youth

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. Psalm 25:14 - The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

1 Kings 18:13 Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

Elijah reminds King Ahab of his actions during Jezebel's rule, when he hid and provided food for 100 of the Lord's prophets.

1. God rewards those who demonstrate faith and obedience.

2. Following God's will can bring protection and provision in times of difficulty.

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

1 Kings 18:14 And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here: and he shall slay me.

Ahab, King of Israel, is confronted by Elijah and accuses him of wanting to kill him.

1. God's presence should never be feared, but embraced.

2. The power of faith can bring us through difficult times.

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

2. Psalm 27:1 "The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?"

1 Kings 18:15 And Elijah said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely shew myself unto him to day.

Elijah spoke to the people of Israel and declared that he would present himself to the Lord of Hosts.

1. God is always faithful and will always be present in our lives.

2. We must remain devoted to the Lord and trust in His presence.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

1 Kings 18:16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

Ahab and Elijah meet after Obadiah informs Ahab of Elijah's presence.

1. In times of challenge and adversity, it is important to seek out counsel from trusted friends and allies.

2. God can work through unlikely sources to bring about His will.

1. Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor.

1 Kings 18:17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

Ahab sees Elijah and asks him if he is the one troubling Israel.

1. God always sends prophets to speak truth to power.

2. Even in the face of opposition, God's truth will prevail.

1. Jeremiah 23:22 - But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

1 Kings 18:18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

Elijah confronts Ahab and accuses him of following false gods and forsaking the commandments of the Lord.

1. God's Word Is Clear - We Must Follow It

2. Idolatry Is Detrimental To Our Relationship With God

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9

2. Romans 1:18-25

1 Kings 18:19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.

Elijah issued a challenge to the people of Israel to gather at Mount Carmel to decide between the God of Israel and Baal. He called for 400 prophets of Baal and 450 prophets of the groves to attend.

1. Elijah's challenge to the people of Israel serves as a reminder for us to remain faithful to our God, no matter what.

2. We can look to the example of Elijah's courage and faith in God for guidance and inspiration in our own lives.

1. 1 Kings 18:19 - "Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table."

2. James 5:17-18 - "Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

1 Kings 18:20 So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.

Ahab summoned all of the prophets to Mount Carmel.

1. God Wants Us to Gather Together

2. The Importance of Obedience to God

1. Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

1 Kings 18:21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

Elijah asked the people to choose between following the LORD or following Baal, but the people did not respond.

1. "A Choice Between Two Opinions: Following the LORD or Baal"

2. "The Power of a Question: Will You Follow the LORD?"

1. Matthew 6:24 - "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

1 Kings 18:22 Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

Elijah declares that he is the only remaining prophet of the Lord, but that the prophets of Baal number 450.

1. A look into the faithfulness of God when compared to the idolatry of the world.

2. The power of one individual who faithfully follows God.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31, Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. 1 John 5:4-5, For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 Kings 18:23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal to a test of worship, where each will sacrifice a bull and pray to their respective gods.

1. The Power of Faith: Elijah's Confidence in the Lord

2. The Need for Conviction: Standing Strong in Our Beliefs

1. 1 Kings 18:21-24 - Elijah's Challenge

2. James 1:2-4 - Testing Our Faithfulness

1 Kings 18:24 And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

All the people agreed with Elijah's challenge to call upon their gods and the God that answered by fire would be declared the true God.

1. God is Almighty and His power and glory are shown through His miracles.

2. God will always answer our prayers when we call upon Him.

1. 1 Kings 18:24 - And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

2. Psalm 46:10 - He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

1 Kings 18:25 And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under.

Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal to offer a sacrifice on an altar without using fire.

1. The Power of Faith: How to Overcome Challenges without Using Material Resources

2. The Test of Obedience: Taking God's Word Seriously

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

1 Kings 18:26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

This passage describes the false prophets of Baal attempting to call out to their god, Baal, without response.

1. We must not rely on false gods for answers, but instead trust in the one true God who will always answer us.

2. We must not be swayed by the actions of others, but instead stay true to our faith in God.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

2. Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

1 Kings 18:27 And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

Elijah mocked the prophets of Baal by suggesting that their god was either talking, pursuing, on a journey, or sleeping and must be awoken.

1. The Power of Mockery: How Mocking Our Fears Can Help Us Overcome

2. The Power of Faith: How Believing in God Can Help Us Overcome Our Struggles

1. Matthew 17:20 - "He replied, Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

2. Romans 10:17 - "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."

1 Kings 18:28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

The people of Israel cried out and cut themselves with knives and lances until the blood flowed out of them in order to worship the false god Baal.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - How False Worship Can Lead to Harmful Actions

2. The Power of Faith - How Our Beliefs Shape Our Actions

1. Jeremiah 10:2-5 - Do not learn the way of the nations or be terrified by signs in the heavens, though the nations are terrified by them.

2. Romans 1:18-32 - For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

1 Kings 18:29 And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

During a time of prayer and prophecy, there was no response, and no one paid attention.

1) The Power of Silence: Learning to Listen to God

2) Cultivating a Heart of Worship: Seeking God in Prayer

1) Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2) 1 Chronicles 16:11 Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!

1 Kings 18:30 And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.

Elijah called all of the people to come to him and then he restored the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

1. The Power of Restoration: Learning to rebuild what has been broken.

2. The Joy of Obedience: Following the Lord's call.

1. Isaiah 58:12 - And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

2. Ezekiel 36:26 - A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

1 Kings 18:31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:

Elijah took twelve stones to represent the twelve tribes of Israel, as instructed by the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Instructions

2. God's Faithfulness to His People: The Everlasting Bond

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Romans 10:12-13 - For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

1 Kings 18:32 And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.

Elijah built an altar to the Lord and dug a trench around it big enough to hold two measures of seed.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: How to Rely on God in Times of Adversity

2. Love and Obedience: The Meaning of True Worship

1. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

1 Kings 18:33 And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.

Elijah commands the people to fill four barrels with water and pour it over the wood and burnt sacrifice.

1. The Sacrifice of Obedience: How Obedience Brings Blessing

2. The Power of Faith: How Faith Brings Miracles

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

2. Philippians 2:13 - "For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose."

1 Kings 18:34 And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

Elijah commanded the Israelites to offer a sacrifice to God three times.

1. God rewards those who are persistent in their faith.

2. Obedience to God brings great blessings.

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

1 Kings 18:35 And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

Elijah filled a trench around the altar with water before offering a sacrifice.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for our needs

2. The power of prayer

1. James 5:16-18 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Psalm 136:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

1 Kings 18:36 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

Elijah the prophet declared that God was the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and that Elijah was His servant.

1. The Power of God s Word: How to Live a Life of Obedience

2. The Unfailing Faithfulness of our God: How to Remain Steadfast in His Will

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. James 1:22 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

1 Kings 18:37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

Elijah prays to God that his people may recognize Him and that He has turned their hearts back.

1) The Power of Prayer: Praying for God's Presence

2) Turning Our Hearts Back to God

1) Jeremiah 29:13: "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2) Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

1 Kings 18:38 Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

Fire from the Lord came down and burned the sacrificing, wood, stones, and dust, and drank up the water in the trench.

1. God is all powerful and can do the miraculous.

2. When we put our trust in the Lord, He will come through for us.

1. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

1 Kings 18:39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.

The people of Israel witnessed Elijah's demonstration of God's power and fell to their knees in awe, proclaiming that the Lord is the one and only God.

1. The Uniqueness of God: Exploring the Power and Majesty of the Lord

2. God's Faithfulness: Celebrating the Faithfulness of the Lord and its Impact on our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

2. Psalm 62:11 - Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God.

1 Kings 18:40 And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

Elijah commanded the people to capture all of the prophets of Baal and then took them to the brook Kishon and killed them.

1. God calls us to be bold in our faith and stand up for what is right.

2. We are to remain faithful to God despite the opposition of those who do not share the same beliefs.

1. Matthew 10:28, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Joshua 1:9, "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

1 Kings 18:41 And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain.

Elijah tells Ahab that he will hear the sound of an abundance of rain soon.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning to Trust in God in Difficult Times

2. Responding to God in Obedience: The Example of Ahab

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

1 Kings 18:42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees,

Elijah went to the top of Carmel and prayed while Ahab went to eat and drink.

1. How Elijah's example of prayer can help us deepen our relationship with God.

2. The power of humbling ourselves before God.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Matthew 6:6 - But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

1 Kings 18:43 And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.

Elijah commands his servant to look toward the sea and report back to him seven times.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in Elijah's trust and obedience to God's commands.

2. Be persistent in prayer and trust God even when the answer is not what you expect.

1. Psalm 33:4 For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

2. Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

1 Kings 18:44 And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.

Passage Ahab was told to prepare his chariot because a little cloud had appeared in the sea, like a man's hand, for the seventh time.

1. A Little Cloud of Faith: The Power of a Small Act of Belief

2. The Seventh Time: Looking for God's Signs in Our Lives

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

1 Kings 18:45 And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

Ahab rode in the midst of a storm of rain, wind and dark clouds and went to Jezreel.

1. God's Sovereignty In All Things - Proverbs 16:9

2. Our Need to Respond to God's Will - Luke 12:47-48

1. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Be very careful, then, how you live not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

1 Kings 18:46 And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

Elijah was empowered by God to run ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

1. The Power of God in our Lives

2. Striving for Righteousness in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

1 Kings chapter 19 portrays the aftermath of Elijah's victory on Mount Carmel and his subsequent encounter with God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by depicting how Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah after hearing about his triumph over the prophets of Baal. Fearing for his life, Elijah flees to Beersheba in Judah and leaves his servant there (1 Kings 19:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Elijah continues his journey into the wilderness, where he sits under a broom tree and asks God to take his life. He feels discouraged, alone, and believes he is the only faithful prophet left (1 Kings 19:4-10).

3rd Paragraph: God sends an angel who provides food and water for Elijah, encouraging him to eat and drink. Strengthened by this nourishment, Elijah travels forty days and nights until he reaches Horeb, also known as Mount Sinai (1 Kings 19:5-8).

4th Paragraph:The narrative describes how God speaks to Elijah at Horeb. First, there is a powerful wind that breaks rocks; however, God is not in the wind. Then there is an earthquake followed by fire, but God does not manifest Himself in them either. Finally, there comes a gentle whisper or still small voice through which God communicates with Elijah (1 Kings 19;11-13).

5th Paragraph:Elijah responds by covering his face with a cloak upon realizing that he is in the presence of God. In their conversation, God reassures him that he is not alone there are still seven thousand faithful Israelites and gives him instructions regarding anointing Hazael as king over Aram and Jehu as king over Israel (1 Kings 19;14-18).

6th Paragraph:The chapter concludes with an account of how Elisha becomes Elijah's successor as prophet when Elijah finds him plowing with twelve yoke of oxen. He casts his cloak upon Elisha as a symbol of passing on prophetic authority (1 Kings 19;19-21).

In summary, Chapter nineteen of 1 Kings depicts Elijah's flight and encounter with God, Jezebel threatens him, he seeks refuge. God provides sustenance, Elijah journeys to Horeb. God speaks through whispers, encouraging His servant. Elijah anoints successors, including Elisha. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as resilience in times of discouragement, God's provision for His faithful servants, and the passing on of prophetic responsibility.

1 Kings 19:1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.

Ahab informed Jezebel of Elijah's actions, including how he had killed all the prophets with a sword.

1. The Power of Faith: How Elijah stood firm in his faith in the face of adversity.

2. The Battle of Good vs Evil: An exploration of the clash between Elijah and Jezebel.

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Kings 19:2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.

Jezebel sends a messenger to Elijah with a threatening message.

1. The Power of Our Words: How We Speak to Others Matters

2. Overcoming Fear in the Face of Adversity

1. Proverbs 12:18 - "The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control."

1 Kings 19:3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.

Elijah was so afraid for his life that he ran away from Jezebel and went to Beersheba in Judah, leaving his servant behind.

1. God is with us even in our darkest hour

2. Courage in the face of fear

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Kings 19:4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

Elijah, a prophet of God, became discouraged after a great victory and requested for God to take away his life.

1. Don't be Discouraged - 1 Kings 19:4

2. Overcoming Discouragement - 1 Kings 19:4

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Kings 19:5 And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

Elijah is sleeping under a juniper tree when an angel appears to him and tells him to arise and eat.

1. "God Will Provide: The Story of Elijah"

2. "God's Provision for His People"

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

1 Kings 19:6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.

Elijah was given sustenance in the form of a cake baked on coals and a cruse of water, which he ate and drank before lying down again.

1. God provides for His children in unexpected ways.

2. Even in our darkest moments, God is with us.

1. Matthew 6:25-34, Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

2. Psalm 23:1-4, The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

1 Kings 19:7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.

The angel of the LORD visited Elijah a second time and encouraged him to eat as the journey ahead of him was too great.

1. Don't be Discouraged - You Are Not Alone

2. Strength for the Journey - Embrace the Provision of God

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters.

1 Kings 19:8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

Elijah traveled to Horeb, the mount of God, after eating and drinking, and stayed there for forty days and nights.

1. The Sustaining Power of God's Strength

2. The Power of Faith and Obedience

1. Psalm 121:2 - "My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

1 Kings 19:9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?

Elijah went into a cave and the word of the Lord came to him, asking him what he was doing there.

1. God is always watching - no matter where we go or what we do, God is always aware and present.

2. Listen to the Lord - be sure to be attentive and open to the Lord's will in our lives.

1. Isaiah 30:21- And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2. Psalm 46:10- Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

1 Kings 19:10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

Elijah felt abandoned and alone after the Israelites had forsaken God's covenant, destroyed his altars and killed his prophets.

1. The Power of Perseverance: Overcoming Desperation and Loneliness in a World That Has Forsaken God

2. God's Unfailing Faithfulness: How to Persevere Despite Feeling Alone and Abandoned

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Putting on God's Armor to Stand Firm Against the Enemy

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Relying on God's Strength in Times of Desperation and Loneliness

1 Kings 19:11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:

Elijah hears the voice of God after a great and strong wind rent the mountains and broke the rocks before the LORD.

1. God is Greater than Nature: Examining the Power of God in 1 Kings 19:11

2. The Still Small Voice of the Lord: Recognizing God in Unexpected Places

1. Psalm 29:3-9 - The voice of the Lord is powerful, the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

2. John 3:8 - The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.

1 Kings 19:12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

God spoke to Elijah in a still, small voice after an earthquake and a fire.

1. The Power of a Small Voice: A Study of 1 Kings 19:12

2. Elijah's Journey to Hear God's Voice

1. 1 Kings 19:11-13

2. Matthew 4:4-7, 11

1 Kings 19:13 And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

After hearing a loud wind, Elijah wraps his face with his mantle and goes into a cave where he hears a voice asking "What doest thou here, Elijah?".

1. What is the purpose of our journey?

2. What is the purpose of our life?

1. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

2. Psalm 139:7-12 - God's Knowledge of Us and Where He Leads Us

1 Kings 19:14 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

Elijah felt alone after the Israelites had abandoned God and killed His prophets.

1. God is always with us, even when we feel alone.

2. Faithfulness in God brings us strength and courage in difficult times.

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Kings 19:15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

Passage God instructs Elijah to go to the wilderness of Damascus and anoint Hazael to be king over Syria.

1. God's Callings: How to Respond to the Unknown

2. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commands Leads to Blessing

Cross-

1. 1 Samuel 3:10 - "And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."

1 Kings 19:16 And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

God instructs Elijah to anoint Jehu as king of Israel and Elisha as prophet in his place.

1. The Importance of Passing the Torch: God's Plan for Leadership Continuity.

2. Answering God's Call: Fulfilling Your Role in His Plan.

1. Isaiah 6:8, "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

2. Jeremiah 1:5, "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

1 Kings 19:17 And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

Passage Hazael and Jehu are appointed to destroy the kingdom of Israel, and Elisha will kill anyone who escapes their destruction.

1. God's Plans Are Bigger Than Our Plans

2. God Uses Unconventional People To Accomplish His Work

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Judges 7:2 - The Lord said to Gideon, You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her,

1 Kings 19:18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

God spared seven thousand people in Israel who had not bowed to Baal or kissed him.

1. God's Mercy and Love: How God Protects and Provides for His People

2. The Power of Faith: How to Remain Strong in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

1 Kings 19:19 So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.

Elijah passed by Elisha, a farmer plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and threw his mantle on him.

1. God calls us to serve Him in unexpected ways.

2. God equips us for our calling with whatever is necessary.

1. Matthew 4:19 And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

1 Kings 19:20 And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again: for what have I done to thee?

A young man asked Elijah for permission to go and kiss his parents before joining him, but Elijah told him to go back and consider what he had done to Elijah.

1. God calls us to wholeheartedly follow Him, and He expects us to be willing to make sacrifices in order to do so.

2. We must respect and obey God's commands, even when they are difficult for us to understand.

1. Matthew 8:22 - "But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

1 Kings 19:21 And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

Elijah encountered a group of people who were suffering from a famine. He took a yoke of oxen and prepared them for a meal, which he shared with the people. Afterwards, he continued his travels with Elijah.

1. God provides us with comfort and sustenance in times of hardship.

2. We should be ready to serve one another in times of need.

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

2. James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

1 Kings chapter 20 narrates the conflicts between King Ahab of Israel and Ben-Hadad, the king of Aram (Syria), and God's intervention in these battles.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by introducing Ben-Hadad, who gathers a large army and besieges Samaria, demanding Ahab's surrender of his silver, gold, wives, and children. Ahab initially agrees but then refuses after consulting with his advisors (1 Kings 20:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: In response to Ahab's refusal, Ben-Hadad threatens to destroy Samaria completely. However, a prophet delivers a message from God to assure Ahab that He will deliver victory over the Arameans (1 Kings 20:12-14).

3rd Paragraph: The battle commences between Israel and Aram. Despite being outnumbered by the enemy forces twice, Israel emerges victorious under the leadership of Ahab and his commanders (1 Kings 20:15-21).

4th Paragraph:The narrative continues with another encounter between Ben-Hadad and Ahab. After suffering defeat in battle, Ben-Hadad seeks mercy from Ahab. With God's guidance through another prophet, Ahab grants him mercy and makes a covenant with him (1 Kings 20;22-34).

5th Paragraph:A prophet disguises himself as wounded soldier to deliver a message from God. He tells another man to strike him but refuses twice before finally doing so. The prophet reveals himself to be one sent by God who pronounced judgment upon him for not obeying His command (1 Kings 20;35-43).

In summary, Chapter twenty of 1 Kings depicts conflicts between Aram and Israel, Ben-Hadad besieges Samaria, but is defeated. A second encounter occurs, mercy is granted. A disguised prophet delivers a judgment against disobedience. This In summary, Chapter explores themes such as divine intervention in battles, the consequences of disobedience, and the tension between mercy and justice in political decisions.

1 Kings 20:1 And Benhadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and there were thirty and two kings with him, and horses, and chariots; and he went up and besieged Samaria, and warred against it.

Benhadad the king of Syria gathered together an army of 32 kings, horses, and chariots to attack and siege the city of Samaria.

1. The power of unity: How coming together as an army can help achieve a common goal.

2. The importance of preparation for battle: How being ready for a fight is essential to success.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18: Putting on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Romans 12:21: Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Kings 20:2 And he sent messengers to Ahab king of Israel into the city, and said unto him, Thus saith Benhadad,

Ahab receives a message from Benhadad challenging Israel's sovereignty.

1. God's Sovereignty: How to Stand Firm in the Face of Opposition

2. Seeking God's Guidance: How to Make Wise Decisions in a Challenging Situation

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind."

1 Kings 20:3 Thy silver and thy gold is mine; thy wives also and thy children, even the goodliest, are mine.

The king of Syria demands the silver, gold, wives and even the best of the children from the king of Israel.

1. "The Price of Pride: The Consequences of Refusing God's Word"

2. "The Power of Humility: Submitting to God's Will"

1. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

2. Psalm 25:9 - "He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way."

1 Kings 20:4 And the king of Israel answered and said, My lord, O king, according to thy saying, I am thine, and all that I have.

The King of Israel responded to the King of Aram's demand for his submission by declaring himself and all he had to be the King of Aram's.

1. The King of Israel's faith in God's provision and sovereignty.

2. How to faithfully submit to God's will.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 6:33- But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

1 Kings 20:5 And the messengers came again, and said, Thus speaketh Benhadad, saying, Although I have sent unto thee, saying, Thou shalt deliver me thy silver, and thy gold, and thy wives, and thy children;

Messengers from Benhadad demand silver, gold, wives, and children from King Ahab of Israel.

1. The importance of trusting in God during times of trial.

2. The consequences of disobeying God's commands.

1. Deuteronomy 6:16-17 - You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you.

2. 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

1 Kings 20:6 Yet I will send my servants unto thee to morrow about this time, and they shall search thine house, and the houses of thy servants; and it shall be, that whatsoever is pleasant in thine eyes, they shall put it in their hand, and take it away.

God told King Ahab that he would send servants to search his house and take away whatever pleased him.

1. God's Promises Fulfilled - How God's faithfulness in keeping His promises can bring us peace and joy

2. The Sovereignty of God - How God is ultimately in control of all things

1. Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

1 Kings 20:7 Then the king of Israel called all the elders of the land, and said, Mark, I pray you, and see how this man seeketh mischief: for he sent unto me for my wives, and for my children, and for my silver, and for my gold; and I denied him not.

King of Israel consulted the elders of the land to investigate why King Ben-hadad of Syria was asking for his wives, children, silver, and gold.

1. God is always in control - even in times of distress.

2. It is necessary to seek counsel and wisdom in times of crisis.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1 Kings 20:8 And all the elders and all the people said unto him, Hearken not unto him, nor consent.

The elders and people of Israel warned Ahab not to listen to Ben-Hadad's demands.

1. "Be Brave and Stand Up for What You Believe In"

2. "The Power of Uniting Together for a Common Goal"

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

1 Kings 20:9 Wherefore he said unto the messengers of Benhadad, Tell my lord the king, All that thou didst send for to thy servant at the first I will do: but this thing I may not do. And the messengers departed, and brought him word again.

The messengers of King Benhadad asked King Ahab to do something, but Ahab refused. The messengers then returned to Benhadad with Ahab's response.

1. We can learn from Ahab to be wise and discerning in our decisions.

2. We should be willing to compromise and consider other perspectives.

1. Matthew 5:41: And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

2. Proverbs 14:15: The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

1 Kings 20:10 And Benhadad sent unto him, and said, The gods do so unto me, and more also, if the dust of Samaria shall suffice for handfuls for all the people that follow me.

Benhadad sends a message to King Ahab of Samaria saying that if the dust of Samaria was sufficient for handfuls for all the people who followed him, then the gods would do the same and more.

1. God's provision is more than sufficient for us.

2. God's faithfulness is greater than any obstacle we may face.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry, for God will provide for us.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

1 Kings 20:11 And the king of Israel answered and said, Tell him, Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off.

This passage is a proverb from King Ahab of Israel, warning against pride and boasting.

1. Pride and Boasting: A Warning from King Ahab

2. The Dangers of Excessive Self-Confidence

1. Proverbs 27:1 - "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring."

2. James 4:13-14 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

1 Kings 20:12 And it came to pass, when Ben-hadad heard this message, as he was drinking, he and the kings in the pavilions, that he said unto his servants, Set yourselves in array. And they set themselves in array against the city.

Ben-hadad hears a message while he is drinking with other kings and orders his servants to prepare for battle against a city.

1. God tests us in many ways, and we must remain diligent and faithful even when faced with difficult circumstances.

2. Our actions in times of adversity can be a great reflection of our faith and trust in God.

1. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

1 Kings 20:13 And, behold, there came a prophet unto Ahab king of Israel, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou seen all this great multitude? behold, I will deliver it into thine hand this day; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

A prophet came to Ahab, king of Israel, and told him that the LORD would deliver a great multitude into his hand.

1. The Power of God's Promises

2. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Joshua 21:45 - There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.

1 Kings 20:14 And Ahab said, By whom? And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Even by the young men of the princes of the provinces. Then he said, Who shall order the battle? And he answered, Thou.

Ahab asked who would lead the battle and was told that it would be him by the command of the Lord.

1. God calls us to do great things and leads us through unexpected paths.

2. We can trust in the Lord to direct our paths and give us strength.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 37:23 "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."

1 Kings 20:15 Then he numbered the young men of the princes of the provinces, and they were two hundred and thirty two: and after them he numbered all the people, even all the children of Israel, being seven thousand.

King Ben-Hadad of Syria sent a large army to fight Israel, but God granted Israel victory over them. He then counted the men of the princes of the provinces, which were 232, and then the people of Israel, which were 7000.

1: God is always with us and will fight for us when we are in need.

2: We have been given the strength and courage to take on any giant that stands in our way.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Kings 20:16 And they went out at noon. But Benhadad was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, he and the kings, the thirty and two kings that helped him.

Benhadad and thirty-two kings were drinking together in the pavilions at noon.

1. The Danger of Excess: The lesson of Benhadad's drinking.

2. The Power of Community: The strength of coming together.

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

1 Kings 20:17 And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out first; and Benhadad sent out, and they told him, saying, There are men come out of Samaria.

Benhadad sends out a group of young men from the princes of the provinces to investigate a report of people coming from Samaria.

1. God has a purpose in all of our circumstances, even when it seems like nothing is happening.

2. God can use even the most unlikely people to accomplish His will.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. John 15:5 - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

1 Kings 20:18 And he said, Whether they be come out for peace, take them alive; or whether they be come out for war, take them alive.

The Lord instructed the people of Israel to capture their enemies, whether they are coming for peace or war.

1. We must always be prepared to face our enemies, even when they come in peace.

2. The Lord will provide us with strength to overcome any obstacles that come our way.

1. Ephesians 6:10-12 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

1 Kings 20:19 So these young men of the princes of the provinces came out of the city, and the army which followed them.

A group of young men from the princes of the provinces left a city with an army in tow.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following the Lord's Commands Leads to Victory

2. The Value of Unity: How Working Together Yields Strength

1. Ephesians 6:13-17 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

1 Kings 20:20 And they slew every one his man: and the Syrians fled; and Israel pursued them: and Benhadad the king of Syria escaped on an horse with the horsemen.

The Israelites defeated the Syrians in battle, killing every one of their men, and the Syrians fled. The Syrian king Benhadad escaped on a horse with the horsemen.

1. God gives us strength to overcome our enemies.

2. We can trust in God to protect us in times of danger.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Kings 20:21 And the king of Israel went out, and smote the horses and chariots, and slew the Syrians with a great slaughter.

The King of Israel went out and defeated the Syrian army in a great battle.

1. How God Can Help Us Overcome Seemingly Impossible Odds

2. The Power of Faith in Times of Adversity

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

1 Kings 20:22 And the prophet came to the king of Israel, and said unto him, Go, strengthen thyself, and mark, and see what thou doest: for at the return of the year the king of Syria will come up against thee.

The prophet warned the king of Israel that the king of Syria would attack him the following year.

1. Trusting God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. Walking in Obedience to God's Call

1. 1 Kings 20:22

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Kings 20:23 And the servants of the king of Syria said unto him, Their gods are gods of the hills; therefore they were stronger than we; but let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.

The servants of the king of Syria suggest that they should fight against their enemies in the plain, as they believe it will give them an advantage.

1. God Is Greater Than Our Enemies

2. The Strength of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

1 Kings 20:24 And do this thing, Take the kings away, every man out of his place, and put captains in their rooms:

The kings were removed from their positions and replaced by captains.

1. God is in control and will always put the right people in the right places.

2. God shows us that change is necessary for growth.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

1 Kings 20:25 And number thee an army, like the army that thou hast lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot: and we will fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they. And he hearkened unto their voice, and did so.

The King of Israel heeded the advice of his people and agreed to a plan to build an army to fight the Syrians in the plain, giving the Israelites the advantage in strength.

1. God's favor can provide us with unexpected opportunities.

2. Having faith in God even when the odds are against us will lead to great blessings.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 121 - I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

1 Kings 20:26 And it came to pass at the return of the year, that Benhadad numbered the Syrians, and went up to Aphek, to fight against Israel.

The Syrians under Benhadad threatened Israel by returning to Aphek to fight.

1: God will protect His people from their enemies.

2: We must trust God with our fears and anxieties.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

1 Kings 20:27 And the children of Israel were numbered, and were all present, and went against them: and the children of Israel pitched before them like two little flocks of kids; but the Syrians filled the country.

The Israelites were numerically inferior to the Syrians, but they faced them with courage, represented by their "two little flocks of kids".

1. God does not call us to be strong in our own strength, but to be strong in His strength.

2. Courage is found in the face of insurmountable odds when God is in the midst.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

1 Kings 20:28 And there came a man of God, and spake unto the king of Israel, and said, Thus saith the LORD, Because the Syrians have said, The LORD is God of the hills, but he is not God of the valleys, therefore will I deliver all this great multitude into thine hand, and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

A man of God spoke to the king of Israel, telling him that the LORD would deliver a great multitude of Syrians into the king's hand, as a way of proving that He is God of both the hills and valleys.

1. God is in Control of All Things - 1 Kings 20:28

2. God is the King of Kings - Revelation 19:16

1. Isaiah 45:5-6 - I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

2. Psalm 95:3-4 - For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also.

1 Kings 20:29 And they pitched one over against the other seven days. And so it was, that in the seventh day the battle was joined: and the children of Israel slew of the Syrians an hundred thousand footmen in one day.

The Israelites and Syrians fought a battle for seven days, and on the seventh day the Israelites killed 100,000 Syrians.

1. God's Justice: The consequences of our actions

2. The power of faith: Standing firm in the face of adversity

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

2. Psalms 20:8 - They have cried unto thee, and been strengthened: they have trusted in thee, and have been helped.

1 Kings 20:30 But the rest fled to Aphek, into the city; and there a wall fell upon twenty and seven thousand of the men that were left. And Benhadad fled, and came into the city, into an inner chamber.

A wall fell on 27,000 men while the rest fled to Aphek, and Benhadad fled to an inner chamber in the city.

1. The Lord can bring unexpected destruction in an instant.

2. Even the greatest of us can be humbled in an instant.

1. Luke 12:49-53 - Jesus speaks about God's power of judgement.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - God's promise to hear and forgive when people humbly seek Him.

1 Kings 20:31 And his servants said unto him, Behold now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings: let us, I pray thee, put sackcloth on our loins, and ropes upon our heads, and go out to the king of Israel: peradventure he will save thy life.

The servants of Ben-hadad suggest to him that he put on sackcloth and ropes and go to the King of Israel in the hope of being saved.

1. The Power of Mercy

2. The Value of Humility

1. Luke 6:36 - Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

1 Kings 20:32 So they girded sackcloth on their loins, and put ropes on their heads, and came to the king of Israel, and said, Thy servant Benhadad saith, I pray thee, let me live. And he said, Is he yet alive? he is my brother.

Benhadad sent representatives to the King of Israel to beg for his life. The King was surprised to find out that Benhadad was alive.

1. God is sovereign and works in mysterious ways - 1 Kings 20:32

2. We must always be humble and willing to forgive - 1 Kings 20:32

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

2. Luke 6:37 - Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven.

1 Kings 20:33 Now the men did diligently observe whether any thing would come from him, and did hastily catch it: and they said, Thy brother Benhadad. Then he said, Go ye, bring him. Then Benhadad came forth to him; and he caused him to come up into the chariot.

The men observed for signs from the king, and they quickly noticed that he was referring to his brother Benhadad. The king then instructed them to bring Benhadad to him, and he was brought to the chariot.

1. The importance of being observant to the signs God gives us.

2. How God can use family members to bring us closer to Him.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

1 Kings 20:34 And Ben-hadad said unto him, The cities, which my father took from thy father, I will restore; and thou shalt make streets for thee in Damascus, as my father made in Samaria. Then said Ahab, I will send thee away with this covenant. So he made a covenant with him, and sent him away.

King Ben-hadad agrees to return the cities taken from Ahab's father and Ahab promises to build streets in Damascus in exchange.

1. The benefits of making peace with our enemies

2. The power of negotiation

1. Colossians 3:13-14 - Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

2. Matthew 5:23-24 - So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

1 Kings 20:35 And a certain man of the sons of the prophets said unto his neighbour in the word of the LORD, Smite me, I pray thee. And the man refused to smite him.

A man of the sons of the prophets asked his neighbor to hit him as a way of following the Lord's command, but his neighbor refused to do so.

1. Obeying God's Commands: Learning to Follow God's Will Despite Difficulties

2. How to Respond When God Asks the Unthinkable

1. Luke 6:27-30 - "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you."

2. Matthew 4:1-11 - Jesus resists the devil's temptations and follows God's will.

1 Kings 20:36 Then said he unto him, Because thou hast not obeyed the voice of the LORD, behold, as soon as thou art departed from me, a lion shall slay thee. And as soon as he was departed from him, a lion found him, and slew him.

This passage highlights the importance of following God's instructions, as those who disobey will suffer the consequences of their actions.

1. Obedience is the Path to God's Blessing

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessings upon obedience

2. Romans 6:23 - The wages of sin is death

1 Kings 20:37 Then he found another man, and said, Smite me, I pray thee. And the man smote him, so that in smiting he wounded him.

A man asked another to strike him, and the man obliged, wounding him in the process.

1. The Power of Self-Sacrifice

2. The Beauty of Humility

1. Philippians 2:7-8 (But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.)

2. Matthew 16:24-25 (Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.)

1 Kings 20:38 So the prophet departed, and waited for the king by the way, and disguised himself with ashes upon his face.

A prophet disguised himself with ashes on his face and waited for the King by the road.

1. God's chosen ones are always willing to do whatever is necessary to be obedient to His will.

2. We must be willing to humble ourselves before God and be willing to do whatever He asks of us.

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - "Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it."

2. Philippians 2:7-8 - "Rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death even death on a cross!"

1 Kings 20:39 And as the king passed by, he cried unto the king: and he said, Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man unto me, and said, Keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of silver.

A man went out into the midst of a battle and was told to keep a man safe. If the man were to be missing, the life of the keeper would be taken instead.

1. "Life in the Midst of the Battle"

2. "Obedience in Times of Crisis"

1. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Kings 20:40 And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone. And the king of Israel said unto him, So shall thy judgment be; thyself hast decided it.

The King of Israel asked his servant to make a judgment, and the servant accepted the responsibility.

1. God holds us accountable for our decisions and the consequences that follow.

2. We must consider carefully the decisions we make and the consequences that may follow.

Cross Refrences:

1. James 4:13-15 "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2. Proverbs 16:9 The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

1 Kings 20:41 And he hasted, and took the ashes away from his face; and the king of Israel discerned him that he was of the prophets.

A prophet disguised himself as a mourner to approach the king of Israel and warn him of impending danger.

1. God sends us messengers to warn us of danger - 1 Kings 20:41

2. God uses our trials to strengthen us - 1 Kings 20:13

1. Isaiah 30:20-21 - And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers:

21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2. Jeremiah 6:16-19 - Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

18 Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken.

19 Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them.

1 Kings 20:42 And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Because thou hast let go out of thy hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore thy life shall go for his life, and thy people for his people.

The LORD warns Ahab that because he released a man appointed for destruction, his life and his people's lives will now be taken instead.

1. When the Lord has spoken, we must obey without hesitation.

2. Our decisions have consequences, even if we think we are doing what is right.

1. Psalm 119:105: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

2. Matthew 7:21: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

1 Kings 20:43 And the king of Israel went to his house heavy and displeased, and came to Samaria.

The King of Israel returned home feeling displeased and unhappy.

1. We can learn from the King of Israel's example by not letting difficult situations weigh us down and keep us from going forward.

2. No matter how heavy our hearts may be, we should continue to put our trust in God and He will lead us in the right direction.

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."